

## Shipping Instructions

1. In the large styrofoam box with gel ice packs place
  - Skin biopsy specimen in PBS transport medium
  - Skin biopsy specimen (if any) in fixative
  - Whole blood, lavender cap/EDTA tube
  - Acute-phase serum sample in red/gray top Corvac or Vacutainer tube

Hold blood samples and skin (in PBS) in a refrigerator until they are shipped.  
Ship all samples cooled by ice packs. Use air bill provided by CDC for FedEx.

2. In the small styrofoam box with gel-ice pack packs place
  - Convalescent-phase blood sample

Collect convalescent-phase sample 3-6 weeks after acute-phase sample.  
Hold this sample in a refrigerator until it is shipped. Ship sample cooled by ice packs.  
Use the second air bill provided for FedEx.

## Notes

Each specimen kit contains:

One 1.5-ml screw cap tube labeled PBS (phosphate-buffered saline) for skin biopsy sample

One 1.5-ml screw cap tube labeled Fixative for a second rash skin biopsy sample

This tube contains Streck's tissue fixative.

Only use this tube if you have more than one skin biopsy sample from a rash

One lavender top tube for un-coagulated whole blood

Two red/gray top tubes for serum

One tube is for an acute-phase sample

The other tube is for a convalescent-phase sample

Centrifuge blood and refrigerate it until shipment

Two AcuPunch skin biopsy punches (2 mm diameter)

Sample to depth of 3-4 mm

Vacutainer needles

Gel-ice packs for shipping