

Specimen Packaging and Courier Services

Ambient Specimens

St. Luke's Hospital Laboratory couriers are trained to transport serum and urine specimens that do not require special temperatures or handling. If you have any concerns regarding the effect of extreme weather conditions on routine or refrigerated specimens, please call St. Luke's Hospital Laboratory Client Services at 218-249-5200 or 866-794-1597.

Frozen Specimens

Special frozen transport devices are used to maintain specimens while being couriered to St. Luke's Hospital Laboratory.

Refrigerated Specimens

Couriers are provided with coolers to transport refrigerated specimens to St. Luke's Hospital Laboratory.

Note: Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) requires that all specimens containing clinical specimens be marked with a "Biohazard Label." Bags and labels for shipments will be provided.

Infectious Specimens

Special packaging and package labeling are required for shipping infectious substances. Most specimens referred to St. Luke's Hospital Laboratory are diagnostic specimens and may be couriered with routine biohazard packaging provided by St. Luke's Hospital Laboratory. Our client service representatives are trained in packaging and shipping of infectious substances. Please call St. Luke's Hospital Laboratory Client Services at 218-249-5200 if you are concerned that a specimen might be an infectious substance.

Courier Services

Courier services are available for transporting specimens. This service provides daily delivery of specimens (including frozen) under controlled conditions. In many areas, courier routes are already in place. Special courier services will be established if appropriate arrangements can be made. Pickup frequency is determined by referral volume. Our administrative personnel will discuss the criteria with you.

Courier service is not provided on the following holidays:

- New Year's Day January 1
 - Memorial Day May 31
 - Independence Day July 5 (Observed)
 - Labor Day September 6
 - Thanksgiving November 25
 - Christmas December 24 (Observed)
- (Adjusted schedules available on December 24th)