

The Kentucky Laboratory Sentinel

September 2008

LPX/Packaging and Shipping



The packaging and shipping classes are over and the exercise finished. What's left? The results....

First, I want to thank all of the laboratories that participated in the LPX and sent organisms for the packaging and shipping exercise. We had forty six laboratories participating in the LPX and 29 labs that sent in an isolate.

OBSERVATIONS:

Organism

Participants were asked to select an organism from the survey and determine if it should be shipped as Category A or B. Seven laboratories chose Category B organisms with two labs sending B. anthracis as Category B. Although the regulations allow patient specimens to be sent as Category B, organisms that are considered for bioterrorism are preferably sent as Category A. Most laboratories were able to identify the correct organisms for this exercise.

Packaging and Shipping

When the organism was received back into the KY Public Health Lab, a checklist was used to determine if DOT/IATA and carrier regulations were met.

Some packaging and shipping errors were:

1. Organism name on outside of Category A shipper. The only name that should be on the outside of the box is the proper shipping name which is Infectious substance, affecting humans
2. If screw caps are used, they must be secured by positive means, such as adhesive tape, paraffin sealing tape, or manufactured locking closure
3. Category A was shipped through United States Postal Service. This is currently against regulations.
4. Recipient name (To) needs to be updated. Dr. Gregorio, Matt Nelson, and Meloney Russell should be taken off as contacts. For exercise purposes, boxes should be sent to Leigh Ann Bates or Mandi Patterson. If you have a rule out, send them to Bacteriology or Mandi Patterson.

If you need links to the regulations, please email me.

Contact leighann.bates@ky.gov

CAP LPX

The 2008 LPX B will be released on October 13th.

Labs that are participating in 2008 will automatically be signed up for the 2009 LPX. If you want to change your participation status, please contact me as soon as possible.

September is National Preparedness Month!

Get a Kit, Make a Plan, Be Informed, Get Involved!

For more information, go to:

<http://www.ready.gov/america/npm08/index.html>

