



LABORATORY SENTINEL



Sentinel Wet Workshop June 2009

CAP LPX

The Division of Laboratory Services will be ordering the 2010 Laboratory Preparedness Exercise for our sentinel labs. To sign up or be taken off of the list, please contact Leighann.bates@ky.gov

Submission of Rule Out Isolates

Please notify your local public health department when submitting clinical specimens bioterrorism rule outs. Periodically, the Division of Laboratory Services receives clinical isolates for rule outs without clinical history and evidence that the local health department was notified. Timely notification to the local health department of these types of clinical specimens helps to expedite follow-up as needed. Thank you in advance for your compliance.

Packaging and Shipping Exercise

Thank you to the labs that participated in the packaging and shipping exercise. Everyone did a fantastic job.

What was the most common mishap?

Putting the technical name on the outside of the Category A box. The IATA regulations state when the infectious substances to be transported are unknown, but suspected of meeting the criteria for inclusion in Category A and assigned to UN2814, the words "suspected category A infectious substance" must be shown, in parentheses following the proper shipping name on the Shipper's Declaration for Dangerous Goods, but not on the outer packaging.



Novel H1N1I Submissions

The novel H1N1's is comparable in severity to seasonal flu, so most patients with influenza will NOT require definitive diagnostic virology testing in order to receive appropriate treatment and guidance on preventing further transmission. However, the Kentucky Department for Public Health requests that specimens from patients who are pregnant, hospitalized, or living in an institutional setting where previous cases have not been identified be sent to the Division of Laboratory Services (DLS) in Frankfort.

If patients do not meet the criteria for testing at DLS, but the clinician feels a need to test, specimens can be sent by health care providers to private (non-public health) reference laboratories that are also performing novel H1N1 testing.

After collection, specimens should be kept at 2°-8°C and shipped using cold packs in a refrigerated shipper.

