Clinical specimens for testing at the NCSLPH should be shipped within 24 hours of collection.

When shipping must be delayed (e.g., inclement weather, courier closures), guidelines are given below on proper storage and shipping of common specimen types. Please see our <u>SCOPE</u> for detailed guidance.

COVID-19 + Flu PCR \$72 hours \$1000000000000000000000000000000000000		If shipping immediately	lf shipping is delayed	
CHIKV, EEE, LACV, SLE, WEE, WNV ≤ 2 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Dengue (DENV) 5 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Hepatitis A (HAV) 5 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Hepatitis B (HBV) 4 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Hepatitis B (HBV) 5 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Hepatitis C (HCV) 5 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st HW/ 5 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st HW/ 5 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Measles/Mumps PCR* 3 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Measles/Mumps PCR* 3 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Rickettsia + Ehrlichia 5 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Rubella IGC 5 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Syphilis PR 5 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Bordetella Culture** 5 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Bordetella PCR** 7 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Hemoglobinopathy Whole Bload 6 days st DRY ICE REQUIRED st Micro Reference Cultures Ship as soon as possible st days Neisseria Culture Stip as soon as possible st 2 days	COVID-19 + Flu PCR			
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Rabies Ship cold ASAP, freezing not recommended	Mycology	Varies by specimen type, see SCOPE for details		
	Parasitology	Varies by specimen type, se	e SCOPE for details	
Viral Culture Varies by specimen type, see SCOPE for details	Rabies	Ship cold ASAP, freezing not	recommended	
	Viral Culture	Varies by specimen type, se	e SCOPE for details	

LHDs follow NCSLPH DOA Medical Courier Packaging & Shipping Guidance.

Refrigerate specimens 2-8°C post collection. Specimens must be received cold (2-8°C) on frozen ice packs within the number of hours/days as indicated in the chart from time of collection.

Freeze specimens at ≤ -70°C post collection. Ship overnight via commercial courier on dry ice.

Freeze specimens at ≤ -20°C post collection. Ship overnight via commercial courier on dry ice.

** Specimens must be received cold (1-8°C) on frozen ice packs. * Submission requires prior approval.

Store and ship at ambient temperature. Specimens must be received within the number of hours/days as indicated in the chart from time of collection.

Unique requirements, refer to SCOPE.



NC Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health

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7/30/2024

NCSLPH DOA Medical Courier Packing and Shipping Guidance