

HUMAN SPECIMEN COLLECTION GUIDE FOR HAB EXPOSURE

 ALL specimen submissions require advance notice. Contact the laboratory at info@greenwaterlab.com before shipping any specimen so we can confirm acceptance, capacity, and handling.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

All specimens should be regarded as potentially hazardous or infectious. Clients must adhere to standard and transmission-based precautions when handling and transporting specimens. Specimen tubes, containers, and bags must be tightly capped/sealed. Double bag all specimens prior to shipment with absorbent material to prevent cross contamination and minimize exposure hazards.

SPECIMENS WE ACCEPT (ANTEMORTEM)

**** Postmortem specimens require prior approval — contact us before submitting****

GreenWater Laboratories accepts human specimens only when they qualify as **Exempt Human Specimens** under U.S. DOT (49 CFR 173.134) and IATA regulations. A specimen is exempt when there is minimal likelihood that pathogens are present, as determined by a qualified professional based on patient history, symptoms, and local conditions. Because HAB testing targets toxins rather than infectious agents, specimens submitted for this purpose generally meet this standard. If a specimen does not qualify as exempt — or if you are unsure — do not ship it. Contact the laboratory at info@greenwaterlab.com before sending any non-exempt specimen. We will determine whether we can accept it and advise on requirements.

Nasal Swabs: Collect nasal mucosa and freeze (-20 °C)
Urine: Collect urine (0.5 – 10 mL) and freeze (-20 °C). Do not send more than 10 mL human urine.
Plasma / Serum: Collect 0.5 – 10 mL and freeze (-20 °C)

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS (EXEMPT HUMAN SPECIMENS)

- 1) Place each specimen in a leak-proof primary container (e.g., sealed plasma-preparation vial). Label with specimen type (e.g., plasma, urine, serum) and sample ID. Do not include patient identifiers such as name or date of birth.
- 2) Place the primary container(s) in a leak-proof secondary plastic biohazard bag and seal securely. For liquids, include enough absorbent material between the primary and secondary packaging to absorb the entire contents in case of leakage.
- 3) Place the secondary packaging in a rigid outer container — a Styrofoam cooler within a cardboard box — of adequate size to hold all samples.
- 4) Mark the outer package "Exempt human specimen."
- 5) If shipping with dry ice: dry ice is a separate dangerous good (UN1845). Place it between the secondary packaging and the outer cooler — never inside the secondary packaging. Mark the package "UN1845, Dry Ice," include the net weight of dry ice and a Class 9 label and follow your shipper's dry-ice handling rules.
- 6) Fill out our COC (Chain of Custody) or use our client portal to generate the COC and print it. Place the Chain-of-Custody in a separate bag, packed between the cooler and the external box.
- 7) Ship overnight to the laboratory as soon as possible.

Shipping compliance. The client is responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state, local, and international regulations governing specimen transport. Improper packaging or shipping can result in delay, loss, or destruction of specimens, for which GreenWater Laboratories is not liable.

Specimen rejection. Specimens must meet our criteria for identification, collection, and volume to be processed. We will not process unlabeled, mislabeled, or misidentified specimens, and will contact you if such a specimen is received.

Ship Samples overnight to: **GreenWater Laboratories**
205 Zeagler Drive, Suite 302
Palatka, FL 32177