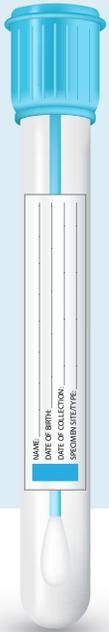


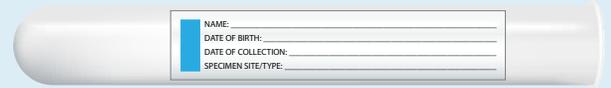
Mpox Collection and Shipping

Mpox Specimen Collection Instructions

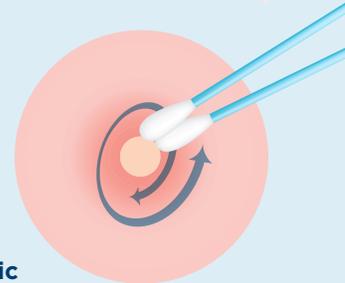


STEP 1: Label each collection tube with the following:

- Patient name
- Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
- Date of collection (mm/dd/yyyy)
- Specimen site/type



STEP 2: Simultaneously use **TWO** sterile synthetic swabs (i.e. polyester, rayon, or Dacron) to **vigorously swab** the base of the lesion. Unroofing the lesion is not recommended due to the risk of sharps injury.



STEP 3: Place swabs from each lesion sampled into **their own screw-capped, plastic aliquot tube WITHOUT transport media**. Ensure both tubes are properly labeled.

Mpox Storage and Shipping Instructions

STEP 4: Within one hour of collection, place all specimens at the appropriate temperature for storage and transport.

- If specimen will be received at NCSLPH ≤ 5 days of collection: specimen must be kept between 2-8°C during transport.
- If specimen will be received at NCSLPH > 5 days after specimen collection: specimen must be frozen at -20°C or lower during transport.



STEP 5: Complete the [BTEP Specimen Submission Form](#)

STEP 6: Packaging and shipping instructions are outlined below.

- **If Mpox Clade I (Central Africa, i.e. DRC outbreak) is suspected:** package the specimens using Category A guidelines and contact the BTEP Unit (919-807-8600) to expedite courier services.
- **If Mpox Clade II (West African) is suspected:**
 - **If currently utilizing NC DOA Medical courier** continue packaging according to current NCSLPH guidelines. This service ensures appropriate temperatures are maintained for Category B specimens.
 - **If shipping with UPS, FEDEX or other courier services,** package the specimens with cold packs using Category B guidelines referenced in the [APHL Packing and Shipping Guidance for Biological Substances, Category B](#). Ship the package by overnight delivery to:



North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health
ATTN: Bioterrorism and Emerging Pathogens Unit
4312 District Drive
Raleigh, NC 27607

Note: You must specify Saturday delivery if shipping on Friday.

STEP 7: Contact the BTEP Unit (919-807-8600) if you have submission questions.

