

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Twenty-sixth session,
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agenda item 2

TEXTS ADOPTED BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE AT ITS 23rd, 24th AND 25th SESSSIONS AND RELATED PROPOSALS

Infectious substances (Ref. doc: ST/SG/AC.10/C3/2004/99)

Transmitted by the expert from Canada

Proposal

Renumber the new 2.6.3.2.3.6 as 2.6.3.2.3.7 (see ST/SG/AC.10/C3/50/Add.1, page 4) and add the following text as 2.6.3.2.3.6:

"2.6.3.2.3.6 Human or animal specimens transported for the purposes of diagnosis, random surveillance or routine screening tests and for which there is minimal likelihood that an infectious substance is present are not subject to these Regulations if the specimen is transported in a packaging that is marked with the words "Diagnostic Specimen ? Not Regulated for Transport" and that will, under normal conditions of transport, prevent any leakage that may occur from reaching the outer packaging; such a packaging should include:

- (a) a primary receptacle(s);
- (b) a secondary packaging;
- (c) a firm secondary or outer packaging of adequate strength for its capacity, mass and intended use, and with at least one surface having minimum dimensions of 100 mm × 100 mm;
- (d) for liquids, absorbent material in sufficient quantity to absorb the entire contents, placed between the primary receptacle(s) and the secondary packaging so that, during transport, any release or leak of a liquid substance will not reach the outer packaging and will not compromise the integrity of the cushioning material, and
- (e) multiple fragile primary receptacles that are placed in a single secondary packaging, being individually wrapped or separated so as to prevent contact between them during handling and transport.

NOTE: *As with determining whether or not a substance is included in Category A (see 2.6.3.2.2.1(b)), an element of professional judgment is required to determine if a substance is exempt under this section. That judgment should be based on the known medical history, symptoms and individual circumstances of the source, human or animal, and endemic local conditions. Examples of routine screening tests include, but are not limited to, the blood or urine tests to monitor cholesterol levels, blood glucose levels, hormone levels, or prostate specific antibodies (PSA); those required to monitor organ function such as heart, liver or kidney function for humans or animals with non-infectious diseases, or therapeutic drug monitoring; those conducted for insurance or employment purposes and are intended to determine the presence of drugs or alcohol; pregnancy test. Tests for diagnosis include, but are not limited to, biopsies to detect cancer; antibody titre testing for humans or to certify animals for export; and random surveillance of animals.*