



The Florida Lab Link

“A Biological and Chemical Preparedness Newsletter”

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Division 6.2 Infectious Substances Packaging and Shipping...

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The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) Bureau of Public Health Laboratories (BPHL) is sponsoring, through the CDC Cooperative Agreement Grant for Public Health Emergency Preparedness, “2015 Division 6.2 Infectious Substances Packaging and Shipping Training.” This training is primarily for our sentinel laboratory partners, but also includes other hospital and county health department laboratory personnel. Non-sentinel laboratory personnel are welcome to attend if space is available.

Designed to inform and communicate the requirements for safe shipping to anyone involved in the transport operation, Saf-T-Pak Incorporated will conduct twenty classes throughout Florida. Participants will learn the responsibilities of the shipper, carrier, and receiver in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations Title 49: Transportation Parts 100-185 (49CFR 100-185), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR). A hands-on exercise will emphasize how to properly package and ship Category A and Category B infectious substances and other dangerous goods, such as dry ice, by air and ground.

Who should be trained? This training applies to anyone who handles, offers for transport, or transports infectious substances and other dangerous goods, such as dry ice, or who performs or is responsible for performing a pre-transportation function. Pre-transportation functions include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Determining the hazard class of a hazardous material.
- (2) Selecting a hazardous materials packaging.
- (3) Filling a hazardous materials packaging, including a bulk packaging.
- (4) Securing a closure on a filled or partially filled hazardous materials package or container or on a package or container containing residue of a hazardous material.



- (5) Marking a package to indicate that it contains a hazardous material.
- (6) Labeling a package to indicate that it contains a hazardous material.
- (7) Preparing a shipping paper.
- (8) Providing and maintaining emergency response information.
- (9) Reviewing a shipping paper to verify compliance with the hazardous materials regulations (HMR) or international equivalents.¹

There are four specific subjects the training must cover to comply with the 49CFR 172.704. They are general awareness/familiarization, function specific, safety, and security awareness. This training is recurrent. The U.S. Department of Transportation states, "A hazmat employee must receive the training required by this subpart at least once every three years."¹ However, to comply with ICAO and IATA, it must occur every two years to ensure the employee's knowledge is up-to-date with the current regulations.

It is not required to attend the training provided by Bureau of Public Health Laboratories. The employer or one of many other public or private sources, including online training, may provide this training. However, the employer is responsible for ensuring that each employee who performs any function in the packaging or shipping of a hazardous material has been trained in these specific areas and tested by an appropriate means prior to performing that function. Certification only applies to the areas in which they can successfully perform their duties.

The employer must create and retain a record of training for each employee involved in the preparing, packaging, or transport of dangerous goods. The record of training must be retained for three years from the most current training for as long as that employee is employed and for 90 days thereafter. The employee's record of current training must be made available upon request to an authorized official of the U.S. Department of Transportation or of an entity explicitly granted authority to enforce the hazardous materials regulations. The record must include:

- (1) The hazmat employee's name.
- (2) The most recent training completion date of the hazmat training.
- (3) A description, copy, or the location of the training materials used to meet the requirements in the 49CFR 172.704.
- (4) The name and address of the person providing the training.
- (5) Certification that the hazmat employee was trained and tested.¹



Why is training important? In the United States, the U.S. Department of Transportation regulates the transport of dangerous goods. They recently updated their fines for violations of the hazardous materials regulations. If an individual or institution is found to be noncompliant with the regulatory requirements, they are subject to a civil penalty, with a maximum penalty of \$75,000 for each violation. The maximum increases to \$175,000 if the violation results in death, substantial property damage, serious illness or severe injury to any person (49CFR 107.329). The minimum civil penalty for training violations is \$450.^{1, 2}

In situations where a person willfully or recklessly violates the hazardous material regulations, that person may be subject to criminal investigation, with the potential of up to five years imprisonment. The maximum imprisonment time is ten years when the violation causes an accident resulting in death or bodily injury to any person (49 CFR 107.333).^{1,2}

The Bureau of Public Health Laboratories offers these classes at no charge but the classes are limited and preregistration is required. For additional information on how to register for one of the classes, please contact **Betty Wheeler at (904) 791-1568 or Betty.Wheeler@flhealth.gov** at BPHL-Jacksonville or **Leah Kloss at (813) 974-4009 Leah.Kloss@flhealth.gov** at BPHL-Tampa.

References.

1. Electronic Code of Federal Regulations Title 49: Transportation Parts 100 - 185. Retrieved on February 9, 2015 from http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title49/49cfrv2_02.tpl
2. Saf-T-Pak, Inc. 2014 Compliance Training Reference Manual for the Safe Transport of Division 6.2 Infectious Substances, Biological Specimens, Dry Ice & Related Materials.

*Betty Wheeler is a BioDefense Trainer for the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Public Health Laboratories - Jacksonville. Mrs. Wheeler may be reached at (904) 791-1568 or at Betty.Wheeler@flhealth.gov.

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Editor - Betty Wheeler

Front cover photograph provided by Phil Lee, MSc FIBMS.



Training Seminar Agenda

9:00	Introductions and Pre-Test	(10 min)
9:10	General Awareness & History of DG Regulations	(50 min)
10:00	Limitations for Transport - Forbidden & Hidden DGs	(30 min)
	State & Operator Variations - Dangerous Goods by mail	
	Shipper's, Operator's & Receiver's responsibilities	
10:30	Coffee Break	
10:40	Import/export permits - Select agents - Overview of 9 classes	(40 min)
	Definitions of Category A, Category B Infectious substances, Patient specimens, GMOs, & Biological Products	
	Classification of DGs - Four ways to ship biological substances	
11:30	Proper Shipping Names & UN Numbers - Identifying DGs using the List of Dangerous Goods - Special Provisions	(30 min)
12:00	Lunch	(60 min)
1:00	Selecting proper packaging - Marking & Labeling	(50 min)
1:50	Shipping with Dry ice & Overpacks	(50 min)
	Documenting for shipment of Category A substances	
2:40	Coffee Break	
2:50	Hands-on exercise - Shipping practice & in-class marking*	(45 min)
	Emergency Response to Fire, Leaks, & First Aid	
3:35	Final Written Exam - Re-visit Pre-test	
4:30	Adjourn	Above times may vary

* Participants are supplied with all necessary material to simulate an actual shipment.



2015 TRAINING SCHEDULE

1. **Tuesday, March 10, 2015** Department of Health—Escambia - 1295 W. Fairfield Dr, Pensacola, FL Room #302/303
2. **Wednesday, March 11, 2015** Department of Health—Okaloosa – 810 E. James Lee Blvd. Crestview, FL 32539 Room #73 A&B
3. **Friday, March 13, 2015** Department of Health—Bay – 597 W 11th St, Panama City, FL Auditorium
4. **Tuesday, March 17, 2015** Department of Health—Marion - 1801 SE 32nd Ave, Ocala, FL Auditorium 1&2
5. **Thursday, March 19, 2015** Florida Department of Health Bureau of Public Health Laboratories- Jacksonville, 1217 Pearl St, Jacksonville, FL Porter Auditorium
6. **Friday, March 27, 2015** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs – Conner Administration Building, 3125 Conner Blvd, Tallahassee, FL 32399 Eyster Auditorium
7. **Tuesday, March 31, 2015** Department of Health—Volusia - 1845 Holsonback Dr, Daytona Beach, FL 32117 Main Conference Room 516A
8. **Thursday, April 2, 2015** Florida Department of Health Bureau of Public Health Laboratories- Jacksonville, 1217 Pearl St, Jacksonville, FL Porter Auditorium
9. **Wednesday, April 15, 2015** Department of Health—Lee - 83 Pondella Dr, N Ft Myers, FL
10. **Friday April 17, 2015** Department of Health—Pinellas - 8751 Ulmerton Rd, Largo, FL
11. **Monday, April 20, 2015** Department of Health—Orange - 6101 Lake Ellenor Dr, Orlando, FL Auditorium
12. **Tuesday, April 21, 2015** Department of Health—Orange - 6101 Lake Ellenor Dr, Orlando, FL Auditorium
13. **Thursday, May 07, 2015** Florida Department of Health Bureau of Public Health Laboratories-Tampa, 3602 Spectrum Blvd, Tampa FL Conference Center
14. **Friday, May 08, 2015** Florida Department of Health Bureau of Public Health Laboratories-Tampa, 3602 Spectrum Blvd, Tampa FL Conference Center
15. **Monday, May 18, 2015** Department of Health—Palm Beach - 800 Clematis St, West Palm Beach, FL
16. **Tuesday, May 19, 2015** Department of Health—Broward – 780 SW 24th St. FT Lauderdale FL Administrative Auditorium-2nd floor
17. **Wednesday, May 20, 2015** Department of Health—Broward – 780 SW 24th St. FT Lauderdale FL Administrative Auditorium-2nd floor
18. **Thursday, May 21, 2015** Department of Health—Miami-Dade - 8600 NW 17th St, Miami, FL 2nd Floor Conference room
19. **Friday, May 22, 2015** Department of Health—Miami-Dade - 8600 NW 17th St, Miami, FL 2nd Floor Conference room
20. **Tuesday, May 26, 2015** Department of Health—Palm Beach - 800 Clematis St, West Palm Beach, FL



CHEMICAL THREAT (CT) PREPAREDNESS TRAINING

The CT laboratory coordinators continue to reach out to the health and medical community by offering training for CT preparedness at hospitals and county health departments (CHDs). This training covers chemical terrorism awareness and the collection of clinical specimens after a chemical terrorism event. Hospital and CHD staff play an important role in the response to a chemical exposure event since clinical specimens will be collected for analysis. For your convenience and to increase participation, this training can be presented at your facility. Each course lasts approximately one hour with one 15-minute break between courses. Florida clinical laboratory and nursing continuing education credits will be offered. Training manuals, "hands on" exercise materials, and CT preparedness kits will be provided. This training is recommended for physicians, nurses, epidemiologists, emergency department personnel, phlebotomists, hospital and health department laboratory personnel, and others who may collect clinical specimens. Contact the CT laboratory coordinators in your region for more information (see the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories Directory on the back of this document for contact information).

LABORATORY RESPONSE NETWORK (LRN) TRAINING—BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE

The BPHL is currently offering an LRN Sentinel Laboratory training course at no cost to you at your facility. This training follows the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Sentinel Level Clinical Laboratory Protocols for Suspected Biological Threat Agents and Emerging Infectious Diseases. Scheduling the training at your facility is a relatively painless process. Determine when you would like to have the training and how many people will be attending. A time will be set up that is convenient for all. The training materials are provided, as well as the biodefense reference manuals for your laboratory.

The training syllabus includes: 1) an overview of the LRN; 2) the ASM protocols for ruling out potential bioterrorism agents and how to refer a sample to the state LRN Public Health reference laboratory when a bioterrorism agent cannot be ruled out; 3) the role of the sentinel laboratory in responding to pandemic influenza; 4) a brief introduction to packaging and shipping of infectious substances; 5) an introduction to the CDC Select Agent Program; and 6) the College of American Pathologists Laboratory Preparedness Exercise (CAP LPX).

This class awards Florida clinical laboratory continuing education credits based on five hours of instruction. Please contact Betty Wheeler at (904) 791-1568 (Betty.Wheeler@FLhealth.gov) to schedule a class for your facility.

TOLL FREE: 1-866-FLA-LABS (1-866-352-5227)



NAME	TITLE	PHONE	PAGER	CELL PHONE
Carina Blackmore, DVM, PhD, Dipl ACVPM	Chief, Bureau of Public Health Laboratories	850-245-4732		
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Jason Palcic, PhD	Chemical Threat Laboratory Coordinator	904-791-1513		904-637-9286
Bioterrorism Events	24/7 – after hours		888-276-4130	
Chem. Threat Events	24/7 – after hours			904-271-1593
Betty Wheeler	Biological Defense Trainer	904-791-1568		904-652-6834
Bureau of Public Health Laboratories-Miami: 1325 N.W. 14th Avenue, Miami, FL 33125				
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Vacant	Chemical Threat Laboratory Coordinator	305-325-2539		305-322-0350
Bioterrorism Events	24/7 – after hours		800-539-4432	
Bureau of Public Health Laboratories-Tampa: 3602 Spectrum Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33612				
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Rachel Harrison	Biological Defense Coordinator	813-974-1790		813-956-8852
Angela Ren	Chemical Threat Laboratory Coordinator	813-974-4366		813-363-0623
Bioterrorism Events	24/7 – after hours		813-883-5929	
Leah Kloss	Biological Defense Trainer	813-974-4009		813-407-7173
Bureau of Public Health Laboratories-Pensacola: 50 West Maxwell Street, Pensacola, FL 32501				
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Bioterrorism Events	24/7 – after hours			850-509-8437