

SUGGESTED PROTOCOL FOR PACKAGING SEMEN FOR SHIPMENT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR ANALYSIS

In order to get the most representative information from sperm motility and morphology analysis, it is important that large temperature fluctuations be avoided during shipping/transport. **Extended semen should be maintained between 59 to 64 degrees Fahrenheit.**

Recommendations for Packing:

- To maintain this narrow range, we recommend that you use two Styrofoam boxes for shipping samples to us.
- Place the extended semen samples in a **Thermalast temperature extender bag**. (<u>www.plastilite.com</u>) (This bag can be used for cold or warm temperatures)
- Fold bag securely around semen samples and place in smaller cooler.
- Do NOT allow samples to come into direct contact with gel-packs
- Place 3-5, depending on size of box, 15-18°C gel-packs, (the same temperature as the extended semen) into the box surrounding the extended semen doses; loose paper or packing material can be used to take up the extra space.
- The small box should be taped shut and placed in the larger Styrofoam box.
- In the summer, frozen gel-pack(s) can be placed inside the large Styrofoam box (outside the smaller box containing the extended semen).
- In the winter, warmed gel-packs (i.e. body temperature) should be used inside the large box (but outside the smaller box). Helpful Hint: In winter, if extremely cold, put samples in Foil bags or Foil bubble wrap, cover with newspaper and place warmed gel packs on top of newspapers in cooler.
- Use loose paper or packing material to take up the extra space in the larger cooler.

Place a completed submission form between the two boxes describing the analyses you would like us to perform on the submitted samples, as well as billing information, including a contact person and their business fax and phone numbers. Please also provide us with an email address, fax and phone number for sample information correspondence.

Tape the outside box shut securely and mail by overnight express to:

Reference Andrology Laboratory New Bolton Center 382 West Street Road Kennett Square, PA 19348-1692

Please notify us by phone (610-925-6562) when you are shipping an unscheduled package to confirm we are prepared to receive it.

Thank you for your interest in our services. We look forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns.