Specimen Classification for Shipping Requirements According to 2015 IATA DGR

Is the substance human or animal material (e.g., excreta, secreta, blood or its components, tissue, tissue fluid, body parts) being transported for diagnostic or investigational purposes?

YES

Is it likely to contain a pathogenic organism?

YES

Patient Specimen
- Use triple packaging
- Mark as “Exempt human specimen” or “Exempt animal specimen”
- Shipper’s Declaration is not required

NO

Biological Substance
- Use Packing Instructions PI 650
- Shipper’s Declaration is not required
- Use UN 3373 label and mark as Biological Substance, Category B

NO

Infectious Substance
- Must be shipped as Dangerous Goods Class 6.2
- Use Packing Instructions PI 620
- Use a UN 2814 or UN 2900 label

NO

Not Restricted
Triple Package

YES

Is it a culture of an organism being sent for diagnosis, research or investigation that is not listed on Handout 4A?

YES

Is it a culture or stock of a pathogen listed on handout 4A, e.g., a culture or vial of HIV, Hepatitis B, TB, etc.?

NO

Is it likely to contain a highly pathogenic* or forbidden organism?

YES

Biological Substance
- Use Packing Instructions PI 650
- Shipper’s Declaration is not required
- Use UN 3373 label and mark as Biological Substance, Category B

NO

Patient Specimen
- Use triple packaging
- Mark as “Exempt human specimen” or “Exempt animal specimen”
- Shipper’s Declaration is not required

NO

Not Restricted
Triple Package

NO

Live infected animals

Restricted
Must be approved by appropriate national authority

* See indicative list of highly pathogenic organisms on Handout 4A of shipping training.
This chart is not a substitute for the regulations. It is for illustration purposes only.