# Quick guide to sample handling and shipping

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### Sample containers

- The outer diameter of a vial must be less than 13 mm.
- Each sample must be delivered in a single vial; all vials within a shipment must be similar.
- If 96-well plates or 96-well format storage tubes are used, locations A1 and H12 must be left open as these will be used for quality control samples.

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## Sample identification

- Each sample must be marked with a unique identification code using a barcode or a matrix code.
- An electronic sample identification table with the sample codes and locations must be sent to Nightingale via email (logistics@nightingalehealth.com), and a printed version must be included in the sample shipment.
- Codes in the table and samples in the rack must be in exactly the same order. If the identification code on the sample is different from the code in the list, Nightingale will use the former for identification.

If there are exceptions to these sample container or identification requirements, please contact your Nightingale contact person to discuss options.

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### **Packing**

- The United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods Division 6.2 Infectious substances (United Nations Packing Instruction 650, PI650) instructions must be followed.
- The packaging must consist of these components:
  - 1. Sample tubes, vials or 96-well plates
  - 2. Tubes packed in a sample box
  - 3. Leak-proof secondary packaging, such as plastic bag or wrap
  - 4. Absorbent material inside the leak-proof packaging
  - 5. Rigid outer packaging
- Frozen samples are required to kept frozen in -80°C (dry ice) during the entire transport.
- When shipping frozen samples with dry ice, the outer packaging must be marked with the text "Dry Ice" or "Carbon dioxide, solid" and "UN 1845" and the net quantity, in kilograms, of dry ice. These markings must be accompanied by the Class 9 label for Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods.
- The outer packaging must clearly show the text "BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE, CATEGORY B." The text "UN 3373" inside a diamond mark must be visible.

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# Organizing the shipping

- Nightingale will contact you to provide the shipping address and contact information.
- When choosing a courier, please consider the differences in price and quality of available shipping operators and prefer those specialized in biological sample logistics.
- Before shipping the samples, please confirm the sample shipment schedule with Nightingale and provide a tracking code immediately when the samples have been shipped.
- The Remaining Sample Material can be returned to you. Please contact your Account Manager for more information.

If there are any questions related to packing and organizing the shipment, please contact logistics@nightingalehealth.com