

LOGISTICS OF HANDLING AND TRANSPORTING HIGHLY INFECTIOUS VET SAMPLES

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LOGISTICS OF HANDLING AND TRANSPORTING HIGHLY INFECTIOUS VET SAMPLES

Definition

Logistics - Management of flow of goods from point of origin to destination

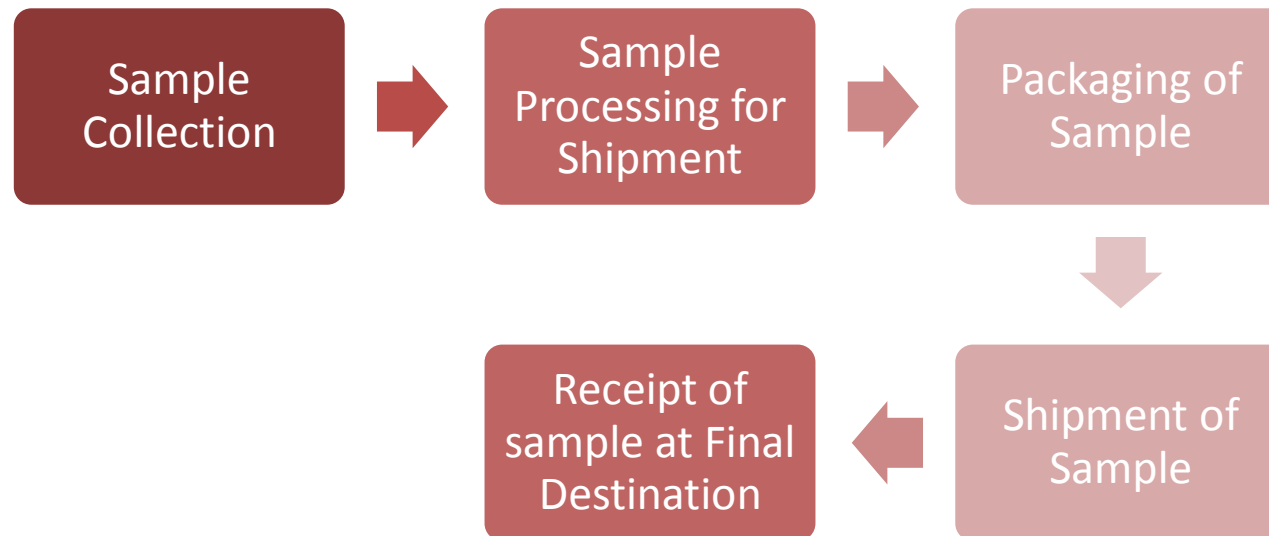
Handling-The act or process of packing and shipping something to someone

Transporting-To move or carry or take from one place to another

This discussions will focus on Management of the process of packing and shipping of veterinary samples with a high likelihood of transmission of the disease to humans, animals and environment from one place to another

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What is the general process flow of packing and shipping highly infectious vet samples?



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- ❖ Plan or SOP for sample collection, preservation, packing and shipment.
- ❖ Biosafety Biosecurity risk assessment and management of the proposed plan or SOP.
- ❖ Approval of plan or SOP by IACUC & IBC.

LOGISTICS OF HANDLING AND TRANSPORTING HIGHLY INFECTIOUS VET SAMPLES

- ❖ Permits for collection and shipment of samples from government regulatory institutions.
- ❖ SOP on labeling and traceability of samples.
- ❖ Sourcing of adequate and sufficient number of labels and packaging materials

LOGISTICS OF HANDLING AND TRANSPORTING HIGHLY INFECTIOUS VET SAMPLES

- ❖ Determine how the samples will be moved E.g. By courier vehicle or by institutional vehicle or by air.
- ❖ Source for the transporter or make arrangements for transportation.
- ❖ Inspect the vehicle to be used for transport

LOGISTICS OF HANDLING AND TRANSPORTING HIGHLY INFECTIOUS VET

- ❖ Prepare terms of reference and transport agreement /contract for the transporter.
- ❖ Develop an Emergency Response Plan for shipment and appoint contact person.
- ❖ Explain TORs, risk assessment and train transporter on shipment section of SOP.

LOGISTICS OF HANDLING AND TRANSPORTING HIGHLY INFECTIOUS VET

- ❖ Have the transporter sign the agreement / contract for transporting samples.
- ❖ Clarify the transport conditions/requirements to transporter
- ❖ Agree on a clear collection and delivery plan with transporter.
- ❖ Communicate in writing all requirements for movement of samples E.g. Require cold storage

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- ❖ Train team on sampling, preservation, packing and shipment plan or SOP.
- ❖ Run a dry run of the plan or SOP
- ❖ Supervision of actual sample collection, preservation and packing.

LOGISTICS OF HANDLING AND TRANSPORTING HIGHLY INFECTIOUS VET SAMPLESdestination

- ❖ Ensure all necessary documentation is available for filling and is filled and signed before handover of samples
- ❖ Ensure all the documents required to accompany the samples are enclosed in the packet.
- ❖ Counter check the information on the transport documents and what has been loaded on the vehicle before final sign off
- ❖ Call final destination and notify samples are on transit.

LOGISTICS OF HANDLING AND TRANSPORTING HIGHLY INFECTIOUS VET SAMPLES

- Develop brief instruction of receipt of sample .
- ❖ Send all documents related to samples by email or text message to recipient before samples are dispatched
- ❖ Monitor samples while on transit
- ❖ Confirm receipt of samples

CONCLUSION

To achieve the objectives of either a Diagnostic or research facility; collection, labelling, preservation; packaging; movement and receipt of samples from origin to destination is very critical and will actually determine the quality of the output of the laboratory or research.

CONCLUSION

Logistics of handling and transporting highly infectious samples must be well planned and managed by diagnostic veterinary laboratories and research institutions to achieve their objectives of disease detection and research.

CONCLUSION

This is a very complex activity made even more complex due to:

- ❖ The nature of the risk (Biosafety/Biosecurity) posed by the samples being handled and transported.
- ❖ Internal institutional regulations to ensure institutions do not get into liability issues.

CONCLUSION

- ❖ Country regulatory framework to protect country & International agreements on movement of infectious agents from one country to another
- ❖ The impact of error in the process would result in serious consequences to humans, animals and the environment locally and internationally.

CONCLUSION

Due to many teams involved in handling and transporting of infectious veterinary samples which include:

- ❖ field teams & research /lab teams,
- ❖ Transporters & procurement teams,
- ❖ IACUC\IBC & government regulators,
- ❖ emergency response plans & contact persons etc.

Research/Lab teams on their own are not able to manage this process.

CONCLUSION

Institutions should ensure that there is a person responsible for logistics of transporting and handling of highly infectious vet samples to ensure packages can; be tracked during transit, traced back to their origin at all times and accountability of all packages from sampling to final destination.

THANK YOU

