

July 2021

To: Clients of the New York Hospital Laboratories (NYHL)

From: NYHL Management

Subject: **UPDATE-** Refrigerated packing (including Quantiferon specimens)

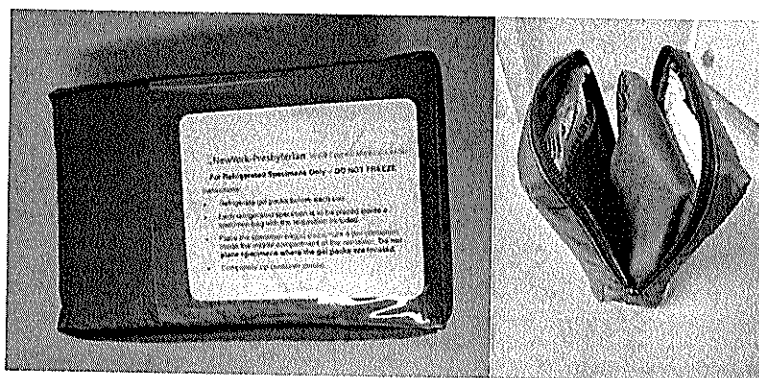
Dear Valued NYHL Client,

The New York Hospital Laboratories were recently made aware that production of Transpaks, used for the refrigerated transport of Quantiferon specimens, has ceased. As a result, we have begun to transition to the use of a blue cooler bag to maintain the required refrigerated temperature. These bags are labeled with the NYP logo and should only be utilized for specimens directed to NYHL that are required to be maintained at a refrigerated temperature, such as Quantiferon specimens.

Label and package the specimen in a Quantiferon bag with the red stripe. The requisition should be folded such that the Lab CSN#/Requisition# barcode located on the upper right section of the requisition is visible. Place the requisition into the outer pocket of the Quantiferon bag. Place the requisition and specimen(s) in separate pockets of the specimen bag and seal.

If you are located **on the campus of the NYP/WC Hospital or in the Helmsley Tower, David H. Koch building, 407 East 70th Street, CIMA at Payson House, 1305 York Avenue, or Oxford building**, place the Quantiferon specimen and patient requisition in the red striped Quantiferon bag included in the kit. Once packaged, please call the Logistics Team at (212) 746-0669, *whether or not* you have an upcoming scheduled pick-up, to notify the couriers that a Quantiferon specimen, which is **not** in a **refrigerated** cooler bag, is ready for pick-up.

If you are located outside the immediate vicinity of NYP/WC Hospital, Place two cold packs in the pockets on both side panels on the inside of the blue cooler bag. Do not use frozen cold packs as these will freeze the specimen and it will no longer be viable for testing. Place the specimen bag, with the specimen and requisition already packaged within it, into the center pocket of the cooler bag, not in direct contact with either cold pack. Up to 4 specimens, each packaged with its requisition in a separate specimen bag, can be placed into a single blue cooler bag. If submitting refrigerated Quantiferon specimens in the blue cooler bag, please utilize the Quantiferon specimen bag with a red stripe. Zip the blue cooler bag completely closed to maintain the cool temperature, and place in the specimen box for pick up. **Be sure to call Logistics for a time sensitive pick up at 212-746-0669 to ensure specimen is picked up and delivered promptly.**



You can request a replenishment of your supply of these blue cooler bags using the normal process for supply requests from the NYHL Logistics Team.

Please contact Client Services at (212) 746-0670 for any questions related to this new process.

Thank you very much for your cooperation. As always, we appreciate your continued support of the Laboratories at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center.