



Ordering Rabies Specimen Shipping Supplies for OAVT RRP RVTs

What supplies are needed to ship rabies specimens?

Each individual Public Health Unit is responsible for ordering, stocking and supplying shipping supplies to OAVT RRP RVTs for the purpose of rabies specimen collection and shipment. Shipping supplies have been procured to meet the regulations under the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act while keeping shipping costs to a minimum.

[It is important that only these selected supplies be provided to RVTs.](#)

Each rabies specimen requires the following supplies for shipment:

- 1 corrugated double walled box (SMALL or LARGE dependant on size of the specimen)
- 3 plastic bags for the specimen (SMALL or LARGE dependant on size of the specimen)
- 1 plastic bag for the specimen lab submission form (SMALL)
- 1, or more, rigid ice packs (dependant on the size of the specimen and the outside temperature)

Note: Biological Category B specimens shipping by air (this only occurs in the Thunder Bay and Northwestern Health Unit areas) require that at least one of the three specimen bags be a Pressure-Tested (95 kPa) bag for the specimen packaging.

RVTs may request multiple sets of shipping materials at one time to prevent repeated travel to and from the health unit to pick up supplies and to provide efficiency when collecting.

Where can supplies be ordered?

Shipping supplies are provided by the Ontario Government Pharmaceutical and Medical Supply Service (OGPMMS) and can be ordered through the Inventory Module of Panorama.



All Health Units (except Thunder Bay District and Northwestern Health Units)
OGPMMS Order Information

Description	Size	Units	Catalogue No.
Corrugated Cardboard Boxes	SMALL Double Wall Corrugated Boxes; 10 x 10 x 10 inches	1	8520-4040-0
Corrugated Cardboard Boxes	LARGE Double Wall Corrugated Boxes; 16 x 16 x 16 inches	1	8520-4030-0
Plastic bags for small specimens (bat, raccoon, cat, small and medium sized dogs etc.)	SMALL Re-closable Bags; 9 x 12 inches 4 Mil	1	8520-4010-0
Plastic bags for large specimens (large and giant sized dogs, sheep etc.)	LARGE Industrial Poly Bags; 15 x 30 inches 3 Mil	1	8520-4000-0
Ice Packs	Ice Packs, Rigid	1	8520-4020-0

Tip: The majority of specimens will fit in the smaller sized boxes and bags available for order. These should make up the bulk of your supply. A smaller number of large boxes and bags should also be available.

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Thunder Bay District and Northwestern Health Units Only OGPMMS Order Information

Description	Size	Units	Catalogue No.
Corrugated Cardboard Boxes	SMALL Double Wall Corrugated Boxes; 10 x 10 x 10 inches	1	8520-4040-0
Corrugated Cardboard Boxes	LARGE Double Wall Corrugated Boxes; 16 x 16 x 16 inches	1	8520-4030-0
Plastic bags for small specimens (bat, raccoon, cat, small and medium sized dogs etc.)	SMALL Reclosable bags, 9 x 12 inches 4 Mil	1	8520-4010-0
Plastic bags for small specimens (bat, raccoon, cat, small and medium sized dogs etc.)	SMALL Pressure-Tested Plastic Bags; 12 x 15 inches (95 kPa)	1	8520-4050-0
Plastic bags for large specimens (large and giant sized dogs, sheep etc.)	LARGE Industrial Poly Bags; 15 x 30 inches 3 Mil	1	8520-4000-0
Plastic bags for large specimens (1 of the 3 specimen bags)	LARGE Pressure-Tested Bags; 13.125 x 18 inches (95 kPa)	1	8520-4060-0
Ice Packs	Ice Packs, Rigid	1	8520-4020-0

Note: A change in the ordering availability of pressure-tested bags (that are required only for Biological, Category B specimen shipments from the Thunder Bay and Northwestern Health areas) occurred in June 2022. Moving forward, to maintain supply of these bags, only one of the three specimen bags should be a 95 kPa bag and the remaining specimen bags should not be pressure-tested. The RRP will determine if the specimen will ship as a Biological, Category B specimen after reviewing your rabies specimen collection request submission form and will notify the collecting RVT (or Veterinarian) what packaging is required. Please ensure RVTs are provided with mostly non pressure-tested bags as they will make up the bulk of their collections. Please also provide RVTs a couple of pressure-tested bags of each size to have on hand when required.

Tip: The majority of specimens will fit in the smaller sized boxes and bags available for order. These should make up the bulk of your supply. A smaller number of large boxes and bags should also be available.

Keeping Your Shipping Supplies Stocked

Shipping supplies are utilized all year long but the OAVT RRP's busiest times of year are in the warmer months between April - September when both people and animals are more active outdoors. Please ensure your shipping supplies are stocked to reflect the increased usage during the warmer months.

Questions? Email us at: rrp@oavt.org