

Definitions

■ Category A Infectious Substance

- Is an infectious substance transported in a form capable of causing permanent disability or life threatening or fatal disease to otherwise healthy humans or animals when exposure to it occurs.
- And exposure occurs when an infectious substance is released outside of its protective packaging, resulting in physical contact with humans or animals.
- Category A Infectious Substances are assigned to existing identification numbers UN2184 and UN2900.

Examples of Infectious Substances Category A

- *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (cultures only)
- *Brucella abortus* (cultures only)
- Human immunodeficiency virus (cultures only)
- Dengue virus (cultures only)
- Herpes B virus (cultures only)
- *Rickettsia rickettsia* (cultures only)
- Rabies and other lyssaviruses (cultures only)

Definitions Continued

- Category B Biological Substances
 - Does not meet the criteria for inclusion of a Category A Infectious Substance.
 - Does not cause permanent disability or life threatening or fatal disease to humans or animals when exposed to it.

Examples of Category B Substances

- Human immunodeficiency virus (Clinical specimens)
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis (Clinical specimens)
- Rabies virus (animal heads)
- Arbovirus (serum or CSF specimens)
- Syphilis (serum, blood, CSF)
- Hepatitis A, B , C (serum or blood)
- Influenza Surveillance specimens

Who Needs Training?

- 49 CFR defines a hazmat employee as a person who works for a hazmat employer and directly affects hazmat transportation safety.
 - Loads, unloads, or handles hazardous materials.
 - Prepares hazardous materials for transportation.
 - Is responsible for safety of transporting hazardous materials.
 - Operates a vehicle used to transport hazardous materials.

Training requirements for Shipping Categories A & B

- To ship Category B Biological Substances, the shipper must be familiar with the regulations.
- To Ship Category A infectious substances, the shipper must be trained and tested in CFR 49 regulations

Category B Biological Substance Labeling

- Un3373 sticker
- "Category B Biological Substance"
- Return address with name and phone number
- Shipping address with name and phone number
- Directional indicator arrows
- Sent in rigid outer packaging

Specimen Acceptance Criteria

- Specimens must be submitted on a G-2A specimen submission form
- Name on the form must match the name on the specimen (labeling the specimen container is not the same as labeling the specimen)
- Form should have patient date of birth and date of collection
- Specimen source should also be marked
- Check the "Influenza surveillance" box
- Specimens must be sent cold within 72 hours or frozen if greater than 72 hours