

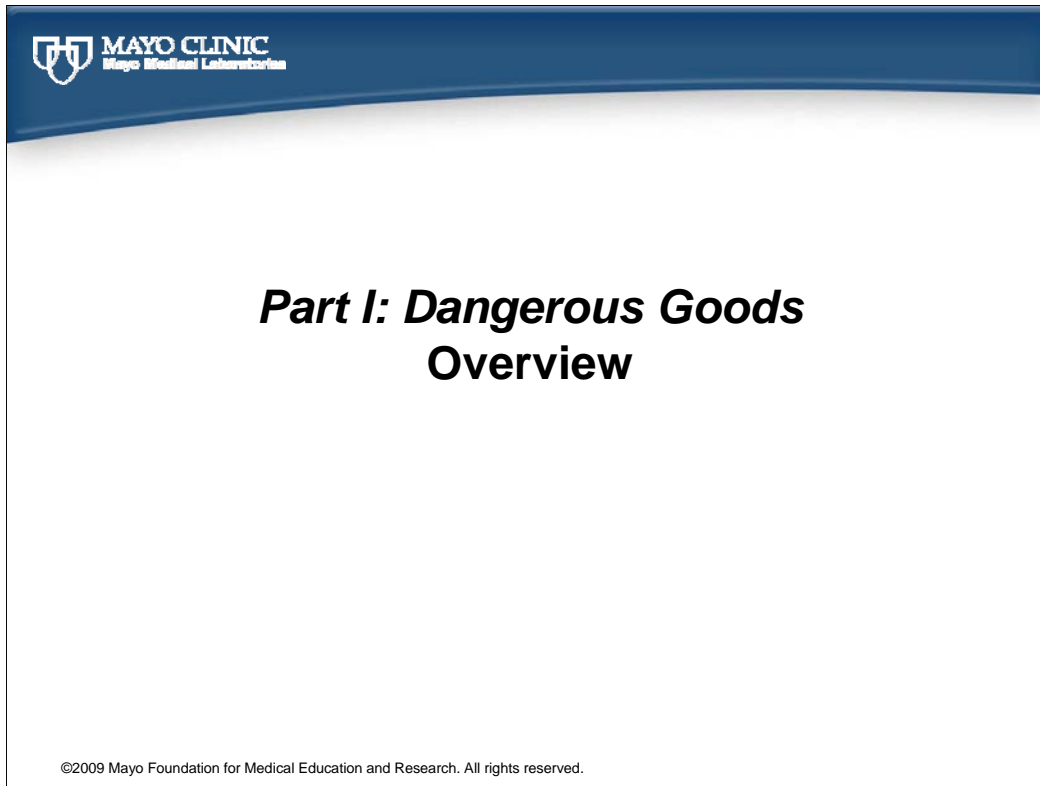
Transporting Dangerous Goods

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Welcome to training on transporting dangerous goods. Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Describe the regulations imposed on most laboratories and the importance of following them.
- Classify infectious substances for transport.
- Demonstrate the procedures for legally and safely shipping various infectious specimens.
- Integrate dangerous goods procedures into your laboratory.
- Complete the online self-assessment quiz, which enables you to obtain dangerous goods shipping certification.



Upon completion of this dangerous goods training section, you should be able to:

- Restate the definition of dangerous goods.
- Identify the legal requirements of persons shipping dangerous goods.
- Name the agencies that determine shipping regulations.
- List the dangerous goods regulations imposed on most laboratories.



What are dangerous goods?

- A **dangerous good** is any article or substance capable of posing a risk to health, safety, property, or the environment—and which is shown in the list of dangerous goods in the IATA regulations or which is classified according to the regulations. An equivalent term is hazardous material, or hazmat.

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Why is this presentation important?

- By law, any person who causes dangerous goods to be transported by a public carrier must follow certain dangerous goods shipping regulations
- People who need to follow these regulations include:
 - Sendout staff
 - Transporters of dangerous goods
 - Receivers of dangerous goods

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- Legally, anyone who causes dangerous goods to be transported by a public carrier must follow specific regulations.
- People who need to follow these regulations include sendout staff, those who transport dangerous goods, and those who receive dangerous goods.
- It is imperative to follow the regulations and to follow them correctly to prevent your specimen from leaking or being crushed in transit.
- Keep in mind that there are numerous regulations that are changing all the time. One person cannot understand or remember all the regulations, so do not hesitate to ask or call someone if you are unsure.



Who determines shipping regulations?

- Federal and state agencies have different regulations and guidelines
- Acronyms that are commonly used:
 - **IATA** – International Air Transport Association
 - **ICAO** – International Civil Aviation Organization
 - **DOT** – U.S. Department of Transportation
 - **49 CFR** – Code of Federal Regulations

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- Various federal and state agencies determine dangerous goods regulations. These agencies are often referred to by acronyms, which are used throughout this presentation.
- **IATA** stands for International Air Transport Association, and is an association of airlines. Although IATA is not the law, in order for our shipments to be accepted by the airlines, we must follow the IATA regulations, which are published every two years. IATA regulations are the easiest to read and understand
- **ICAO** stands for the International Civil Aviation Organization. ICAO is a specialized agency of the United Nations and is in place to ensure the safety of international civil aviation. ICAO is the law internationally when shipping by air.
- **DOT** stands for the U.S. Department of Transportation and is the law in the United States.
- **49 CFR** is the code of Federal Regulations—it is a document published by the U.S. Government with regulations regarding transporting hazardous materials focusing mostly on ground transportation. However, it also contains information regarding transporting hazmat by air, rail, and boat. 49 CFR is the law in the United States. The CFR is modified periodically and the changes are written in the Federal Register. Mayo Medical Laboratories subscribes to a service that reads the Federal Register and lets us know when any changes may pertain to us.



What are the shipping regulations?

- Laboratories must abide by the following shipping regulations:
 - Proper classification of specimens
 - Proper packaging of specimens
 - Proper labeling of specimens
 - Proper documentation of specimens for transport
 - Proper training of employees who handle specimens

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- The regulations imposed on most laboratories are related to specimen classification, packaging, labeling, documentation, and the proper training of staff, which are covered in detail in this presentation.
- It is the employer's responsibility to train all employees to follow the regulations and it is the responsibility of the staff to follow the regulations.
- When in doubt, refer to the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations and the 49 CFR guidelines for help in preparing a specimen for transport.
- Every mode of transportation has its own rules that must be followed in addition to the basic legal regulations.



United States Postal Service

- Follow the United States Postal Service (USPS) regulations when shipping by U.S. Mail:
 - Similar to 49 CFR, but may include additional requirements
- May be difficult to track packages sent by U.S. Mail
- Contact:
 - Website www.usps.com
 - Phone (800) 275-8777

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If you send specimens by U.S. Mail:

- Follow the Post Office's Dangerous Goods regulations. These closely follow the DOT regulations in 49 CFR, but may include additional restrictions.
- If you send specimens by U.S. Mail, they may be difficult to track should they become lost.
- For details, contact the USPS for their Dangerous Goods regulations. They can also refer you to their hazmat expert if necessary.




Air Carrier

- Follow the IATA/ICAO regulations when shipping by air
- Contact:
 - Website www.iata.org
 - Email information@iata.org
 - Hotline (514) 390-6770

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If you send specimens by air:

- Follow the IATA/ICAO Dangerous Goods regulations.
- Call the IATA hotline if you need assistance.



Ground Carrier

- Follow the DOT regulations in 49 CFR when shipping by ground
- Contact:
 - Website www.dot.gov
 - Email dot.comments@dot.gov
 - Hotline (800)467-4922
- Office of Hazardous Materials Safety:
 - Website <http://hazmat.dot.gov>

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If you send specimens by ground carrier:

- Follow the DOT Dangerous Goods regulations, found in 49 CFR.
- Call the DOT hotline if you need assistance.
- Also, review the federal safety requirements on the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety website.



Private Couriers & Contract Carriers

- Private courier systems and dedicated contract carriers:
 - Follow DOT regulations for Category A, Infectious Substance Affecting Humans
 - Exempt from DOT regulations for Category B, Biological Substance
 - Must follow requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), as stated in 29 CFR

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If you operate your own private courier system or contract with a dedicated contract courier:

- Follow the DOT regulations for substances categorized as Category A, Infectious Substance Affecting Humans.
- For substances categorized as Category B, Biological Substance, you are exempt from DOT regulations.
- Substances exempt from DOT regulations must still follow the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), as stated 29 CFR. These requirements include placing biohazard labels on at least one of the containers.