



Please read all sections of this card before initiating Sample Assessment or Collection.

If people on the scene have become ill after exposure, a chemical or toxin event is likely. Avoid area and contact Fire/HazMat (NYS Fire 518-474-6746) immediately.

Not for use in NYC. If within NYC jurisdiction, please call the NYC DOHMH at 212-447-1091 for specimen collection guidance.

REMEMBER...

- Minimize sample handling.
- Only HAZMAT should open sealed packages.
- Minimize dispersal of aerosols.
- Contact Wadsworth Center Lab.
- Complete NYSPIN BIO1 formatted message.

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COLLECTION MATERIALS (PER SAMPLE)

2 pair of protective gloves **per person**
N95 (or better) respirator
2 Ziploc bags
Fresh 10% bleach (decontamination solution)
Documentation
1 hard-sided container or Tupperware
Evidence tape

SAMPLE SWIPE KIT

One 2x2 inch, sterile, non-cotton gauze
Small bottle sterile liquid (saline or water)

TESTING LABS

Wadsworth Center Lab: (518) 474-4177
Erie County Lab: (716) 898-6100
Westchester County Lab: (914) 231-1610
NYSDOH After Hours Duty Officer: (866) 881-2809

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Albany FBI: (518) 465-7551
Buffalo FBI: (716) 843-4300
New York City FBI: (212) 384-1000

Regional NYSP: _____
UNYRIC: (866) 4-UNYRIC

Mandatory Notification:

Alert Upstate New York Regional Intelligence Center (UNYRIC), via NYSPIN
BIO1 Format Message: (type CTRL-A) BIO1 (XMIT)

Local Health Dept: _____

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BIOHAZARD SAMPLING SOP

Control Scene

Restrict access, contain area, minimize airflow around specimen, record names and contact information of people in area.

Open Dialog

Call appropriate law enforcement, Wadsworth Center, and local health (page 2).

Determine Biohazard Credibility

In collaboration with above groups, evaluate using Credible Biohazard Criteria (page 4).

Employ Collection Protocol

Gather Collection Material (page 2) and if necessary Sample Swipe Kit (page 2). Follow Annotated Collection Procedure (page 5)

Remove Contamination

Use 10% bleach for solid surfaces and outer package, remove personal protective equipment (PPE), wash hands.

Enter Information

Fill out BD Custody and BD Submission forms (available on CTN or HAN).

Dispatch Specimen

Coordinate transport, notify testing lab with ETA, dispatch specimen and documentation, launder clothes after shift.

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Evaluate biohazard threat using Criteria below.

Call Wadsworth Center Biodefense Laboratory at (518) 474-4177 to help in assessment as Criteria may change after an event.

These questions are meant to HELP evaluators make decisions on-site. Evaluators should use their professional judgment to collect and submit samples for laboratory testing.

CREDIBLE BIOHAZARD CRITERIA

- 1) Was there a **THREAT?**
- 2) Was there **VISIBLE MATERIAL?**
- 3) Was there an **UNCERTAIN ORIGIN?**
- 4) Was there an **EXPOSURE?**

RESULT A: Answer is YES to Criteria 1 (regardless of others). **Potential crime.** Collect and treat sample as evidence for criminal prosecution. Discuss need for laboratory testing with Wadsworth Center.

RESULT B: Answer is YES to Criteria 1, 2, 3, 4. **Potential biohazard and crime.** Collect and treat sample as evidence for criminal prosecution. Submit to lab.

RESULT C: Sample does not meet Result A or B criteria. Treat as nuisance material. Collect and dispose of according to local SOP.

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Annotated Collection Procedure (annotated from BD Environmental Sampling Protocol available on HAN and CTN)

1. Get Collection Materials.
2. Don appropriate PPE in clean area.
3. If sample (e.g., letter) will fit directly into Ziploc bag, do so and skip to Step 8, otherwise get Sample Swipe Kit and proceed to Step 4.
4. Open sterile gauze square.
5. Dampen gauze with sterile liquid (should NOT be dripping wet).
6. Take one open Ziploc bag and dampened gauze to collection site.
7. Touch wet gauze to powder or swipe surface (~ 10 inches X 10 inches) and place gauze in Ziploc bag.
8. Hand bag to second person wearing gloves to close (don't force air out of bag).
9. Remove gloves and place in second bag.
10. Have second person place bag containing sample in second bag (containing gloves from step 9) and seal.
11. Have second person spray outside of outer bag with 10% bleach.
12. Place decontaminated bags in hard-sided container and close.
13. Secure access to container with 2 inches of evidence tape.
14. Remove PPE and wash hands with soap and water for 3 minutes.
15. Proceed to Enter Information.

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