Shipping Instructions for ALL material types:

SHIPPING - General

**\*ALL materials should be shipped FexED overnight-10:00am delivery**

**\*Shipment Delivery Monday through Wednesday.** Thursday on prior approval

**\*Do NOT ship on Friday, a day before a UNC Holiday, or long weekend**

**\*Contact HTSF manager for submission of the TracSeq manifest 2-3 weekdays prior to when you wish to ship.**

**\* HTSF manager will submit samples for you and return the confirmed TracSeq manifest back to you. You need this manifest before you can ship**

FROZEN SAMPLES: ALL RNA samples should be shipped in this format

The samples should be kept frozen at -80°C before being shipped on Mondays through Wednesday (preferably). Make sure all materials are frozen solid prior to shipment.

A Styrofoam packer and the Cardboard external box will need to be large enough to contain dry ice and samples you are shipping. .

* Package samples on the afternoon of shipment, if done earlier maintain package at -80ºC until it is shipped.
* Place a copy of the TracSeq confirmed manifest into each of the shipping containers. This is a manifest that has been returned to you by HTSf staff member after you sent the Submission manifest to us. This manifest is necessary for checking in the samples once received.
* Check off each item as it is packed.
* Prepare the samples you will ship.
  + Individual tubes (<24): make sure lids are tight. Place them in a ziplock (puncture holes in bag) bag with Project Name/ Your Name / date clearly labeled on the outside
  + Individual tubes (>24): place them in a cardboard freezer box in the order on your manifest submission. Place double rubber bands around each of the freezer boxes. Clearly label box with Project Name/ Your Name / date. If you have several boxes. Number the boxes as you have on the manifest submission.
  + 96-well Plates: Make sure each plate is sealed well and is clearly labeled with Project Name/ Your Name / date and Plate number. The project name and plate number should also be on the plate itself and not just the sealer. Place a series of plates inside freezer bag (puncture bag with holes)
* Remove Styrofoam container from shipping card board box before beginning packaging
* Place some dry ice in the Styrofoam inner container (enough to cover the bottom of the shipping container), and begin layering boxes/ plates and dry ice into the container. Make sure all air pockets contain dry ice. Repeat for additional shipping containers as needed.
* The amount of dry ice in the shipping container will vary with the number of smaller freezer samples placed in it
* Put one piece of strapping tap across Styrofoam box top, dry ice gases need to escape. DO NOT SEAL AROUND THE GAP BETWEEN THE LID AND BOTTOM. This is to just hold the lid tight.
* Place the HTSF address and the copy of the confirmed manifest (with the address on top into a ziplock plastic bag )
* Put top on Styrofoam container
* Put Styrofoam box back into card board box
* Seal the cardboard box containing the Styrofoam box inside securely with strapping tape.
* Affix a Biological Substance Category B (UN3373) label and a Dry Ice label (UN 1845) to the outside of the cardboard box. Please note these labels may or may not be provided by your university EHS.

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-20oC Samples:

The samples should be kept frozen before being shipped on Mondays through Wednesday (preferably). Thursdays If needed. Make sure all materials are chilled thoroughly prior to shipment.

* Package samples on the afternoon of shipment, if done earlier maintain package at -20ºC until it is shipped.
* Place a copy of the TracSeq confirmed manifest into each of the shipping containers. This is a manifest that has been returned to you by HTSf staff member after you sent the Submission manifest to us. This manifest is necessary for checking in the samples once received.
* Check off each item as it is packed.
* Prepare the samples you will ship.
  + Individual tubes (<24): make sure lids are tight. Place them in a ziplock bag with Project Name/ Your Name / date clearly labeled on the outside
  + Individual tubes (>24): place them in a cardboard freezer box in the order on your manifest submission. Place double rubber bands around each of the freezer boxes. Clearly label box with Project Name/ Your Name / date. If you have several boxes. Number the boxes as you have on the manifest submission.
  + 96-well Plates: Make sure each plate is sealed well and is clearly labeled with Project Name/ Your Name / date and Plate number. The project name and plate number should also be on the plate itself and not just the sealer. Place a series of plates inside freezer bag
* Pack the container as described above, but use the frozen freezer bricks/ packets rather than dry ice. If will be harder to pack the samples tightly with the bricks than with dry ice.
* Please DO NOT use ziplocks filled with wet ice. Those really only keep samples at 4oC for a short time period.
* Remove Styrofoam container from shipping card board box before beginning packaging
* Place some freezer packs in the Styrofoam inner container (enough to cover well the bottom of the shipping container), and begin layering samples and frozen bricks into the container. Repeat for additional shipping containers as needed.
* The amount of ice packs in the shipping container will vary with the number of smaller freezer boxes placed in it
* Put one piece of strapping tap across Styrofoam box top
* Place the HTSF address and confirmed manifest (with the address on top into a ziplock plastic bag )
* Put top on Styrofoam container
* Put Styrofoam box back into card board box
* Seal the cardboard box containing the Styrofoam box inside securely with strapping tape.

4oC Samples:

The samples should be kept cold/ 4°C before being shipped on Mondays through Wednesday (preferably) Thursdays If needed. Make sure all materials are chilled thoroughly prior to shipment.

* Package samples on the afternoon of shipment, if done earlier maintain package at 4ºC until it is shipped.
* Place a copy of the TracSeq confirmed manifest into each of the shipping containers. This is a manifest that has been returned to you by HTSf staff member after you sent the Submission manifest to us. This manifest is necessary for checking in the samples once received.
* Check off each item as it is packed.
* Prepare the samples you will ship.
  + Individual tubes (<24): make sure lids are tight. Place them in a ziplock bag with Project Name/ Your Name / date clearly labeled on the outside
  + Individual tubes (>24): place them in a cardboard freezer box in the order on your manifest submission. Place double rubber bands around each of the freezer boxes. Clearly label box with Project Name/ Your Name / date. If you have several boxes. Number the boxes as you have on the manifest submission.
  + 96-well Plates: SHOULD ALWAYS BE SHIPPED FROZEN, NEVER AT 4oC
* Remove Styrofoam container from shipping card board box before beginning packaging
* Place some wet ice packs or frozen 4oC packs in the Styrofoam inner container (enough to cover well the bottom of the shipping container), and begin layering boxes and dry ice into the container. Repeat for additional shipping containers as needed.
* The amount of ice packs in the shipping container will vary with the number of smaller freezer boxes placed in it
* Put one piece of strapping tap across Styrofoam box top
* Place the HTSF address and the paper confirmed manifest (with the address on top into a ziplock plastic bag )
* Put top on Styrofoam container
* Put Styrofoam box back into card board box
* Seal the cardboard box containing the Styrofoam box inside securely with strapping tape.

All Samples:

Paperwork to be sent with samples: A confirmed manifest form with all samples information should be placed in the box with the packer. This form includes study name/ PI name/ submitter info in additional to a manifest of all samples to be sent on the shipment.

Information on the sample labels: On each sample container please have the study name and sample ID listed. Please double check that the Sample ID you indicate is correct. Please see below for addition considerations when labeling the samples.

* 1. Please pay specific attention to the participant ID. We have a lot of errors because of poorly labeled samples. This can cause the sample ID to be incorrectly listed in our database. We know that most studies do not have the ability to print labels; therefore, handwritten labels are fine if they are clearly written. If you need to change something, please use a new label rather than crossing out mistakes and then writing over the top.
  2. Please make sure to accurately enter the ID into your system. . Be precise about the participant ID code – numbers / alpha / punctuation. Make sure to include ALL digits in a long series of numbers. We will be using the confirmed TracSeq manifest as a confirmation of what we should be receiving. SAMPLES RECEIVED THAT ARE NOT ON THE MANIFEST OR MISISNG SAMPLES CAN CAUSE A DELAY IN PROCESSING THE ENTIRE SHIPMENT
  3. The HTSF has had issues with labels coming off of the delivered samples. This is especially true for samples that were previously stored at -20oC - -80oC. Please make sure that labels stay on tubes for the long term with a few test tubes prior to starting a project. We can help you to find a label material that will work for your project. Please contact us

Final packaging for shipment: Secure the box lid / outer packaging and make sure the outer packaging is properly labeled according to DOT/IATA protocol. This should include Diagnostic Specimen IATA 650 labels on multiple sides of the outer packaging. You may need a “dry Ice” label with approx. dry ice weight on the outside of the package.

FEDEX Airbill: Affix the completed (see below for specifics) FedEx airbill to the following address to the outside of the box. (the airbill is place in a clear plastic pouch)

\*Record the site address and telephone number in section 1.

\*Record the HTSF address in section 3

High Throughput Sequencing Facility

Rm. 1153 Genome Sciences Building

250 Bell Tower Drive

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, NC 27599

919-962-4395

\*Section 4--Check priority overnight

\*Section 5 (packaging) = check other

\*Section 6 –check “Yes” shippers declaration not required and check dry ice and write on the estimated number of pounds if necessary

Use your institution’s FedEx shipping procedures or call 1-800-GO-FEDEX for pickup.

HTSF notification of Shipment:

Send an e-mail message containing:

1- The tracking number and date of shipment to all of the addresses below.

2- Please include a copy of the confirmed manifest in the email

3- In the subject line please used the Project’s name. We have numerous projects shipping materials– project names help us determine what we should look for.

Email the following people:

HTSF Technicians:

Baoyan An [baoyan@unc.edu](mailto:baoyan@unc.edu)

Meng, Shaowu [shaowu\_meng@med.unc.edu](mailto:shaowu_meng@med.unc.edu)

Stephanie DeYoung [smdeyoun@live.unc.edu](mailto:smdeyoun@live.unc.edu)

Managers:

Amy Perou [amyperou@med.unc.edu](mailto:amyperou@med.unc.edu)

Chris Nagy ([cnagy@email.unc.edu](mailto:cnagy@email.unc.edu))

Coordinators

Erin Wallace [wallacee@live.unc.edu](mailto:wallacee@live.unc.edu)

Katie Berger [kberger@email.unc.edu](mailto:kberger@email.unc.edu)

Retain a copy of the completed air bill for your records.

\*\*\*\*\*do not ship on Thursday (unless approved by HTSF manager) **Never ship on Fridays** **or the day before a holiday** (as no one will be there on weekends or holidays to receive the samples and store them properly).

\*\*\*\* Please contact HTSF manager if you have questions or need vendor sources for shipping supplies

CONTACT INFORMATION

Any Questions, please contact:

Amy Perou

High Throughput Sequencing Facility

Genome Sciences Bldg

University of North Carolina

Chapel Hill, NC 27599

Phone: 919-923-2604

Email: [amyperou@med.unc.edu](mailto:amyperou@med.unc.edu)

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