

Biological laboratory consignments

Services and requirements for shipping and packaging

Under certain conditions, Swiss Post transports medical samples intended for diagnostics purposes and biological consignments from the research industry via its letter or parcel channels. Find out all the key information about these consignments below.

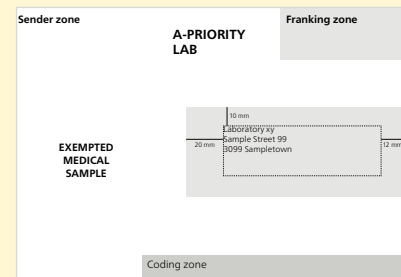
Provided that medical samples and biological consignments – subsequently referred to as “biological laboratory consignments” – do not contain any pathogens that cause life-threatening or severe illnesses with lasting adverse effects in healthy people and animals, and provided that the legal requirements on the shipment of dangerous goods are met, they can be transported by Swiss Post. Swiss Post takes appropriate measures to ensure the legally compliant and safe transportation of such biological laboratory consignments and offers special services for these items in its letter and parcel channels.

The **sender** must categorically ensure that the legal requirements on the shipment of biological laboratory consignments are met and that every single laboratory consignment is correctly classified, packaged and labelled and is permitted for transport via the chosen channel.

Biological laboratory consignments via letter mail

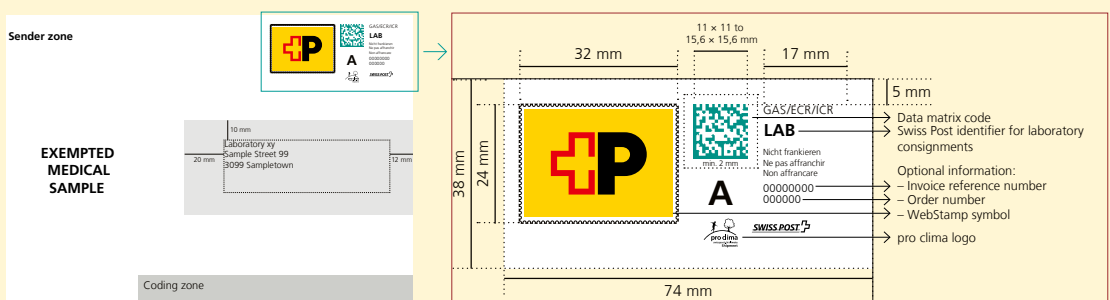
Biological laboratory consignment

Services	B5 to max. 5 cm
Maximum dimensions	25 × 17.6 × 5 cm
Weight	max. 500 g
Mail labelling	LAB
Prices (incl. VAT)	CHF 4.20



Business reply label biological laboratory consignment

Services	B5 to max. 2 cm	B5 to max. 5 cm	B4 to max. 2 cm
Maximum dimensions	25 × 17.6 × 2 cm	25 × 17.6 × 5 cm	35.3 × 25 × 2 cm
Weight	max. 500 g	max. 500 g	max. 1000 g
Mail labelling	LAB and data matrix code	LAB and data matrix code	LAB and data matrix code
Prices (incl. VAT)	CHF 2.20	CHF 4.30	CHF 3.30



Labelling: You can generate the complete impression, including the individually designed stamp and static code, in the “**Create postage paid impressions**” online service. The online service can be found at www.swisspost.ch/online-services.



Biological laboratory consignment as a parcel

Laboratory consignments that exceed the stated letter dimensions must be sent as parcels.

The required labelling for parcels must be observed:

- Laboratory consignments are sent as dangerous goods in the parcel channel and must be labelled with an “LQ” value-added service barcode.
- The labels required by law are the same for letter and parcel channels (e.g. “EXCEPTED MEDICAL SAMPLE” or “UN3373 biological substance category B” label).

You can find more information on the [Swiss Post website](#) or in the “[Dangerous goods manual](#)”.



Ordering stickers

- LQ value-added service barcode: via www.swisspost.ch/order-barcodes-shipping-labels-info
- Dangerous goods labels: via retailers of dangerous goods stickers

LQ value-added service barcode

A dangerous goods surcharge of CHF 1.10 (list price, including VAT) is charged for parcels, in addition to the parcel price. The prices for the relevant consignment types can be found at www.post.ch/en/sending-parcels/domestic-parcels.

More shipping options

Does your consignment not fall under any of the categories indicated? We can provide other shipping options besides the letter and parcel channels. Contact your customer advisor or Customer Service at dangerous.goods@swisspost.ch.

Transport requirements and design specifications for biological laboratory consignments via letter or parcel channels

- Detailed information on packaging and labelling requirements can be found in the “[Dangerous goods manual](#)”, at www.swisspost.ch/dangerousgoods or in the [ADR](#) (Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road).
- In the event of non-compliance with packaging and shipping requirements, the sender is liable for any damages that occur during shipping.
- If you have any doubts over whether the packaging you intend to use is permitted, please contact Customer Service at dangerous.goods@swisspost.ch.

Important information

- The transport of contagious biological substances is subject to the Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR). Based on their risk of contagion, level of danger and condition, these substances are assigned to various UN numbers and may be partly or fully exempted from transport provisions.
- Classification of the substances is the responsibility of the sender or competent institutions, such as doctors, development, research and diagnostics laboratories or the Federal Office of Public Health, etc.
- Contagious substances, which are classified as exempted medical or exempted veterinary medical samples or under UN 3373 Biological Substance Category B, can be transported by letter or parcel channels.
- Private individuals cannot post such consignments unless they have received exact shipping and packaging instructions and the required packaging materials from a competent institution.
- In particular, the sending of pathogens classified as dangerous to people or animals (UN 2814 Infectious Substances Affecting Humans or UN 2900 Infectious Substances Affecting Animals) is prohibited via the letter and parcel channels.

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