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C O P Y

Sec. 473. Specimens of diseased tissues may be admitted to the mail for transmission to United States, State, municipal, or other laboratories in possession of permits referred to in paragraph 3 of this section only when inclosed in mailing cases constructed in accordance with this regulation, provided that bacteriologic or pathologic specimens of plague and cholera shall under no circumstances be admitted to the mails.

2. Liquid cultures, or cultures of microorganisms in media that are fluid at the ordinary temperature (below 45°C. or 113°F.) are unmailable. Such specimens may be sent in media that remain solid at ordinary temperature.

3. No package containing diseased tissue shall be delivered to any representative of any of said laboratories until a permit shall have first been issued by the Postmaster General, certifying that said institution has been found to be entitled, in accordance with the requirements of this regulation, to receive such specimens.

4. (a) Specimens of tubercular sputum (whether disinfected with carbolic acid or not disinfected) shall be transmitted in a solid glass vial with a mouth not less than 1 inch in diameter and capacity of not more than 2 ounces, closed by a cork stopper or by a metallic screw top protected by a rubber or felt washer. Specimens of diphtheria, typhoid or other infectious or communicable diseases or diseased tissues, shall be placed in a test tube made of tough glass, not over three-fourths of an inch in diameter and not over 7½ inches in length, closed with a stopper of rubber or cotton and sealed with paraffin or covered with a tightly fitting rubber cap.

(b) The glass vial or test tube shall then be placed in a cylindrical tin box, with soldered joints, closed by a metal screw cover with a rubber or felt washer. The vial or test tube in this tin box shall be completely and evenly surrounded by absorbent cotton closely packed.

(c) The tin box with its contents must then be inclosed in a closely fitting metal, wooden, papier-maché block or tube, at least three-sixteenths of an inch thick in its thinnest part, of sufficient strength to resist rough handling and support the weight of the mails piled in bags. This last tube shall be tightly closed with a screw-top cover with sufficient screw threads to require at least one and one-half full turns before it will come off, and fitted with a felt or rubber washer.

5. Specimens of blood dried on glass microscopic slides for the diagnosis of malaria or typhoid fever by the Vidal test may be sent in any strong mailing case which is not liable to breakage or loss of the specimen in transit.

6. Upon the outside of every package of diseased tissues admitted to the mails shall be written or printed the words "Specimen for bacteriological examination. This package to be pouched with letter mail".