



## Category A Infectious Substances

What is a Category A Infectious Substance? Typically a category A shipment is a patient or animal specimen being sent to a lab for research or diagnostic testing.

**PATIENT SPECIMEN:** Human or animal materials collected directly from humans or animals and transported for research, diagnosis, investigational activities, or disease treatment or prevention. Patient specimen includes excreta, secreta, blood and its components, tissue and tissue swabs, body parts, and specimens in transport media (e.g., Tran swabs, culture media, and blood culture bottles).

**CATEGORY A:** An infectious substance in a form capable of causing permanent disability or life threatening or fatal disease in otherwise healthy humans or animals when exposure to it occurs. An exposure occurs when an infectious substance is released outside of its protective packaging, resulting in physical contact with humans or animals. Classification must be based on the known medical history or symptoms of the source patient or animal, endemic local conditions, or professional judgment concerning the individual circumstances of the source human or animal. Category A poses a higher degree of risk than Category B. Proper shipping names and identification numbers

- UN2900 - Infectious substances, affecting animals
- UN2814 - Infectious substances, affecting humans

Source – The Medical Dictionary

## The UPS Advantage

### UPS Category A Service

Secure, vigilant care for infectious substances, every step of the way

-  Vigilance from the very start, for the greatest possible care
-  Proactive monitoring technology to track and help preserve at-risk shipments
-  Best-in-class technology means no-fail package pickups
-  Priority routing with fewer touch points for faster transportation
-  Constant visibility: Know where it is, and when it should arrive
-  Delivered in time to keep your projects moving





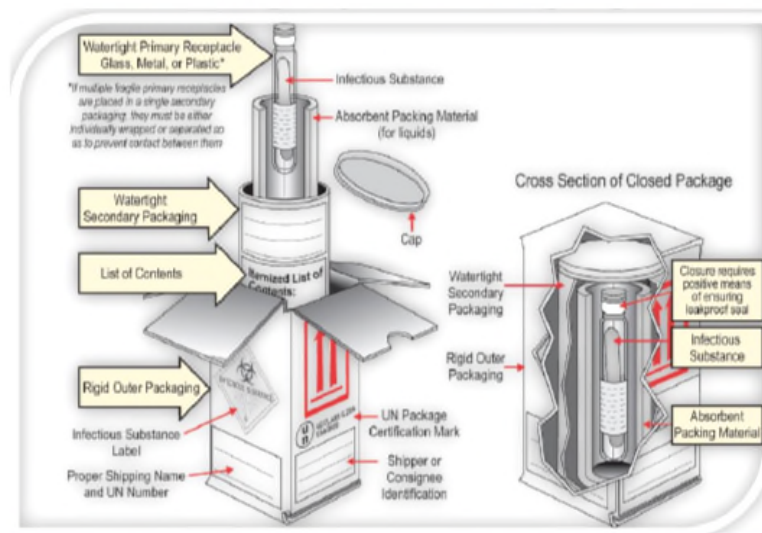
## Can Customers Ship Category A Infectious Substances with UPS?

**The answer is YES.** As of June 1, 2015, UPS now offers service for Category A Infectious Substances (often referred to as “Cat A”) throughout the U.S., and from Puerto Rico to the U.S. This service provides secure, expedited patient or animal specimen delivery for infectious disease research.

This new service strengthens our competitive position against competitors like FedEx who currently transport Cat A substances, and it broadens our healthcare portfolio for both the government and private sectors. Cat A is a contractual service available in WorldShip 2015; packages must be shipped via UPS Next Day Air® or UPS Next Day Air® Early A.M.®

UPS Cat A service features UPS Proactive Response, which begins monitoring the shipment the moment it is created and alerts the driver a critical package is waiting – a feature unique to UPS that is highly desired by Cat A shippers.

## Category A Infectious Substances Packaging Requirements



Source – [U.S. Department of Transportation](#)