

## COMMON ISSUES WITH FROZEN BRAIN SHIPMENTS

- Lack of identifying information on the actual packaging of the brain
- Packed in violation of IATA standards (i.e. not double-packed, no absorbent material)
- Packed with 'extra filling' (i.e. packing peanuts, shredded paper, towels etc.)
- Paperwork for the tissue is not included in the shipment

## COMMON ISSUES WITH FIXED BRAIN SHIPMENTS

- Tissue is packed in a bucket of formalin (of varying sizes)
- Tissue is shipped in a bag of formalin
- Lack of identifying information on the actual packaging of the brain
- There are extra 'fillings' (hand towels, bath towels, etc.)
- Brain has been improperly packed and leaked formalin
- Paperwork for the tissue is not included in the shipment

## FROZEN BRAIN TISSUE DO'S AND DON'TS

### Do's

- **DO** pack brain in a sealed primary bag
- **DO** place sealed primary bag in secondary bag
- **DO** label the secondary bag with patient identifier (patient name, MRN, case number, etc.)
- **DO** ensure there is enough dry ice in shipping box
- **DO** include proper paperwork

### Don'ts

- **DON'T** pack brain in any hard sealed container (plastic drum, metal drum, etc.)
- **DON'T** pack multiple brains without any form of identification on each individual brain
- **DON'T** tape around the seal of the shipper box
- **DON'T** place any 'filler' materials with dry ice (shredded paper, packing peanuts, towels, etc.)
- **DON'T** forget corresponding paperwork

## FROZEN BRAIN PACKING GUIDELINES

- Place brain in primary bag and *seal*
- Take absorbent material and place in a larger secondary bag
- Place sealed primary bag with brain in secondary bag and *seal*
- Label secondary bag with patient identifier (patient name, MRN, case number, etc.)
- Place in a shipping box that is partially filled with dry ice
- Cover brain and fill the remainder of the box with dry ice
- Place lid on shipper box and prepare for shipment

## FIXED BRAIN TISSUE DO'S AND DON'TS

### Do's

- **DO** wrap brain in formalin soaked material
- **DO** place absorbent material in secondary bag
- **DO** label the secondary bag with patient identifier (patient name, MRN, case number, etc.)
- **DO** ensure there are no leaks
- **DO** include proper paperwork

### Don'ts

- **DON'T** pack brain in a large amount of formalin (if there is a pool of formalin, it is too much formalin)
- **DON'T** pack multiple brains without any form of identification on each individual brain
- **DON'T** forget to put absorbent material in the secondary packaging
- **DON'T** place any 'filler' materials (towels or random 'absorbent material')
- **DON'T** forget corresponding paperwork

## FIXED BRAIN PACKING GUIDELINES

- Soak blue pads or a form of absorbent material with formalin
- Take fixed brain and wrap in soaked absorbent material
- Take wrapped brain and place in a primary bag and *seal* the bag
- Put dry absorbent material in secondary bag
- Place sealed primary bag with brain in secondary bag and *seal*
- Label secondary bag with patient identifier (patient name, MRN, case number, etc.)
- Place in a shipping box
- Place lid on shipper box and prepare for shipment