

**Mission:**

To protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.



**Ron DeSantis**  
Governor

**Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD**  
State Surgeon General

**Vision:** To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

## **BPHL Test Menu**

The BPHL test menu should be referred to prior to submitting samples to BPHL for testing. The test menu provides a list of tests that are offered at BPHL and the specimen acceptability requirements for each test. This includes items such as timeframe in which specimens should be submitted for testing and the temperature range at which specimens should be stored and maintained during transit for eligibility for testing. Please refer to our webpage for more details about our test menu and specimen acceptability criteria.

[www.FloridaPublicHealthLab.com](http://www.FloridaPublicHealthLab.com)

## **Specimen Labeling**

- Specimen should be labeled with at least 2 patient identifiers that **match the requisition or electronic order.**
  - Example: Full Name and DOB or Full Name and Medical ID
- All information needs to be legible.
- Tube should be labeled along the length of the tube and as straight as possible.



## **BPHL Packaging & Shipping Guidance**

In order to be in regulatory compliance, BPHL must adhere to specimen acceptability criteria, including temperature at which specimens must be stored, maintained, and shipped.

Many of our tests require a refrigerated temperature during shipment and a maintained of temperature of 2-8°C during transit. For temperature sensitive samples, we recommend packaging with sufficient frozen ice packs to maintain 2-8°C until delivery.

Suggested guidelines:

- Sandwich the specimen between the ice packs
  - Some ice packs on the bottom, then specimen, and the more ice packs on top
  - Small cooler – 2 ice packs minimum
  - Medium cooler – 4 ice packs minimum
  - Large cooler – 6 ice packs minimum
- Please add an additional ice pack or two on hot days
- Close cooler lids tightly and ship overnight
  - Select Saturday Delivery for packages shipped on Friday

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**Accredited Health Department**  
Public Health Accreditation Board

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