

## Environmental Health and Safety

### TRANSPORTATION OF RESEARCH AND CLINICAL SPECIMENS

- Research/clinical specimens should be transported in a sealed, leak-proof primary container within a sealed, leak-proof secondary container (e.g. Tupperware container).
- The secondary container should be labeled with the universal biohazard sticker or carcinogen sticker as appropriate (available from the EH&S office).
- The outside of the secondary container should be disinfected (for biohazards) or cleaned (for chemical hazards) so that the use of personal protective equipment is not required.
- Public areas and elevators should be avoided if at all possible. If public areas/elevators must be used, gloves must not be worn. If necessary, the hand holding the specimen may be gloved, but under no circumstances should gloves be used on common surfaces such as elevator buttons.
- Even though a spill is unlikely when this protocol is followed, a spill protocol should be prepared in advance. The area of the spill should be isolated and EH&S should be contacted (2-6816; after hours, 2-HELP) to clean up the spill.