

TRANSPORT OF SAMPLES

Transport of samples should be performed in the best conditions possible, as the quality of samples can impact accuracy of analyses.

For **Endocrinology NEVER** send frozen whole blood. As from table in “Sample conservation” file, if you can assure short time from sampling to shipping (less than 24 h), it is preferable that samples are sent refrigerated, not frozen. If longer time is expected, or if a series of samples has to be sent, freeze them and make the best possible to maintain them frozen, also during shipping.

For both **Toxicology** and **Endocrinology** samples should be sent on cold pack in a polystyrene box or in thermic bags, preferably using an overnight or 2-day courier service. Temperature of samples should not exceed 8°C. Dry ice use is suggested if available, but specialized courier should then be contacted.

Include and/or send by e-mail all needed paper work and information on the health status of animals, and **WRITE LEGIBLY** on tubes, to ensure proper handling, identification and testing.

We suggest that you write on the tubes with a permanent marker and you cover the written part with transparent tape, to prevent involuntary erasing of labelling.

We also ask you to include a printed list of samples, to prevent misreading of labels on tubes or involuntary exchange of samples, due to misreading.

Before sending the samples, send an e-mail to **info [at] marlaboratory.org**. Avoid sending samples on Thursday and/or Friday, to prevent thawing of samples due to un-delivering during weekend.