



Packaging requirements for COVID-19 samples

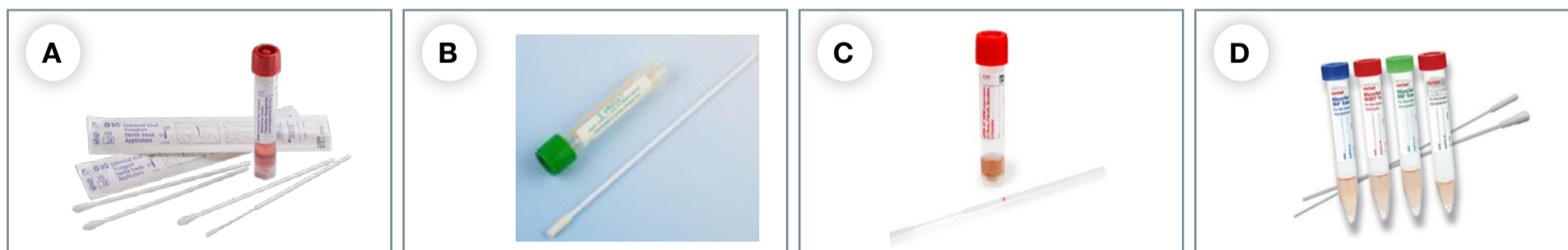
Diagnostic samples for COVID-19 are classified as **Category B (UN3373)**, following Packaging Instruction P650.

Requirements	
Layer	Requirements
Primary receptacle Contains infectious material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watertight and leakproof • Labelled appropriately • Wrapped in absorbent material to absorb leakages
Secondary packaging Encloses and protects the primary receptacle and its absorbent material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watertight and leakproof • May contain multiple primary receptacles each wrapped individually
Tertiary layer Protects the secondary packaging from physical damage while in transit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate strength for the weight, size and composition of the inner packages
Overall packaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must pass a 1.2m drop test • Either the secondary or the tertiary layer must be rigid

Examples

PRIMARY RECEPTACLE

Many different manufacturers of VTM swabs. All should be in a zip-lock bag with absorbent material.



SECONDARY PACKAGING

Either the primary receptacle or the secondary packaging must be capable of withstanding an internal pressure of 95 kPa.



TERTIARY PACKAGING



Note: Rigid tertiary packaging applies to samples being transport by road (examples 3 and 4). The samples may be transferred out of a rigid box at the reception area. However, due to the zip-lock bag between the primary and secondary container, there still remains 3 layers of packaging for the sample.