Gamete rescue sample preparation and shipping

Valuable gametes can be recovered if the reproductive tissue is recovered and shipped to a receiving institution within 24 h

**Testicular tissue**

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**Procedure for shipping testicular tissue**

1) After surgical removal of the testes (including the epididymis), transfer immediately to a ziplock bag containing several squares of gauze soaked in saline or phosphate buffered saline.

2) If a scheduled euthanasia is to be performed, please take care to minimize euthanasia solution from circulating through the testes as this will drastically impact sperm viability.

3) Refrigerate (~4°C) until ready to transport.

4) Ship in a styrofoam container (see shipping instructions for biomaterials) on a cold pack or on ice, wrapped in several layers of paper towel to avoid contact with the cold pack and sample freezing.

5) Tissue must arrive within a 24 h period if possible.

6) Please include some basic information on the individual (e.g., ZIMs specimen report) with the shipment.