

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 1, 2005

TO: Southwest Oncology Group Members, CCOPs, UCOPs and Affiliates

FROM: Southwest Oncology Group Operations Office

SUBJECT: International Air Transport Association (IATA) Shipping Requirements

Beginning January 1, 2005, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) shipping requirements will include the addition of a new label, UN3373, that must be affixed to the outside of any shipping kit containing biologic specimens that are not classified as Dangerous Goods. This will include all specimens being shipped for Southwest Oncology Group protocols, regardless of which courier is used.

Sites must mark the outside of the cardboard box containing the specimen with "Diagnostic specimen" in letters at least 6 mm high. In addition, just below "Diagnostic specimen" you must tape one of the diamond-shape symbols from the attached document.

Use of the label will result in a decrease in the inspection and checking processes required by IATA for shipment of dangerous goods, the removal of complicated documentation required in the shipment of dangerous goods, and should help to decrease the cost of shipping.

cc: Protocol Coordinators
Data Coordinators

UN3373