



November 01, 2020

Effective: November 01, 2020, until superseded

Subject: Shipping and Storage Conditions of USP Reference Standards

Dear Valued USP Customer,

The shipping and storage conditions of USP Reference Standards (RS) are two different components.

USP RS's are not customarily shipped on ice or under refrigerated conditions, despite their labeled storage condition. If scientific evidence suggests the need to ship a USP RS on ice or dry ice, USP will do so. For these products, a statement that a cold shipment is required will be included in the Product Description [e.g., Endotoxin (10,000 USP Endotoxin Units) (COLD SHIPMENT REQUIRED)]. It is the responsibility of the user to store a USP RS as described on its label upon delivery, regardless of the shipping condition. Refer to the [USP RS Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) to learn more about the 4 different shipping methods used by USP.

Shipping on ice or dry ice is available for all USP RS's on request and for an extra charge. The buyer assumes responsibility for the suitability of a USP RS when shipped differently than USP's default condition. Call USP Customer Service at 1-800-227-8772 (U.S. and Canada), +1-301-881-0666 or 00-800-4875-5555 (Select Europe) for details.

Storage conditions are intended to preserve the integrity of the material for the duration of its use as a USP RS. The storage condition for an unopened USP RS can typically be found on the container label. Storage conditions are not provided in the Safety Data Sheets (SDSs). Instead, the SDS refers users to the USP RS label. Storage conditions are lot-specific and may change from one lot to another. If no specific directions or limitations are provided on the USP RS label, the conditions of storage shall include storage at room temperature and protection from moisture, light, freezing, and excessive heat. Refer to General Chapter <659> *Packaging and Storage Requirements* in the USP-NF online publication for available definitions of storage and handling terms.

Any unused portions remaining after the container has been opened should be carefully stored in accordance with prudent laboratory procedures. Many variables are outside of the control of USP. Therefore, USP makes no warranties concerning the continued suitability of previously opened USP RS's. Decisions concerning the proper use of previously opened USP RS's are the responsibility of the user.

Regards,

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