

AN GARDA SÍOCHÁNA

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR HANDLING BLOOD SPECIMENS IN RELATION TO DRIVING OFFENCES

Kits, for the collection of blood specimens, supplied by the Medical Bureau of Road Safety, are available in the Garda Station.

The kit for the collection of a blood specimen is identified by the letter B (in red) on the outside of the cardboard box which contains all the items required for collection and forwarding of the blood specimen.

You must provide a valid blood specimen kit to the designated doctor/nurse and make the 'Doctors/nurses, guidance notes for obtaining a specimen' available to them.

The total contents of the blood kit are as follows:

- Two cylindrical containers
- Two specimen bottles
- An alcohol-free wipe
- Two matching numbered red seals
- A Section 15 form for completion by the designated doctor/nurse
- A syringe
- A needle
- A plaster
- Four white labels
- A plastic biohazard bag, containing absorbent material



After Section 15(2) has been complied with, the following additional steps must be followed for Health and Safety Requirements before forwarding specimen(s) to the Medical Bureau of Road Safety:

1. Place the sealed and labelled containers into the plastic biohazard bag with the absorbent material – ensure all air has been removed before closing the bag.



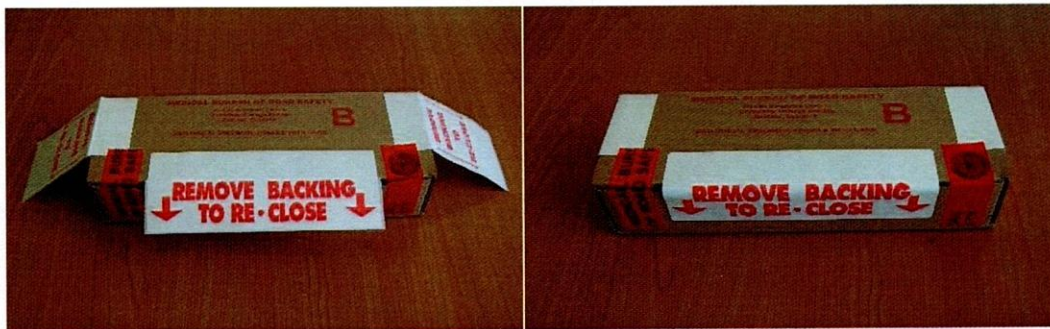
MEDICAL BUREAU OF ROAD SAFETY

2. Place the closed biohazard bag into the blood kit box.
3. Place the completed Section 15 form, duly stamped with the station's stamp on each copy, in the blood kit box.
4. In the event that the specimen has been taken under Section 14 (3A) RTA, 2010, as amended RTA 2014 (incapacitated driver) include a label, notice or statement in writing to that effect.



5. Pull out re-close label flaps.
6. Close the box with the three labels – 2 side close and 1 front close label.

Forward the specimens and the completed Section 15 form in the box to the Medical Bureau of Road Safety. Section 15(3) RTA, 2010 dictates that the specimens must be forwarded 'as soon as is practicable'. **Arrangements should be made to forward the specimens immediately.**



Please note:

- If more than one kit is used, please return any opened kits to the Medical Bureau of Road Safety.
- Please ensure that all used materials are disposed of in accordance with Garda Health & Safety requirements.