Classification Guide for Infectious Substances

Are you shipping pathogens or anything that may contain pathogens?  

No

Yes

Are you shipping non-infectious micro-organisms or organisms in which genetic material has been purposely altered through genetic engineering?  

Yes

Ship as Genetically Modified Micro-organism (GMMO) or Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)  
Training, Packaging, and Labeling

No

The substance is not subject to the DOT or IATA regulations. Ship as unregulated biological materials  
Packaging

Is this material on the list of unregulated biological materials?  

Yes

No

Are you shipping any patient specimens (human or animal) unlikely to contain pathogens?  

Yes

Ship as Exempt Human Specimens or Exempt Animal Specimens  
Packaging and Labeling

No

Are you shipping pathogens or anything that may contain pathogens?  

No

Yes

Is it an infectious substance that is capable of causing permanent disability, life-threatening or fatal disease in humans or animals that are exposed to it?  
List of examples

Yes

Ship as Infectious Substance, Category A: Human or Animal  
Training, Packaging, and Labeling

No

Ship as Infectious Substance, Category B:  
Training, Packaging, and Labeling

It is regulated medical waste or an infectious substance that is not in a form generally capable of causing permanent disability or life-threatening or fatal disease in otherwise healthy humans or animals that are exposed to it.

Yes  

No

Ship as Biological Substance, Category B:  
Training, Packaging, and Labeling

1 Adapted from UNH Shipment of Biological Materials Manual. © 2003-2011. University of New Hampshire. This guide does not address biotoxins,