

Best Practices for Evidence Handlers

Biological evidence should be stored in one of the following conditions, depending on the type of evidence, and if known, the type of analysis that will be conducted:

- Frozen: temperature is maintained thermostatically at or below 10 °C (14 °F)
- Refrigerated: temperature is maintained thermostatically between 2 °C and 8 °C (36 °F and 46 °F) with less than 25% humidity.
- Temperature Controlled: temperature is maintained thermostatically between 15.5 °C and 24 °C (60 °F and 75 °F) with less than 60% humidity.
- Room Temperature: temperature is equal to the ambient temperature of it surroundings; storage area may lack temperature and humidity control methods.





Type of Evidence	Frozen	Refrigerated	Temperature Control	Room Temperature
Liquid Blood	Never	Best		
Urine	Best			
Dry Biological Stained Items			Best	
Bones			Best	
Hair			Best	Acceptable
Swabs with Biological Material			Best (dried)	
Vaginal Smears			Best	
Feces	Best			
Buccal Swabs			Best	
DNA Extracts	Best(liquids)	Acceptable (liquids)	Acceptable(dried)	

