The following substances are exempt from Hazardous Material Regulations; environmental samples (including food and water samples) which are not considered to pose a significant risk of infection, material collected for transplant or transfusion, material that has been neutralized or inactivated to no longer pose a health risk, organisms that are non-pathogenic to humans or animals, dried blood spots, and fecal occult screening tests.

1Patient specimens are material collected directly from humans or animals, including, but not limited to, excreta, secreta, blood and its components, tissue and tissue fluid swabs, and body parts being transported for purposes such as research, diagnosis, investigational activities, disease treatment and prevention (excluding fixed slides).

2In determining whether a patient specimen has a minimal likelihood that pathogens are present, an element of professional judgment is required to determine if a substance is exempt. That judgment should be based on the known medical history, symptoms and individual circumstances of the source, human or animal, and endemic local conditions. If there is reason to suspect that the specimen contains a pathogen, it cannot be shipped as exempt from Class 6.2. For shipping purposes, patient samples are not assumed to be pathogenic unless there is a specific reason to believe they are.