

Important Information for the Donation of Research Samples to the EAZA Great Ape TAG Endorsed Ape Heart Project

- Please contact us via email prior to sending any samples
- CITES permits are required for the movement of samples (unless you are a registered institution – see below). The sender is required to obtain an export permit first from their country’s CITES authority, and once this is received via email, we can apply for an import permit
 - It may be possible for the sender to apply for a CITES fee exemption on the basis of the project’s contribution to research and conservation. Please check with your local CITES authority
 - If you are a CITES Registered Scientific Institution or if you are able to send via one in your country (e.g. a university or museum you have links with), transfers do not require an export permit but must carry a CITES label detailing information about the specimen. For a full list of registered institutions in your country, please visit https://cites.org/eng/common/reg/e_si.html.
- It is advised that all biological samples are packaged appropriately (i.e. double bagged and placed inside a sealed container) and labelled as “exempt animal specimens”
- In the case of formalin fixed samples, formalin should be drained off after full tissue fixation (usually after a week) and the sample be wrapped in saline-soaked gauze swabs (or similar) to prevent desiccation. Serum samples should be accompanied by an ice pack or cooler where possible
- It is advised that you seek clarification from your courier or local postal service prior to sending packages
- When sending the samples, the submitting institution are thereby in agreement that:
 - The samples are being *donated* to Twycross Zoo, who are acting on behalf of the EAZA Great Ape Taxon Advisory Group (GATAG)
 - The samples may be used for future research on great ape health and disease
 - Note - access to and use of the samples will be controlled by the TAG/biobank co-ordinators and will be restricted to EAZA approved research projects

*If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.
This document is correct at the time of printing (April 2021)*

EAZA Great Ape TAG Endorsed Ape Heart Project

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Website: twycrosszoo.org/conservation/research-at-twycross-zoo/ape-heart-project/