**Shipping plasmid on filter paper**

Cut out a 2-cm square piece of Whatman 3MM paper (Clifton, NJ).

Draw a circle in pencil on it with a diameter of ~ 5 mm.

Sterilize wrapped individually in small pieces of aluminum foil.

In a hood using sterile technique, place about 500 ng of plasmid in 1-2 ul of 10 mM Tris, pH 7.6 inside the circle. Close the aluminum wrapper.

Place dry filter squares in sealable bag and heat seal so that if the shipping envelope gets wet, the plasmids being sent will not wash away or get contaminated.

Plasmids are stable on the filter paper and can be sent by mail.

**Plasmid recovery**

Alcohol clean and dry scissors and forceps. Sterilely cut out the filter paper circle.

Add 50 ul of 10 mM Tris, pH 7.6, vortex and let rehydrate for 5 min. After brief centrifugation, the supernatant liquid can be used to transform competent bacteria. Use about 25 ul of the supernatant for transforming 100 ul of competent cells.

Note - after storage for 2 months at 4 C, these dry pieces of filter paper still contain a comparable amount of transformation competent plasmids.

Ref:

Rosman GJ, Miller AD: Improved method for plasmid shipment. Biotechniques. 1990 May;8(5):509.