

Dear ART lab and IVF Clinic,

Sacred Heart *Guardians and Shelter* hopes we may provide burial for all embryos who die in your ART lab. This service may also be implemented at your facility on a patient-by-patient basis. Either way, our services are always provided at no cost to clinic, lab, or patient.

We conduct burials once every three months at a Roman Catholic cemetery near St. Paul, MN. All embryonic remains we receive prior to the service share an outer burial container and no names are used. The gravestone is inscribed with the date of burial. We hold the service in conjunction with burial for the remains of miscarriages that occurred at several Twin Cities hospitals.

We send post-burial documentation to your facility for your patient records. This small packet includes the burial service program, cemetery address, and gravesite identification number.

Forms (available at: <https://sacredheartguardians.org/resources/forms/>)

1. **SHG Certificate of Removal (required)**. Embryology lab or clinic fills out the first section and sends form to SHG along with the embryonic remains. We will return a completed form to you after the burial service.
2. **SHG Patient Contact Sheet (as needed)**. If a patient indicates SHG should send documentation to their home as well as to the clinic, please complete this form and send it along with the embryonic remains. This is the only purpose we would use their contact information for.
3. **Request for Burial (for your clinic-patient records only)**. Some clinics use this form (as is, or modified for their clinic) with their patients to document use of SHG's services. You do not need to return this or any patient-clinic authorization forms to SHG.

Shipping Instructions

1. ART lab places embryonic remains (intact, fragments, or the lysate) in a small cryo-vial (ex., 1.8 ml cryo-vial; straws may also be used) with saline preservative solution and seals it shut. Please remove or fully conceal any patient-identifying information.
2. Place sealed vial in a biohazard bag; include SHG's paperwork (Form 1 is required. Include Form 2 as needed) in document pocket.
3. Wrap biohazard bag with bubble wrap, foam paper, or place in a padded envelope.
4. Ship using FedEx Biological Substance Category B (UN 3373) overpack to:

Sacred Heart Guardians and Shelter
Attn: Laura Elm
3432 Denmark Avenue #253
Eagan, MN 55123

When you are ready to ship, please call or email (612-578-0377 / laura@sacredheartguardians.org).

If you need any of the materials above (i.e., biohazard bag, FedEx overpack), let us know and we will send some to you. We can also include a pre-paid FedEx shipping label.