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FAQ: Why are an agent's shipping conditions different than the storage conditions?

“Why wasn't my Herceptin shipped on ice?”

It's summer. It's hot. Everyone is cranky. And the be-all and end-all of a bad day? You're poised between a breast cancer patient who is waiting for a treatment and the shipment of trastuzumab that just arrived... at room temperature! What in the world?

Not to worry. Trastuzumab is stored in the refrigerator, but shipped at room temperature (RT). Our Repository uses guidelines provided by various manufacturers when creating their shipping protocol. These agents are stored in the refrigerator, but shipped at RT via FedEx next day delivery:

- ★ alfa interFERON
- ★ interLEUKIN-4
- ★ trastuzumab
- ★ depsipeptide
- ★ rituximab
- ★ UCN-01

These drugs are shipped at room temperature via the US Postal Service:

- ★ azacitidine
- ★ bryostatin
- ★ O6-benzylguanine

There are a few others, too. During the summer months (end of May to beginning of September), refrigerated agents that would normally be shipped Priority Mail are shipped via FedEx next day delivery. So chill out, but feel free to call if you are worried.

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