
Instructions for Sample Collection / Shipping - Diagnostic Real-time PCR

Real-time PCR Research and Diagnostics Core Facility
University of California, Davis
School of Veterinary Medicine
1275 Med Science Dr
3110 Tupper Hall
Davis, CA 95616

Website: <https://pcrlab.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/>

Phone: 530.752.7991

Fax: 530.754.6862

Sample collection information:

Keep samples cool (refrigerator/ice pack) at all times to preserve DNA integrity and accuracy of qPCR testing

1. **Whole blood** - 2 ml EDTA blood (unspun, lavender top tube - LTT). ****DO NOT SEND SERUM FOR PCR****
2. **Swabs** (nasal/rectal/fecal/etc.) - synthetic swab (no cotton tipped swabs) snapped off into a red top tube (RTT or LTT). Avoid swabs with wooden applicators. Swabs from culturettes are acceptable, but please snap swab off into an empty RTT or LTT. Also, avoid putting swab back into media/gel. Ship dry - no culture media, viral transport media, or saline solution is necessary.
3. **Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)** - ~0.5 ml in LTT or RTT. Sample should be less than three days old.
4. **Aqueous humor** - at least 0.5 ml in LTT or RTT.
5. **Tissue** - 25-100 mg of fresh or frozen tissue with no preservative. Formalin-fixed tissues must be fixed for less than 24 hours.
6. **Tracheal wash** - ~5 ml in any sterile, leak proof container.
7. **Joint tap** (synovial fluid) - at least 0.5 ml in LTT or RTT.
8. **Feces** - fresh as possible, no more than one fecal cup (~2 g).
9. **Urine** - ~5-10 ml in any sterile, leak proof container.
10. **Cavitary effusion** (thorax/abdomen) - at least 0.5 ml in LTT.
11. **Bacterial culture** - 2-3 bacterial colonies in saline solution.
12. **Paraffinized tissue** (FFPE) - three or four 20-24 micron scrolls. Tissue can not be fixed in formalin for more than 24 hours before paraffinization. Paraffin blocks may be submitted as well, but will not be returned to the submitter. Please note that results for FFPE samples will be delayed an extra 24 hours due to intricate processing techniques.

Packing/Shipping Instructions:

1. Write patient's full name on sample.
2. Include a completed **Sample Submission Form** (page 2) with each shipment.
3. Most samples fall under Biological Substance Category B - UN 3373. Below is a condensed version of the IATA (International Air Transport Association) regulations.
 - Samples must be shipped in a rigid container (i.e. cardboard or Styrofoam box)
 - Include an ice pack and absorbant material (no ice needed for fixed tissues)
 - Sample must be in a leak proof container.

*A few cultures may be considered Biological Substance Category A - UN 2814 or UN 2900 and have more stringent shipping regulations. Please refer to IATA regulations.
4. **Ship overnight** (the laboratory is open Monday-Friday). Samples must be received by 11am PST for 24 hour processing. Do not ship on Friday for Saturday delivery. Hold samples in the refrigerator overnight or over the weekend.
5. Use FedEx, UPS, or other express courier. ****DO NOT USE USPS**** as all packages are held at a central sorting facility on campus before distribution and will result in delay of receipt.

Shipping address:

Real-time PCR Research and Diagnostics Core Facility
1275 Med Science Dr
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Tel: 530.752.7991

Payment options upon receipt of invoice (mailed via USPS or emailed upon request):

1. Credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover)
2. Check (personal or business)



**Diagnostic Real-time PCR
Sample Submission Form**



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Phone: 530.752.7991
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Date: _____

Veterinarian: _____

Clinic or Hospital: _____

Address (billing): _____

Phone: _____

How would you like results reported? (check all that apply)

Fax: _____

Email: _____

	Patient #1	Patient #2 or Sample #2	Patient #3 or Sample #3
Patient's Name:			
Owner's Name:			
Species:			
Sample Type(s)*:			
Test(s) Requested:			
Clinical signs:			

**If you would like to combine (pool) multiple sample types from the same patient to save costs, please indicate in comments section below.*

Comments: _____

Biological samples submitted to the Real-time PCR Research and Diagnostics Core Facility may be used for teaching or research purposes consistent with the mission of the University.