



PREPARING TO SUBMIT A SAMPLE

- Please fill out the requisition form as completely as possible including clinic ID and name, submitting veterinarian's name, patient information, relevant patient history, and specimen source information. Please mark the number of containers and specimens being sent so that we can ensure we have received all the specimens.
- Submission forms can be ordered from the lab or found on our website: www.zoetisreflabs.com/customers, under "Resources."
- Pre-label the container(s) with name, collection date, and specimen site location. If sending more than one container, please ensure the requisition form and bottles are accurately labeled to prevent delay.
- If shipping more than one specimen from a patient please provide a complete list of included specimens so receipt can be verified upon arrival.
- To keep fresh tissue cold with ice or ice packs, place the ice or ice packs in its own sealed plastic bag and place next to the specimen (within its own sealed plastic bag). Some ice packs can break during shipping, causing damage to requisition forms which can result in delays.



SMALL & MEDIUM-SIZED TISSUES

- Place tissues immediately in 10% neutral buffered formalin to ensure appropriate fixation. A 10:1 formalin to tissue ratio is recommended; however, when shipping by air or long distance, use minimal formalin to prevent leakage. The Lab will add formalin, as necessary, on the receiving end.
- Submit tissues intact for margin examination. Specifically, avoid incision of the deep margin.
- Do not use pill bottles, urine bottles, plastic food storage containers, or glass jars, as these are prone to leaking. Do not place tissues in skinny-necked bottles; they are often difficult to remove from the bottle after fixation.
- Use only rigid, straight sided, leak-proof, screw top plastic containers for transporting formalin. Appropriate supplies are provided by the lab upon request.
- Seal the container and check for leaks. **Formalin is a toxic chemical and should be handled with care.**
- Double check that containers are labeled with Patient name, Collection Date, and Specimen Site Location.
- Ensure the lid is securely tightened. Wrap Parafilm® around the lid (regular tape **does not** work). Wrap formalin jar in absorbent material and place in a sealed plastic or zip top bag.
- Place the requisition form in a sealed plastic bag separate from the bottle (in case of leakage).
- Place sealed specimen and sealed requisition form in a final sealed plastic bag.



LARGE TISSUES SUCH AS WHOLE SPLEENS OR LIVER LOBES

- When transporting large tissues, **use saline to moisten only** – for health and safety reasons, do not send these samples in formalin. Place the sample in a small amount of saline, wrapping gauze around the tissue to keep moist. The Lab will add formalin on the receiving end.
- Multiple (3 or more) securely sealed plastic or zip top bags are recommended for large samples.
- Label the sample bag with patient name, sample site, and fluid type (saline).
- Place the test request form in a sealed plastic bag separate from the tissue sample.
- Securely seal all bags, placing absorbent padding in the outermost bag.

LIMBS

- Refrigerate immediately, or store on ice. Submit limb **fresh**, in multiple (3 or more), securely sealed plastic bags, with few ice packs. Do **not** freeze or fix.
- Place the test request form in a sealed plastic bag separate from the limb sample.
- Radiographs and history are appreciated! They can be e-mailed to referencelabpathology@zoetis.com.

NECROPSIES

- Please call the lab for pricing, transportation, and aftercare of remains.
- Refrigerate body and submit for necropsy as soon as possible. If refrigeration is not available, pack body with ice packs. Do not freeze.

Please contact Zoetis Reference Laboratories for any additional information or to order supplies