

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPANION ANIMAL COLLECTION AND SUBMISSION

* CDV RT-PCR: Urine (a cystocentesis sample is preferred); serum is no longer acceptable; the anticoagulant for whole blood should be EDTA; immediately freeze all samples and ship (frozen) overnight, for Tuesday through Friday delivery, to IDL with appropriate insulation and coolant (ice or ice packs)

** Please note, with *Bartonella henselae*, technical improvements allow positive cultures to be scored in 10 days; however, negative cultures take 3 weeks for verification.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSIONS (for non-exotics and misc.; this does NOT include CDV RT-PCR samples-see above instructions)

- 1) We are not associated with the Athens Diagnostic Lab (ADL), please do not ship IDL samples to ADL.
- 2) Except for *Bartonella* culture and PCR, please do not send whole blood.
- 3) Only whole blood samples require an ice pack during shipping.
- 4) Serum should be aspirated from the clot and put into a separate tube before shipping.
- 5) Extremely hemolyzed or lipemic serum should not be sent.
- 6) Tubes should be placed in some type of protective package before mailing (such as a Ziploc bag), particularly if shipped cold or frozen in ice.
- 7) Please write the owner's name & test(s) requested on the tube.
- 8) Send PCR and RT-PCR samples for Monday-Thursday delivery (UGA is closed on weekends and samples will not be forwarded until the following Monday).
- 9) If you are enclosing payment, please make the check payable to the Infectious Diseases Lab.
- 10) If you would like to have results faxed, include your fax number on the form.
- 11) Please note that we do not have the resources to phone prior to FAXing results. We will attempt to FAX 2-3 times. If there is no response, the results will be mailed.
- 12) Use only swabs without gel or liquid based transport media. The sterile CultureSwab by Becton Dickinson is an example of an acceptable swab.

The records of the Infectious Diseases Laboratory of the University of Georgia's College of Veterinary Medicine are confidential to the extent allowed by the law and the policies of the University of Georgia, as defined by the Georgia Board of Regents. No results can be given by telephone. In no event shall the Infectious Diseases Laboratory, the College of Veterinary Medicine, the University of Georgia, the Board of Regents, nor the State of Georgia be liable for incidental, consequential, special, or other damages arising from the testing of sample(s) or the providing of test results.