CLINICAL PATHOLOGY SAMPLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Cytology Samples: Freshly prepared films required.
- Turn-around: Less than 48 hours after receipt; holidays excluded.
- History and lesion description is crucial for accurate evaluation.
- Stain at least 1 film if shipping is delayed and to check sample quality. Leave others unstained.
- Fluids are best preserved in EDTA. Include freshly made direct +/- concentrated films. Label source.
- CSF requires immediate processing. Refer to manual or call for guidance.
- Synovial fluid: Mucin clot reaction is inhibited by EDTA; additional heparin or clot tube recommended.
- Bone marrow: Freshly made direct marrow films +/- excess in EDTA; label as marrow. Concurrent blood tube and fresh films for CBC/retic is strongly recommended and is included in cost. If blood is not available, provide concurrent CBC/reticulocyte data, including histograms/cytopograms and blood film.
- Lymph nodes: Indicate sites for evaluation of individual node findings.
- Urine: Air-dried sediment w/o coverslip at room temp and/or sediment in capped conical tube, cold pack

Barring unforeseen circumstances, every effort will be made to complete requests, other than cytology, the same day if received by 7pm. Holidays excluded. Please do not hesitate to contact the lab if extenuating circumstances exist. Call back fees may apply.

HEMATOLOGY

CBC
- Includes automated platelet count and plasma protein
- Includes reticulocyte count if anemic (Eq excl)
- Large Animal CBC includes Fibrinogen
- Avian/Reptile CBC includes WBC, PCV, Diff

Purple top must be at least ¾ full, clot free, and cold pack but no direct contact with ice. Fresh, air-dried films insulated from cold required if shipping.

DIAGNOSTIC PROFILES

Small/Small Exotic Animal
- Glu BUN Creat
- Chol T-Bili, Iron
- TP Alb Glob A/G Ca Phos Mg
- AMY ALP ALT AST CK GGT
- Lytes T-CO2 Anion Gap

Food Animal/Ruminant/Lg Exotic Mammal
- Glu Creat, T-Bili, Iron
- TP Alb Glob A/G
- Ca Phos Mg
- AST CK GGT SDH
- Lytes T-CO2 Anion Gap

Equine
- Glu BUN Creat T-Bili
- TP Alb Glob A/G Ca Phos
- Mg AST CK GGT SDH
- Lytes T-CO2 Anion Gap

Avian/Reptile
- Glu BUN Ca Phos
- TP Alb Glob A/G
- AST CK Uric Acid
- Lytes T-CO2 Anion Gap

Immunohematology:
- Fresh EDTA whole blood. Add patient clot tube and donor EDTA and clot tube for crossmatch.

Coagulation:
- Citrate (blue top tube) must be filled to, but not beyond capacity via non-traumatic venipuncture.
- Submit whole blood at room temperature if w/in 2hrs of collection.
- If shipping delayed, submit frozen plasma.
- INR calculated at no charge if box checked.

Biochemistry:
- Fasted clot tube samples preferred.
- Remove serum from cells w/in 30 minutes of collection. Refrigerate.
- Heparin plasma acceptable for all but bile acids, ethylene glycol, lipase, osmolality.

Ionized Calcium and CO₂, MetHgb:
- Local clients
- Anaerobic heparinized whole blood
- Balanced heparin preferred
- ≥ 2 ml syringe sample for i-Ca to minimize interference w/ liquid heparin.
- Store on ice-water; submit within 2 hours and notify lab upon arrival.