

When are the tests performed?

Tests are set up once a week on Monday afternoon.

When are the results available?

Results are available on Thursday or Friday each week and are FAXed directly to your veterinarian.

Do I need to send payment with the sample?

No. A bill will be sent to the address provided on the submission form.

How do samples need to be shipped?

Overnight shipping is NOT necessary. If feces are placed in rubbing alcohol as we suggest, they will be stable long-term at any temperature and can be shipped by any ground carrier. Refrigeration, freezing, or overnight shipment is not necessary.

What kind of fecal sample is best?

Feces must be diarrheic. Formed samples rarely test positive even if occult infection is present.

Avoid litter contamination of the feces. If collecting a voided fecal sample, try temporarily lining the litter pan with newspaper.

Samples collected directly from the cat using a loop or colon 'flush' are best. For more details on how we perform these collections, please consult our Owner's Guide to Diagnosis and Treatment of TF Infection at JodyGookin.com.

How much feces do I need to submit?

Submit a lima-bean sized amount of fresh feces. Put the feces in a red-top vacutainer tube and then fill the rest of the tube with rubbing alcohol (isopropyl alcohol).

How long must my cat be off of antibiotics prior to testing?

Cats should not be receiving any antibiotics for at least 7 days prior to collecting the fecal sample.

How much does the test cost?

\$77.00 per fecal sample when sent directly to our laboratory.

What is the difference between your PCR and one provided by another laboratory?

Our laboratory was the first to design, validate and publish a PCR test for *T. foetus* and to validate and publish the most effective way to extract DNA from cat feces.

Any proceeds from our PCR service go directly to promoting research on *T. foetus* infection.

We do not require samples to be shipped overnight or under refrigeration.

We perform exhaustive quality control steps including

- An initial PCR reaction on the fecal sample to ensure that quality DNA has been extracted.
- A *T. foetus* PCR test with concurrent positive and negative control samples in each run.
- A confirmatory restriction digest of positive samples to ensure sequence amplification specific to *T. foetus*
- If quality DNA is not obtained, the original sample will be re-extracted and both PCR tests run at no additional charge.

We offer personalized service and consultation to RDVMs. Each and every test result is reviewed by Dr. Gookin.