

NC State Veterinary Genetics Lab Sample Submission Instructions

Blood submission:

To submit a blood sample for testing, please send 1-3mLs of whole blood in a purple-top EDTA tube. Please ensure that the blood is unclotted. When shipping, please make sure the blood tube is double packaged and well padded to prevent breakage and spills during the shipping process. Blood samples may be shipped at room temperature; however, if you are holding the blood for several days before shipping, please store in a refrigerated environment. There is no need to ship blood overnight as DNA stays very stable in blood. Please label blood tube with the animal's name and owner's last name.

Swab submission:

Swabs can be requested at no additional cost by emailing vcgl@lists.ncsu.edu and providing **your name (first and last), mailing address, and number and breed of animals you are testing**. Please do not submit cotton swabs or q-tips. Instructions for swab use can be found [here for dogs](#) and [here for cats](#). Used swabs should be sent in their original packaging, taped shut but not tightly sealed. Please label each swab on its original packaging with the animal's name IDENTICAL to the name provided on the submission form. DO NOT TAPE swabs to the submission form. There is no need to rush ship swabs as DNA stays very stable on the swabs.

Labeling Instructions:

Please ensure that each sample sent is clearly labeled with the patient name as well as owner name. **The name on the swab/tube should match the name on the form submitted; if you are providing a pedigree name as well as a call name, write both names on the swab (or tube) and form.** If you are sending multiple samples, it is helpful to separate them by placing each sample and matching form in a separate envelope, then sending all of the envelopes in a large mailer. Swabs may also be stapled to the submission form (please do not use tape as it is difficult to remove without destroying the form), but this is not necessary if samples are properly labeled.

Semen submission:

DNA for testing may also be obtained from fresh or frozen semen samples. To submit a semen sample, please send at least 500 uL (0.5mL) in a straw or sterile tube. Samples do not need to be shipped on ice, but should not be stored at room temperature for long periods of time before shipping. If you are shipping a semen straw, you can place the straw inside a hollowed out pen (remove the ink) to avoid breakage, or place in a padded box. Larger tubes may be placed in a padded envelope or box.

These are the only acceptable sample options. Any sample type sent in that does not fall within the approved sample guidelines will NOT be tested.