

PARASITE PULSE

News from the UTCVM Diagnostic Parasitology Laboratory

Specimen requirements:

Overnight & Cold Packs-

- Serum 0.5 mL minimum
- Plasma 0.5 mL minimum
- EDTA Blood 2 mL minimum

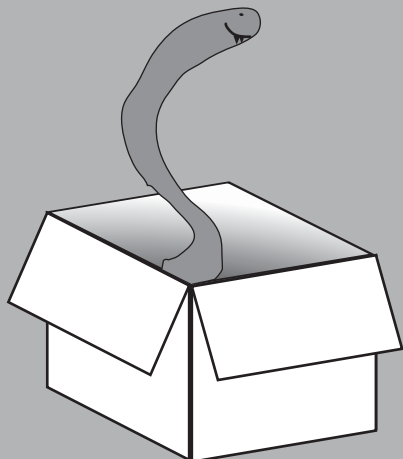
Overnight & Cold Packs-

- Feces- 5 g minimum (about the size of a golf ball)
- Whole parasite specimens in saline

Overnight & Room Temp-

- Feces (cats) for *Tritrichomonas foetus* culture
- Slides in cases and whole parasite specimens in alcohol

When in doubt, please call. We are happy to help



Welcome to the inaugural issue of Parasite Pulse, a periodic newsletter produced by the staff of the Diagnostic Parasitology Laboratory at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine.

It is our goal to use this forum to provide veterinary practitioners, technicians, and assistants with current and useful information for diagnosing, treating, and preventing parasitic infections in their patients.

We hope you will find the information provided in this and future newsletters useful and look forward to assisting your practice.

Specimen Shipping

Please triple pack all specimens being sent through USPS, FedEx or UPS. This is a governmental regulatory requirement for shipping all diagnostic specimens.

Triple packaging prevents contamination of the forms and outer packaging as well as reduces the risk of exposure to potentially biohazardous materials.



DO NOT pack all materials together

Proper triple-packing includes these 5 simple steps:

1. Place specimen in collection device sealed with parafilm or tape.

Seal Blood/serum/plasma with parafilm and place in another container or bag.

Contain ALL fecal specimens in a leak-proof container.



Seal around lid

**Additional UTCVM
laboratory contacts:**

Bacteriology/ mycology
(865) 974-5639

Endocrinology/ toxicology
(865) 974-5638

Immunology/ Virology
(865) 974-5643

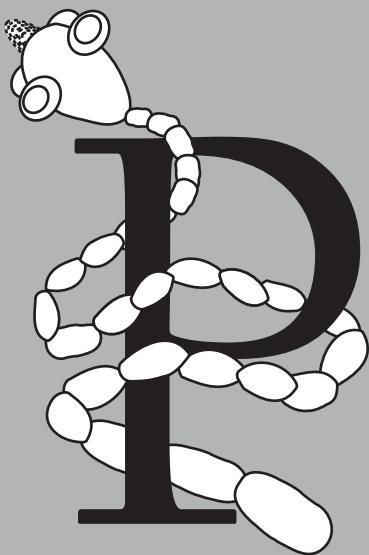
Pharmacology
(865) 974-5647

www.vet.utk.edu/diagnostic

Useful links:

Companion Animal Parasite
Council
www.capcvet.org

American Heartworm Assoc.
www.heartwormsociety.org



2. Wrap sealed primary container
in absorbant material (paper towel
etc.)



Proper secondary container

3. Place wrapped primary container
in a bag or other leak proof
container



Proper triple packed specimen.

4. Pad box with any absorbant
material and cold packs (do not freeze)



Place form outside packing materials.

5. Place submission form in a
sturdy box so it is not inside the
specimen container.

You are receiving this newsletter because your clinic has previously used our diagnostic services or you are a member of the LISTSERV maintained by the Diagnostic Service Laboratories of the UTCVM. All future issues of this newsletter will be sent out c/o the LISTSERV. If you are not presently a member and wish to join the LISTSERV, you may self enroll by sending an e-mail to Dr. Charles Faulkner: ctfaulkner@utk.edu.

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fax: 865-946-1170**

e-mail: parasitology@utk.edu
web: www.vet.utk.edu/diagnostic/parasitology.shtml

Director: Dr. Sharon Patton
Faculty: Dr. Charles Faulkner
Staff: Aly Chapman, MS
Dr. Geri Gecheva

Hours: M-F 8a-5p
Call for staffing on University holidays