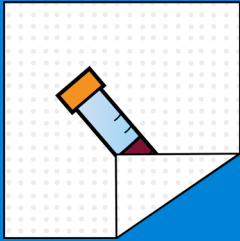


Guidance on sending in samples

January 2019



For Rabies Samples



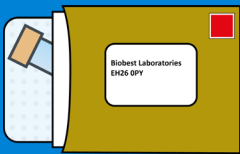
Ensure the sample is sealed securely and wrapped in cotton wool or paper towel



Ensure all the details are filled out on the submission form and the vet has signed it – **FOR RABIES THIS IS IMPORTANT**

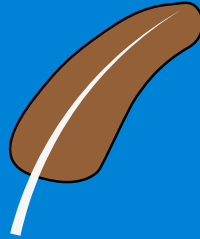


Enclose the sample in a small rigid container i.e. small clean Tupperware box



Put the box, submission form and payment information inside a padded envelope with return address on back

For Avian Samples



Please consult the Birds section of our website for guidance on taking avian cheek swab and feather samples

Pre-Paid Labels and Boxes

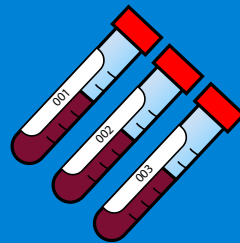


- Pre-paid reply labels and boxes are available on request and we encourage our customers to make use of them

- There is a £2 charge for farm animal infectious disease samples

- Labels are free of charge for companion animal and clinical pathology samples

For Farm Animal Samples



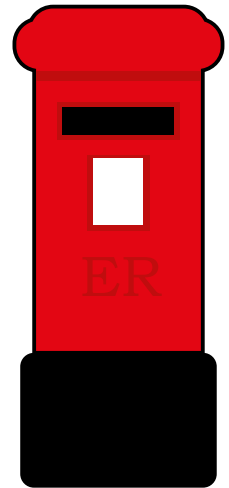
Enclose samples in a suitable box, placed in sequential order where multiple containers



For annual CHCS testing, HiHealth HerdCare members must include a membership declaration

What to avoid when sending samples

- Using excessive sellotape on outer packaging
- Sending haemolysed blood
- Using gloves or any other non-leak proof containers
- **Writing multiple sample numbers on a single sample container**
- Placing samples in non-sequential order in boxes containing multiple samples
- **Using a container if sample content has seeped onto its exterior**



Mailing guidelines

Royal Mail should accept all samples for routine diagnostic testing. Royal Mail do not accept Category A infectious material, but this should not affect routine veterinary samples. General guideline from the HSE is that samples (blood, tissue, excreta, secreta etc.) from humans or animals are considered to be Category B infectious substances. These samples are then assigned to UN3373 and must be packaged according to IATA PI:650 for transport. There is an added complication that for Category B samples each individual package must hold a total of less than 50ml of liquid or 50g of tissue.

Samples which are taken for serology testing from a healthy animal are exempt from UN3373. Specimens for which there is minimal likelihood that pathogens are present are not subject to the regulations (meaning volumes over 50ml/50g can be sent) if the specimen is packed in a packaging which will prevent any leakage and which is marked with the words "Exempt human specimen" or "Exempt animal specimen" as appropriate.

If you still have questions about sending samples please get touch on 0131 440 2628 or at enquiry@biobest.co.uk