

Comparative Pathology & Phenotyping Services



The Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) offers full-service comparative pathology services and fulfills a vital local role in providing phenotyping for mutant mouse and other experimental models. Our comparative pathology and model phenotyping services provide expert, readily available and affordable experimental pathology support to investigators utilizing animal models to study human disease or treatment of disease.

TVMDL's goal is to provide researchers with the highest quality diagnostic data related to their colony subjects. Our comparative pathologists are board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Pathology and have PhD research experience in comparative pathology emphasizing mouse models. As such, they are familiar with normal anatomy and physiology, as well as background age- and strain-related lesions of various animal models. Recognition of lesions and their interpretation in the context of individual investigations provides a critical component to research incorporating animal models.

Services include comprehensive macroscopic and microscopic examinations of various species of laboratory animals. We also provide phenotypic characterization of newly produced lines of genetically engineered mice (GEM). Additional services include hematology, clinical chemistry, radiography, paraffin slide preparation, and special histochemical and immunohistochemical staining. Many of our services are becoming increasingly critical for successful grant awards and meeting regulatory guidelines during drug and therapeutic discovery and pre-clinical testing. Determining complete phenotype for GEMs is increasingly seen as a vital part of characterizing GEM models for both targeted and off-target effects.

In addition to our expert personnel, TVMDL has quality systems in place to assure that we meet the requirements of grant and regulatory agencies. TVMDL is certified by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) and our drug lab is ISO 17025 certified by the American Association of Laboratory Accreditation. The agency is in the process of adding Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) certification in the near future.

With the newest in analytical equipment backing highly skilled diagnosticians, TVMDL continually brings timely, accurate results to clients. Our full service labs are home to large necropsy suites, analytical units for serology, virology, molecular diagnostics, microbiology, parasitology, bacteriology, endocrinology, chemistry and histopathology. For more information on TVMDL diagnostic testing services, visit tvmdl.tamu.edu.