There are four steps to safely packaging a sample to send to the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL). Adhering to these four steps will ensure your sample arrives at TVMDL safely.

**Step 1:** Prepare a rigid outer package that will contain the secondary packaging. Use a cold pack if specimen must remain at a refrigerated temperature.

**Step 2:** To prevent damage to specimens in transit, ensure blood tubes have adequate cushioning and are bagged to prevent leakage. Add a layer of filler between the cold packs and specimen. Package paperwork in its own bag.

**Step 3:** Add additional filler to decrease empty space within the secondary packaging. Secure the entire package with tape.

**Step 4:** Label the package in accordance to the specimen’s classification.

Visit tvmdl.tamu.edu, hover over “Deliver a Sample” on the main menu and click on “Packaging Samples for Shipment” for more information on how to properly ship specimens for diagnostic testing at TVMDL.