

The Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) is ideally suited for performing many of the diagnostic tests needed for “pocket pets.” From hematology, plasma biochemistry analysis and urinalysis to microbiologic culture, tissue aspirates, biopsies, serology and molecular diagnostic testing, TVMDL provides the practitioner with an array of tests.

Complete Blood Count – Reptilian

Specimen: 0.5 mL whole blood EDTA or heparinized, air dried peripheral blood smear unfixed and unstained at the time of specimen collection.

Price: \$25.00

Turnaround: The test is performed Monday-Friday in Amarillo and College Station, with results the same day.

Complete Blood Count – Companion/Exotic

Specimen: 1.0 mL EDTA or heparinized whole blood, 1-2 air dried slides unfixed and unstained at the time of specimen collection.

Price: \$18.00

Turnaround: The test is performed Monday-Friday in Amarillo and College Station, with results the same day.

Chemistry Profile – Reptile/Ratite

Specimen: 0.5 mL serum or 0.5 mL lithium heparin plasma
Price: \$24.00

Turnaround: The test is performed Monday-Friday in Amarillo and College Station, with results the same day.

Salmonella Culture

Specimen: Fresh or chilled tissue, feces, feed, drag swabs, other environmental specimens

Price: \$15.00 for the first culture, each additional culture is \$8.00.

Turnaround: The test is set up in the Amarillo and College Station labs Monday-Saturday, with results in 7 business days.

Fungal Cultures

Specimen: Tissues, aspirates, skin scrapings, hair, scales
Price: \$20.00

Turnaround: The test is set in Amarillo and College Station Monday-Saturday; the test results may take up to 21 days to be reported depending on culture growth.

Aerobic & Anaerobic Culture – Companion

Specimen: One or more of the following: fresh chilled tissues, urine, swabs, feces

Price: \$28.00

Turnaround: The test is set up in Amarillo and College Station Monday-Saturday, with results in 2-7 business days

Note: TVMDL does not culture for Tularemia or Plague; we send requests out to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Division of Vector-Borne Infectious Disease in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Giardia/Cryptosporidium (FA)

Specimen: 2-4 g fresh feces in 10% formalin

Price: \$20

Turnaround: This test is performed in the Amarillo lab Tuesday and Thursday with results in 1-2 business days and in the College Station lab on Monday and Thursday with results in 1-3 business days.

Necropsy – AVIAN/REPTILES/AMPHIBIANS

Specimen: Whole animal (amphibians and reptiles decompose quickly, so please submit as soon as possible after death)

Price: \$100.00

Turnaround: Necropsies are performed Monday-Saturday in Amarillo and College Station, with results the same day except for Saturday necropsies that are reported Monday.

Necropsy – SMALL MAMMALS (rodents, pocket pets, rabbits)

Specimen: Whole or partial cadaver

Price: \$75

Turnaround: Necropsies are performed in Amarillo and College Station Monday-Saturday, with results the same day except for Saturday necropsies that are reported on Monday.

Necropsy – Histopathology

Specimen: Necropsy specimens fixed in 10% buffered formalin

Price: \$65.00 for up to 8 tissues; for more than 8 tissues, the price is \$80.00.

Turnaround: Performed in Amarillo and College Station Monday-Friday with results in 2-5 business days.

Histopath – Biopsy

Specimen: Tumor/surgical biopsies, fixed in 10% buffered formalin

Price: \$50

Turnaround: Performed in Amarillo and College Station Monday-Saturday with results in 2-3 business days.

Pathologists and diagnosticians on staff are experienced in interpreting unique findings in these species and often provide additional research information to inform clients regarding the impact of findings.

TVMDL professionals can offer advice on diagnostic testing. A complete database of test offerings can be viewed at tvmdl.tamu.edu.