

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 – Non Mammalian

Test Code: 1135

Specimen: 1.0 mL whole blood EDTA or heparinized, air dried peripheral blood smear unfixed and unstained at the time of specimen collection.

Complete Blood Count – Exotic

Test Code: 1133

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

Chemistry Profile – Reptile

Test Code: 1140

Specimen: 0.5 mL serum or 0.5 mL lithium heparin plasma

Salmonella spp. Culture

Test Code: 1110

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

Fungal Identification (Culture)

Test Code: 1099

Specimen: Tissues, aspirates, skin scrapings, hair, scales

Bacterial Identification – Companion Animal (Aerobic & Anaerobic Culture)

Test Code: 1089

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

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.

Necropsy – Avian, Reptiles, Amphibians

Test Code: 1337

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

Necropsy – Small Mammals (rodents, pocket pets, rabbits)

Test Code: 1351

Specimen: Whole or partial cadaver

Histopathology – Postmortem 8 or Fewer Tissues

Test Code: 1237

Specimen: Necropsy specimens fixed in 10% buffered formalin

Histopathology – Postmortem 9 or More Tissues

Test Code: 1238

Specimen: Necropsy specimens fixed in 10% buffered formalin

Histopathology – Biopsy

Test Code: 1235

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

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 and prices can be viewed at tvmdl.tamu.edu.