

SAMPLE HANDLING AND TRANSPORT

1. Serum samples only.
2. Samples should not be haemolysed as this may interfere with the assay systems.
3. Total sample volume of **at least 100µL** if a full panel of tests is to be carried out. Please note that for fewer tests the minimum volume acceptable for processing is 60µL.
4. If sera are pooled to make up a sample then the following applies:
 - a) **MOST IMPORTANT.** No more than **2** sera should be pooled.
 - b) Sera should all be from the same strain housed in the same area.
 - c) Approximately equal volumes of serum from each animal included in the pool.
5. If possible, store and transport the samples at 4°C. Repeated freeze/thawing will reduce antibody titres in the samples.
6. If samples are collected over a prolonged period, freeze, store and transport at -20°C. Ensure that there is enough dry ice in the esky to prevent thawing en route.
7. Do not send samples through the normal postal system.
8. **Please note:** To assist in speedy processing of your samples we would advise that all serum samples be submitted in push-top or screw top 1.5 mL vials. Samples received in other containers may attract a processing fee. Ensure that sample vials/tubes are sealed and airtight. This is especially important if the samples are frozen and being transported with dry ice. If the level of CO₂ in the serum rises, the samples become acidic which leads to an increase in non-specific binding in the assay systems.
9. Label samples clearly using an indelible marker or other waterproof means of identification.
10. Samples should be placed inside a plastic bag or immobilised in some other fashion in an esky. Do not send loose samples.
11. Include a Submission Form with the samples.

**Delivery
address:**

Murine Virus Monitoring Service
IMVS, Veterinary Services Division
101 Blacks Road
GILLES PLAINS SA 5086



IMVS Veterinary Services Division

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