



FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
(VETERINARY LABORATORY SERVICES UNIT)

Document Code : FPV/VLSU/G002

**GUIDELINES FOR SPECIMEN STORAGE BEFORE AND AFTER TESTING
WORK**

LABORATORY	SPECIMEN TYPE	TEST	STORAGE DURATION/TEMP	
			Maximum before testing	Minimum after testing
Biologics/ Virology/ Serology	Serum	HI	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	7 days
		Serology test	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	21 days
	Organ/Tissue/ Biopsy/ body fluid	Egg inoculation	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	28 days
		Cell culture inoculation	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	28 days
		VNT	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	35 days
		EM	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	14 days
		PCR	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	14 days
		Faeces/Urine	Egg inoculation	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)
	Cell culture inoculation		7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	28 days
	EM		7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	14 days
	Swab	Egg inoculation	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	28 days
		Cell culture inoculation	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	28 days
	Bacteriology	Organ	Isolation and identification of bacteria and fungi	24 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)
Urine		24 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)		21 days
Swab		24 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)		21 days
Skin scraping, hair pluck		24 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)		21 days
Faeces		24 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)		21 days
Intestinal content		24 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)		21 days
Exudates		24 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)		21 days
Fluid		24 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)		21 days



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	Others		24 hours	21 days
Haematology & Clinical Biochemistry	Blood	Haematology	2 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	2 days
	Serum	Biochemistry	7 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	7 days
	Urine	Urinalysis	2 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	No unused specimen
	CSF, aspirated fluid, smear	Cytology	2 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	
	Faeces	Faeces examination	2 days (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	1 day
Parasitology	Blood		18 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	Disposing of specimens is done once a week
	Faeces		18 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	
	Organ	Direct smear	18 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	
	Intestinal content	TWC	18 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	
	Smear, Skin scraping		18 hours (2 ^o C-8 ^o C)	
Histopathology	Tissue in fixatives	Paraffin block	18 hours (overnight)	3 days
Post Mortem	Carcass received during working hours	Post Mortem conducted immediately	0-2 hours	
	Carcass received in the evening (after 4.00 pm)	Post Mortem conducted the next morning	18 hours (2 ^o C-10 ^o C)	
	Carcass received on Fridays and public holidays (Saturday and Sunday)	Post Mortem conducted the next working day	72 hours (2 ^o C-10 ^o C)	

Note : Test will be conducted on the next working day if the specimens are received after 4.00 pm (Bacteriology, Parasitology and Haematology and Clinical Biochemistry - 4.30 pm). For Fridays and eve of holidays, specimens are to be submitted by 12.30 pm.