

**Stanford University**  
**Department of Comparative Medicine – Veterinary Service Center**

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**Instructions for Submission of Biological Materials to be Tested for Murine Pathogens**

**What should be tested:**

1. **Any biological material not obtained by primary isolation from rodents** currently housed in your colony at Stanford should be tested unless there is written documentation that the biological material is free from murine pathogens. Documentation should include: testing date, list of screened pathogens, diagnostic test(s) performed, and the laboratory that performed the test. Biological materials harvested from colonies under quarantine should also be tested unless they will be used in rodents within the same room.
2. **Human-origin or non-rodent tumors, cell lines, or serum components** should be tested unless documentation is available that they have never been passaged through or established in rodents, grown on rodent feeder cells, or for serum or serum components, preabsorbed with rodent cells.
3. **Cells, parasites, and viruses from culture collections**, e.g., American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), should be tested unless documentation exists to show that they have been tested. ATCC does not test for contaminating mouse or rat pathogens.
4. **Virus and protozoa stocks**, irrespective of BSL status, if the mice/rats/hamsters will not be housed permanently in the biohazard suites. This includes all viral vectors (lentivirus, AAV, adenovirus, MMTV, etc.) and parasite stocks, e.g., *Toxoplasma*, *Plasmodium*, etc.

**Instructions:**

1. Fill out the Biological Material Pathogen Test Request (Part A) and email to [diagnosticlab@stanford.edu](mailto:diagnosticlab@stanford.edu). Make an appointment to submit the sample: <https://calendly.com/diagnostic-lab>
2. Collection tubes with 500 µL of VTM (viral transport media) can be obtained free of charge from the Diagnostic Laboratory located in the Edwards Bld. R320/R326.
  - **Cell Culture:** Up to  $5 \times 10^7$  cells (suspended in 500 µL of media or pelleted) can be placed in 500 µL of VTM. Up to 5 cell lines can be pooled\* as long as the total cells do not exceed  $5 \times 10^7$ .
  - **Biological fluids:** Up to 500 µL of biologic fluids (e.g., serum media, protein solutions, antibodies, etc.) can be added directly to the VTP tubes. If the protein concentration is known to be greater than 1.5 mg/mL, please provide the concentration on the request form comments.
  - **Tissue, Tumors:** Up to 5 mm<sup>3</sup> solid tumors (100 mg) can be placed in 500 µL of VTM.
3. Bring sample and request form to the lab as soon as possible.

\*Note that if a pooled sample is positive for a pathogen, you should test each component for that specific pathogen to determine which component(s) is/are contaminated.