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INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

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VETERINARY ADVISORY

Cervid DPP Sample Submission Instructions for Veterinarians

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Testing Indiana cervids for tuberculosis (TB) is crucial for Indiana cervid herds to maintain their TB-accredited status. The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) reminds accredited veterinarians of the importance of completing test submission forms accurately and submitting valid samples.

USDA Veterinary Services has recognized that some samples collected for the Dual Path Platform (DPP) assay for cervid tuberculosis testing are not meeting sample submission requirements. These **tests may then be classified as invalid** by the state epidemiology officer.

To resolve this issue, Veterinary Services has issued an updated guidance document [VSG 6701.4](#) with updated instructions for accredited veterinarians and regulatory officials conducting DPP testing. A summary of these instructions follows:

Dual Path Platform (DPP) Submission Policy

Designated accredited veterinarians (DAVs) have received instruction and been approved by BOAH to collect serum samples for the DPP test. The DAV is responsible for collection and preparation of samples, and accurate completion of the form VS 10-4 and submission of samples to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL).

Sample Submission

1. Samples collected for DPP analysis must be received by NVSL no later than 5 days after the sample collection date.
2. Samples must be shipped so that they are received by NVSL on Monday through Friday.
3. Samples must not be shipped for receipt by NVSL on weekends or holidays.
4. VS 10-4 form must be accurate, complete and must include a sample collection date.

Samples will be classified as invalid by the state epidemiology officer if:

- Samples are received by NVSL more than 5 days after the sample collection date.
- Samples are submitted without a collection date and other required information.
 - The submitting accredited veterinarian may correct this by providing a corrected copy of the VS10-4 to NVSL and the Indiana State Board of Animal Health.

NOTE: Samples received on the weekend will be considered to have been received on the following Monday and classified invalid if this exceeds 5 days from the collection date. Samples received on a federal holiday will be considered received the following day and classified invalid if this exceeds 5 days from the collection date.

Samples classified as invalid will still be processed at NVSL and testing fees charged for the service. Repeated failures to comply with submission requirements may result in removal of designated accredited veterinarian status. Falsification of collection dates or samples may result in removal of accreditation.

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Contact the Indiana State Board of Animal Health with questions regarding testing and sample submission:

- Dr. Shelly Chavis: schavis@boah.in.gov or 260-450-2139
- Dr. Cheryl Miller: cmiller@boah.in.gov or 317-402-1527

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