

Collection instructions – buccal swab

Collection of buccal sample is the most critical element to obtaining the best sample for DNA testing. It is very important that you follow this simple instructions to avoid foreign DNA sample contamination and to help minimize the possibility of failure.

We strongly recommend reading the collection instructions prior to swabbing your pet.

A. Preparations

1. For several hours prior to swabbing, the pet should be isolated from toys or other objects that are shared by multiple dogs. Inspect your dog's mouth to ensure there are no food particles or other material and rinse your dog's mouth if needed. Do not provide food or drink during this period.
2. Be careful to avoid touching the inside of your pet's mouth with your own hands.
3. When sampling multiple pets, first finish completely the sample collection from the first animal before you continue with the other one. Wash hands between pets or change your gloves if you are using them.
4. **IMPORTANT:** Once a swab has been removed from its sterile packaging, never touch the swab to anything other than the inside of the pet's mouth.
5. **ADVICE:** If possible, cubs should be weaned prior to obtaining samples due to potential contamination from the mother's cells. If the cubs have not been weaned, separate the cubs from the mother for at least two hours prior to swabbing and rinse each cub's mouth with water. Do not provide food for the cubs, but do provide plenty of water to drink.
6. Be prepared to ship the samples on the same day in which you collect the samples.

B. Sampling

1. Use two collection swabs, one for each cheek.
2. Open the swab being careful not to let anything touch the tip of the swab, remove a sterile swab from its protective packaging.
3. Insert the swab between your pet's cheek and gum. Use gentle outward pressure in a back-and-forth motion on the inside of your pet's cheek. Rotate the swab for at least 20 seconds.
4. Air dry the brush for approximately 5 minutes until completely dry. You can swing the swab gently but do not blow into it!
5. Insert the swab directly into enclosed envelope. Do not put the swab back into its packaging!

IMPORTANT: Swabs should be dry and put directly into the envelope to minimize bacterial contamination and DNA degradation (these things occur if not completely dry swab is put back into its packaging).

6. Repeat steps 2 to 5 with the second swab on the other cheek. Insert the swab in the same envelope.
7. Seal the envelope and fill in the information on the outside of the envelope.
8. Samples should be stored at 4°C until shipping. Note that the testing is more successful if the sample is fresh.

C. Sending the sample

9. Download the Order form by going to download section on our website. Fill in the form electronically or manually, print and sign the form. If you are filling the form manually make sure that all the information is written clearly.
10. Insert the Order form and envelope with collection swabs into new envelope and send it to our address:

AnimaLabs

P.P. 357

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