Rabies Antibody Testing by the RFFIT Method

Specimen Requirements: Collect serum in a red top tube or gel separator tube. ***Cerebral Spinal Fluid (CSF) testing is also available.

Please call for details.

Reference Range: In humans, a titer of 1:5 or greater is considered acceptable. (MMWR, 48:1-22, 1999) A titer of 0.5 I.U./mL is required for animals exported to most rabies-free areas. Please note there is not an established “protective” titer in animals. Individual interpretation is the responsibility of the submitting veterinarian.

Volume of sample: 2 mls of serum, minimum amount 500 microliters of serum

Which Test to request:

Screen (Humans Only): Qualitative results. For those who want to know if they need a booster of rabies vaccine.
Cost: $25.00 (1-9 samples); $20.00 (10+ samples).

Endpoint (Humans or Animals): Quantitative results. For those who want to know their exact titer and animals being exported to some rabies free areas.
Cost: Humans and animals not for export: $30.00 (1-9 samples), $27.00 (10+ samples); Animals for export: $35.00 (as of 5/1/03 $40.00). (microchip number and country of destination must be included at the time of submission) Note: Contact individual countries for import requirements.

Laboratory Schedule: All RFFITs are initiated at 8:00 am on Mondays (must receive sample by 5:00 pm Friday) and Thursdays (must receive sample by 5:00 pm Wednesday).

Routine turnaround: Results will be mailed within 7-10 days of the set up date. Results will be faxed or phoned upon request. Any additional faxes will incur an additional $5.00 charge.

Shipping Information: Serum should be removed from the clot and packed in a leak proof container with absorbent material. This package should be placed inside of a second container with gel packs or dry ice. Overnight service is recommended. Shipping charges are the responsibility of the shipper.

Payment: Individuals responsible for payment should include a check, money order, or credit card form.
Send Samples to: Rabies Laboratory/RFFIT
Mosier Hall
Kansas State University
1800 Denison Avenue
Manhattan KS 66506-5600

Rejection Criteria:
- Gross hemolysis (serum is dark red in color)
- Gross lipemia (serum is milky in appearance)
- Not a serum sample (i.e., plasma)
- QNS (quantity not sufficient)
- Bacterial contamination
- Tube unlabeled

Specimen Labeling Instructions:
ALL specimen tubes must be labeled with the Patient’s Name/identification number. Specimens not properly labeled are not accepted by the laboratory. All samples must have an accompanying KSU RFFIT submission form. All animals for export must have a microchip number or tattoo included. If these requirements are not met the test may be cancelled or delayed.

Laboratories Licenses:
CLIA 17D0648239 Florida
L800005564 New York 81702040 California 17D0648239
Pennsylvania 028519 AAVLD

Quality Assurance Letter is available upon request.

CPT code: 86382

If you have additional questions, please call the Rabies Lab at (785) 532-4483 or email rabies@vet.k-state.edu
Forms and information are also available on the web at http://www.vet.k-state.edu/rabies.