

IDEXX Reference Laboratories

North America

Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins) Submission Guidelines



Thank you for choosing IDEXX for your Coggins testing needs. We must comply with sample submission and laboratory testing requirements set forth by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). We understand it can be frustrating to have testing delayed. Below we have compiled a list of ways to avoid delays with your Coggins testing.

Top 5 things you can do to ensure timely Coggins testing results.

1 Complete a Coggins form

An IDEXX requisition form is not enough. A test cannot be performed without the submission of a completed and signed Coggins testing form. Acceptable forms include VS 10-11 version FEB 2018, VS 10-11 version DEC 2020 Global Vet Link ([GVL](#)), Veterinary Services Process Streamlining ([VSPS](#)).

Some exceptions may apply. For more information, please refer to the federal agency websites listed below.

2 Provide complete identification information

The narrative description of the animal is required. Blank boxes cannot be accepted. If something does not apply, be sure to write "none" in the space provided. After 30 days forms cannot be edited and a new submission form and sample are required.

3 Submit a quality sample

Before sending your 2 mL of serum, please check quality of the sample. Hemolysis, turbidity, and bacterial contamination can interfere with testing results. Poor quality samples will not be accepted.

Tips for high quality samples:

- Transfer blood as soon as possible.
- Avoid forcing blood into a vacuum tube.
- Follow the recommended order of draw for multiple specimens.
- Be sure the sample has clotted for 20 minutes prior to centrifugation.

For more information, please consult the IDEXX Reference Laboratories Directory of Services or contact your IDEXX representative.

4 Ensure name on form and sample match

Be sure that the animal's name on the tube and on the form match exactly and are legible. Differences in spelling can lead to a delay or even refusal to test.

5 Provide acceptable accreditation number

The accreditation number of the veterinarian must be up-to-date, valid for category II animals, and match their name. Be sure the written name of the veterinarian is legible, and that the accreditation number is submitted, not the license number.

Non-negative results occur occasionally and must be confirmed by the USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) or CFIA's EIA National Reference Laboratory (NRL). This will delay final results so please plan accordingly.

For additional information: US veterinarians visit [USDA EIA information](#). Canadian veterinarians visit the [CFIA Accredited Veterinarian manual](#).