



**Nebraska  
Veterinary  
Diagnostic  
Center**

**General  
Policies  
Effective 5-1-2018**

**Nebraska VDC  
4040 East Campus Loop North  
Lincoln, NE 68583-0907**

**PO Box 82646  
Lincoln, NE 68501-2646**

**Phone: (402) 472-1434      Fax: (402) 472-3094**

**E-mail: [vdc2@unl.edu](mailto:vdc2@unl.edu)**

**Website:**

**<http://vbms.unl.edu/nvdl>**

**or**

**<http://nvdl.unl.edu>**

***The University of Nebraska does not discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.***

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# GENERAL POLICIES

To promote clear communication, efficient and prompt service, and uniform policies applied by our staff, the following business operating guidelines were established. Fees in the following schedule apply to clients in and outside of Nebraska.

## 1. Accession

An accession represents a laboratory submission from a single clinical problem (disease syndrome) from one herd. An accession may consist of single or multiple animals or specimens from the same production unit, same species, and same age group, with one clinical problem. For multiple animals to be considered a single accession the lab must retain the right to select samples for additional testing and pool testing at the discretion of the case coordinator to mitigate costs. Pooling is only done when no loss in diagnostic sensitivity is anticipated.

- a. Submissions consisting of multiple animals with different clinical problems will be handled as separate accessions.
- b. Multiple specimens submitted for specified testing (not marked “discretion of the laboratory”), in which identification of all individual samples is retained, may be billed with one accession fee.
- c. Submission of a specimen or sample to the VDC Laboratory constitutes agreement to the policies of the VDC Laboratory and transfers ownership of the submitted specimen or sample and any intellectual property rights derived from them to the VDC Laboratory.
- d. Agreement to allow subcontracting of tests not currently performed is implied by submission to our facility.
- e. Most testing will be performed at the UNL campus in compliance with our Quality Assurance documents. Subcontracted tests will be noted and the test site will be specified in the final report. Subcontracted tests will be contracted to labs accredited with equal or higher standards or a quality audit will be performed.

## 2. Payment

The person requesting laboratory services is responsible for payment. The submitting veterinarian will be billed for services forwarded on behalf of clients. ***Veterinarians should not request the Diagnostic Center bill owners directly for services. Owners requesting service without a veterinarian are required to pay at the time of sample delivery.***

- a. Laboratory charges are billed each month and payment is due upon receipt. Laboratory services will be suspended if an account is more than 60 days past due.
- b. A returned check service fee of \$30.00 will be charged for each returned check.

- c. The University of Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center will accept payments by cash, check, or credit card.

### **3. Accession and Shipping Fees**

- a. A submission and UNL administration fee will be charged on most accessions at a rate of \$16.00. This fee will not be charged for EIA (Coggins) testing.
- b. The cost of shipping, along with related supply costs, will be charged when forwarding to other reference labs.
- c. Shipping bacterial isolates usually results in extra charges and requires the return of shipping containers. On return, UNL certified containers will be billed at cost.
- d. The serology handling fee is \$1.10.

### **4. Disposal**

Labs pay rendering fees associated with eliminating animal remains. All sheep must be incinerated. Refer to the schedule for current fees.

### **5. Biopsy Fees**

- a. Fees for biopsies are charged at **\$32.00 per site**. A generalized disease process may be considered as one site, i.e. multiple biopsies for a generalized dermatologic condition will be charged as one site.
- b. All other services will be billed at regular prices.
- c. Charges incurred due to referral to another lab for second opinions may be charged if shipped at your request.
- d. Second opinion review of sections in-house will be done free of charge.
- e. For multiple tissues (necropsy in a bottle) or small animal necropsy, the lab can provide an estimate of charges to assist your billing cash-only clients. Call for an estimate if needed.
- f. See schedule for general necropsy charges.

### **6. Unanticipated Fees**

Significant additional or unanticipated testing will be performed only after consultation with and approval by the person requesting laboratory services. Additional testing will be charged at the current rate.

## 7. Toxicology

Diagnostic toxicology consultation is available at the UNL VDC. ***Please call our diagnostic toxicologist at 402-472-1434 if you have any questions about diagnostic toxicology services.***

All analytical toxicology services are obtained from extramural laboratories. We select an appropriate laboratory based on the specimen submitted and service requested. A few of the frequently used services and fees are listed below.

- |                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| • Mycotoxins Screen               | \$100.00 |
| • Mineral Panel (feed and tissue) | \$ 55.00 |
| • Mineral Panel (serum and water) | \$ 50.00 |
| • Nitrate and Nitrite (fluids)    | \$ 30.00 |

Fees are established by referral laboratories and are subject to change without notice.

### LABORATORY RESULTS

Case results are accessible on the Internet. To view case results, go to: <http://vdc.unl.edu> to register. Results may be faxed or e-mailed as they become available. Please keep us informed of changed numbers/addresses.

**Animal Disease Phone/Fax Numbers:**

**Nebraska Veterinary Diagnostic Center:**

Phone: (402) 472-1434

Fax: (402) 472-3094

E-mail: [vdc2@unl.edu](mailto:vdc2@unl.edu)

**Nebraska State Veterinarian:**

Phone: (402) 471-2351/471-6806

Fax: (402) 471-3252

**Nebraska State Veterinarian (Rabies RA#):**

Phone: (402) 471-1374

**Dairy/Beef Extension:**

Phone: (402)472-0466 or (402)472-2362

**Federal Veterinarian:**

Phone: (402) 434-2300

Fax: (402) 434-2330

**Kansas State University Rabies Lab:**

Phone: (785) 532-4483

**PLEASE NOTE:**

***When sending specimens via UPS, FedEx, DHL, etc.*** and printing an address label from a Website, please use the following address:

University of Nebraska

Veterinary Diagnostic Center

4040 East Campus Loop North

Lincoln, NE 68583-0907

***When sending specimens via regular mail,*** please use the following address to expedite the arrival of specimens:

University of Nebraska

Veterinary Diagnostic Center

P. O. Box 82646

Lincoln, NE 68501-2646