

## Rabies Antigen, Non-Human

<b>Test description</b>	Necropsy of animal brain to prepare slides for detection of rabies virus.
<b>Test use</b>	To determine the presence or absence of rabies virus in an animal that has bitten or otherwise exposed a person or domestic animal to saliva, nervous tissue or cerebral spinal fluid.
<b>Test department</b>	Virology Phone: (860) 920- 6662, FAX: (860) 920- 6661
<b>Methodology</b>	Fluorescent antibody microscopic examination
<b>Availability</b>	Daily, Monday-Friday. Off hours testing involving high risk exposure requires pre-approval by Epidemiology and Emerging Infections (860-509-7994).
<b>Specimen Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raccoon, skunk, wild carnivore, or groundhog that has bitten a person or domestic animal.</li> <li>• Bat that has had direct contact with or been found in a room with a person.</li> <li>• Domestic animals weighing less than 10 pounds.</li> <li>• Animal head or brain of domestic animals weighing more than 10 pounds.</li> </ul> Refer to Instructions for Submitting Specimens for Rabies Testing on the reverse side of the Request for Rabies Examination form.
<b>Collection Kit/Container</b>	Specimens must be packaged in a rigid walled container such that no leakage or puncture will occur during transit.
<b>Collection Instructions</b>	Animals head must be fresh and not mutilated or crushed.
<b>Specimen Handling &amp; Transport</b>	Specimens should be refrigerated. Deliver to laboratory as soon as possible. Specimens must be packaged in accordance with state and federal regulations ensuring that no puncture, breakage of leaking occurs during transit.
<b>Unacceptable Conditions</b>	Live animals are not accepted Specimens with skull or brain crushed, mutilated, decomposed or exposed to excess heat Livestock
<b>Requisition Form</b>	Request for Rabies Examination requisition may be found at the Dr. Katherine A. Kelley State Public Health Laboratory webpage located at, <a href="http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3122&amp;q=396860">www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3122&amp;q=396860</a> Place completed (print clearly) requisition in an envelope and attach to the outside of each specimen container being submitted for testing.
<b>Required Information</b>	Name, address, and phone number of submitter (and/or Horizon profile #) Name and address of owner Exposure information
<b>Limitations</b>	The following animals will NOT be tested without consultation with DPH: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animals that have not bitten a person or domestic animal.</li> <li>• Small rodents (mice, rat, chipmunk, mole, rabbit) that have bitten a person or domestic animal.</li> <li>• Bats found in a home but not in a room where a person was present.</li> </ul>

<b>Additional comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Questions concerning human exposure, prophylaxis and submission of animals uncommon to rabies infection may be made to Epidemiology and Emerging Infections at (860) 509-7994.</li><li>• All positive results are telephoned to the submitter.</li></ul>
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Revision: 8/25/15