

## **KSVDL RABIES LABORATORY**

### **Serologic Testing by the Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralization (FAVN) Method**

The Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralization (FAVN) test is a virus neutralization assay developed at CNEVA in Malzeville, France. The FAVN consists of a three-fold serum dilution series. It is used to detect rabies virus neutralizing antibody after vaccination and is required by many rabies free countries in order for dogs and cats to qualify for a reduced quarantine period from qualified areas. Some of these regions are **Hawaii, Guam, Japan, St. Kitts and Nevis, Australia, New Zealand, France** and the **United Kingdom**. Always check with the destination authority to verify pet importation requirements.

Results will be reported in International Units per milliliter (IU/mL). A titer of greater or equal to 0.50 IU/mL is generally required for travel to rabies-free areas accepting titers. Submissions must be on our "Request for FAVN Testing" form.

#### **Specimen Requirement**

1. **1ml serum** without preservatives; spun and separated from the clot.
  2. Microchip identification **must** be implanted prior to sample draw.
- **Note:** A waiting period of at least 21 days between rabies vaccination and sample draw is advised for optimum antibody response.

#### **Shipping Information**

Serum should be packed in a leak-proof plastic bag with absorbent material. This should then be placed inside a second container with ice packs. We recommend that an overnight or next day carrier be used since the regular mail can take up to two weeks. KSU will not accept packages sent "bill recipient;" shipping charges are the responsibility of the shipper.

#### **Cost**

Currently, the cost is \$45.00 USD by check, money order or credit card. Please include payment at time of submission. A delay in testing may occur if payment is not included. Please see the "[VDL Credit Card Authorization Form](#)" for charging payment. If payment is not received or the payment does not clear, the balance due will be billed to the submitting clinic.

#### **Processing Time**

Results can be expected three weeks after receipt. We will fax results upon request. KSVDL receives packages 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. However, the lab is only open Monday through Friday and the sample will not be dated until it has reached our laboratory.

#### **Send Samples To:**

Attn: FAVN Rabies Laboratory  
Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory  
Mosier Hall O-245  
1800 Denison Avenue  
Kansas State University  
Manhattan, KS, USA 66506-5601

If you have additional questions, please call (785) 532-4455, email [rabies@vet.k-state.edu](mailto:rabies@vet.k-state.edu) or check our website at [www.vet.ksu.edu/rabies](http://www.vet.ksu.edu/rabies)