

Submission Information

For general information, details regarding sample submission, or to request complimentary sample collection and shipping materials, please call Charles River Laboratories Technical Services at 1-800-338-9680 or email comments@crl.com. Submission forms and shipping labels are also available at www.criver.com/info/dx.

Comprehensive Health Monitoring

All live animal submissions must be scheduled in advance by calling Technical Services. If you are experiencing an emergency (e.g., sickness, moribundity, etc.) in your animal colonies, please contact us at once, as all diagnostic cases take priority and are scheduled immediately.

- Please fax a completed Health Monitoring Submission Form to the Health Monitoring Laboratory at 978-988-8793 at least one week prior to the arrival of your animals.
- Containers housing live animals should be accompanied by a completed Health Monitoring Submission Form and shipped express to Charles River Laboratories, Health Monitoring Laboratory, 251 Ballardvale Street, Wilmington, MA 01887.

Serology Services

Careful preparation as well as proper storage and submission of rodent and rabbit serum samples is critical for obtaining meaningful results.

- A minimum of 150 μ L of diluted serum (one part serum to four parts phosphate-buffered saline) is required for both Serology Profiles and single assay testing. Approximately 50 μ L are used in the initial assay, with 100 μ L reserved for confirmation testing.
- Do not heat inactivate serum samples.
- Serum specimens should be accompanied by a completed Serology Submission Form and shipped overnight on dry ice in sturdy, leak-proof plastic vials to Charles River Laboratories, Serology Laboratory, 251 Ballardvale Street, Wilmington, MA 01887.

Multi-Analyte Profiles

For both submission and technical information, please contact Rules-Based Medicine, Inc. at 1-866-RBM-MAPS or email info@rulesbasedmedicine.com.

Molecular Diagnostics/Infectious Disease PCR Testing

The test article will vary according to the agent of interest and can be discussed with Technical Services prior to submission.

Recommended sample amounts are as follows:

- *Tissues*: Minimum of 50 mg of tissue shipped on dry ice
- *Fecal pellets*: Two fresh pellets per tube shipped on ice packs or at ambient temperature (Please avoid bedding material while collecting fecal samples.)
- *Pellets for Fecal Pooling*: Up to 10 fresh pellets per tube shipped on ice packs or at ambient temperature
- *Serum or urine*: 500 μ L undiluted serum or urine shipped on dry ice
- *Environmental swabs*: Two cotton or synthetic (e.g., Dacron or rayon) swabs per tube shipped in a sealed container at ambient temperature without transport media (Do not submit alginate swabs.)
- *Filter material*: 1-2 inch sections of the dirtiest filter material shipped at room temperature in individual zip-lock bags or 50 mL tubes
- *Biological materials submitted for PCR viral detection panels and/or mycoplasma testing*:
 - Two undiluted aliquots of at least 200 μ L each (to allow for confirmatory testing) shipped in frozen vials on dry ice
 - Cell number is not critical; however, please note on the submission form if there are more than 5×10^7 cells/mL.
 - If possible, samples for *mycoplasma* testing should be passaged without antibiotics 4 - 6 weeks prior to submission.
- All samples must be shipped with a completed Molecular Diagnostics Submission Form to Charles River Laboratories, Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, 251 Ballardvale Street, Wilmington, MA 01887.

Microbiology

Shipping protocols vary depending on the sample and can be discussed with Technical Services prior to submission.

- Samples should be obtained using sterile swabs and aseptic technique.
- Culture swabs must be shipped overnight in an insulated container on cold packs.
- All samples must be accompanied by a completed Microbiology Submission Form and shipped to Charles River Laboratories, Microbiology Laboratory, 251 Ballardvale Street, Wilmington, MA 01887.

Parasitology, Pathology, and Histology

Shipping protocols vary depending on the sample and can be discussed with Technical Services prior to submission.

Clinical Pathology

The recommended sample type for each test is as follows:

- *Clinical Chemistry Profiles*: At least 250 μ L of undiluted serum is required. If analysis is to be within 48 hours, the sample can be refrigerated. If not, it should be frozen ($\leq -20^{\circ}\text{C}$).
- *Hematology*: Approximately 100 μ L of whole blood should be collected in microtubes (100 - 200 μ L) with EDTA preservative. The sample is stable at 2° - 8°C for only 24 hours. Please notify the lab when samples are shipped in order to facilitate prompt processing.
- *Urinalysis*: At least 0.5 mL (from mouse) or 1.0 mL (from rat) of fresh urine with no preservative is needed. The sample is stable at 2° - 8°C for only 24 hours. Please notify the lab when samples are shipped in order to facilitate prompt processing.
- Samples must be shipped with a completed Clinical Pathology Services: Rodent Sample Submission Form to Charles River Laboratories, Clinical Pathology Services, 251 Ballardvale Street, Wilmington, MA 01887.

In Vivo Biosafety Testing

Shipping protocols may vary depending on the nature of the test article. For more details regarding sample submission or to request a Test Article Submission Form, please call Technical Services at 1-800-338-9680.

The recommended sample volume for each test is as follows:

- *Mouse/Rat/Hamster Antibody Production (MAP/RAP/HAP) Testing*: A dilution of 5×10^6 cells/mL is recommended for completion of the test panel. Cells should be diluted 1:1 in supernatant or 1:4 in ascites; no additional media is required. A total volume of 4.4 mL is needed to perform the MAP test panel, whereas 2.5 mL are required for the RAP and HAP tests.
- *Inapparent Virus Assay*: A total test article volume of 41 mL is required.
- *General Safety Test*: A total test article volume of 11 mL is required. Test articles must be submitted in their final container.
- All samples should be free of bacteria and submitted under proper storage conditions. To discuss the shipping protocol for your test article, please contact Technical Services.
- Samples must be accompanied by a completed Test Article Submission Form and shipped to Charles River Laboratories, In Vivo Biosafety Testing, 251 Ballardvale Street, Wilmington, MA 01887.

Complimentary Shipping Materials

Charles River Laboratories Research Animal Diagnostic Services provides IATA-compliant sample and animal shipping materials (sample collection vials/swabs, shipping labels and containers, Gnotosafe live animal shippers, etc.) free of charge to all Charles River Laboratories clients. To request materials, simply contact Technical Services (1-800-338-9680) or use our confidential on-line Shipping Materials Request Form (found on the Charles River web site at www.criver.com/info/quotes).



CHARLES RIVER
LABORATORIES

1-877-CRIVER-1 • www.criver.com