

DNA sample collection

For all genetic tests we need a DNA sample, this can be either blood or buccal swabs. In horses a hair sample is recommended.



Blood (Dogs, Cats and Horses):

0.5 – 1 ml whole blood in EDTA blood tube per test. Blood must be collected by a vet. There is no minimum age for using blood.

Buccal (Cheek) swabs (Dogs and Cats):

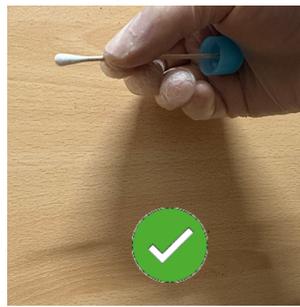
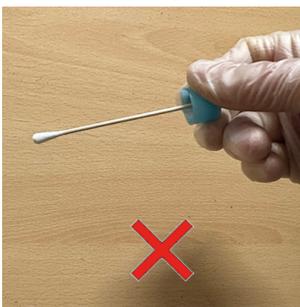
2 swabs per animal. Buccal swabs can be used by owners. The recommended age for using swabs is one week after the puppy / kitten is weaned from the mother. This is to ensure that there is no DNA from the mother in the puppy's/ kitten's mouth. If the puppy / kitten is not weaned, swab can be taken from the 3rd week of age but please ensure that you separate from mother and siblings for 1-2 hours before sampling.

Buccal swabs and EDTA blood tubes are available from us and can be ordered free of charge on our website.

Instructions for using SWABS

For each animal, please use **2 SWABS** per animal. If multiple animals are being sampled, please wash your hands between samplings or use disposable gloves for each animal.

1. To avoid contamination with DNA of other sources, animals must be separated for 1-2 hours before sampling and must not be fed during this time. Ensure that there is no food debris in the mouth.
2. Remove the swab from the container at the handle end. Do not touch the collection tip of the swab. Hold the stick firmly with the two fingers as in the picture.
3. The person taking the samples should avoid touching the inside of the animal's mouth.
4. Rub the collection tip against the oral mucosa (the inside of the cheek) **STRONGLY WITH SOME PRESSURE** for a minimum of **ONE MINUTE** to ensure that enough cells are attached to the tip. It is not possible to run a genetic test if there isn't enough DNA on the swabs.



5. It is vital to air-dry the swab after use for at least 2-4 hours (better overnight), this can be achieved by standing the swab on its cap, then
6. Once the swab is dry, place it back into the tube. Please label the tube with the important information (owner, animal name, etc) **tip:** it maybe good idea to label the swabs in advance to avoid sample mix up. Please ensure that label is firmly attached to the tube, use sellotape
7. Send the swabs together with the Order Form to LABOKLIN as soon as possible.

If the DNA on the swabs is not enough for the test. We will contact you and request EDTA-blood sample.

Hair (Horse only):

Pull around 30 hairs from the mane of the horse with the roots (in foals hair from the tail maybe taken). Wrap the hairs around your finger or a comb, as close as possible to the skin to ensure you obtain the hair roots. Keep dry, put in a bag, label the bag with the horse name, test (s) required. Place in an envelope and send back to us together with the order form. Broken or cut off hair will not be accepted.

