



SVF FOUNDATION

Instructions for Collecting Blood and Tissue Samples

- I. Sample collection kit** provided should contain the following items:
 - styrofoam cooler and shipping box
 - cold pack
 - 15-ml red top vacutainer tube
 - 10-ml purple top vacutainer tube
 - 20-g 1.5 inch vacutainer needle and holder
 - 4-mm skin biopsy punch
 - 1-ml tuberculin syringe with 25 g needle
 - 15-ml sterile conical tube containing 5 ml Dulbecco's phosphate buffered saline (DPBS) with antibiotic/antimycotic
 - animal information sheet

- II. Preparation**
 - a. Store the cold pack in a freezer until ready to use.
 - b. Store the DPBS media in refrigerator (4°C) until ready to use.
 - c. Complete the animal information sheet (attached)

- III. Collection of blood samples**
 - a. Completely fill the red top tube with blood. Blood should be collected directly into the tube using a vacutainer needle and holder. Use the jugular vein for small ruminants and cattle or the coccygeal vessels for cattle.
 - b. Record the animal's ID and date of collection on each tube.
 - c. Store tubes in refrigerator until ready to ship.

- IV. Collection of tissue sample**
 - a. Choose a biopsy site high on the neck (dorsal or lateral) or near the base of the ear. The skin should have a healthy appearance.
 - b. The skin biopsy sample should be collected as aseptically as possible. Exam gloves should be worn. Clip hair/wool at the site with surgical clippers and perform a surgical prep of the skin with alternating rounds of Betadine scrub and 70% alcohol.
 - c. Anesthetize the site by injecting 0.2 ml of 2% lidocaine under the skin using the tuberculin syringe and 25 g needle.
 - d. Apply the 4mm biopsy punch to the blocked site with a twisting motion until a small piece of tissue is removed. Forceps and/or scissors may be needed to lift or

completely loosen the sample from the underlying tissue. Wound spray or ointment may be applied to the biopsy site. Suturing is not necessary.

- e. Place sample in the 15-ml conical tube containing cold DPBS and cap tightly. Record the animal's ID and collection date on the tube and store in refrigerator until ready to ship.

V. Shipping of samples

- a. Samples should be shipped out on the day of collection by *overnight express* so they are received within 24 hours. A completed return FedEx slip is included with the kit. Please call SVF prior to calling FedEx to coordinate collection/shipping date and to ensure a technician is available to receive and process the samples.
- b. Wrap the sample tubes together in paper towels and place in the Styrofoam shipping cooler along with the frozen cold pack. Place the animal information sheet in the box along with samples and send to:

SVF Foundation
152 Harrison Ave
Newport, RI 02840
ATTN: Dorothy Roof

NOTE: SVF DOES NOT ACCEPT SHIPMENTS OF SAMPLES ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON, SATURDAY, OR SUNDAY, DUE TO STAFFING. IN EXTREME CASES, ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE MADE PRIOR TO SHIPPING.

To coordinate shipping and if you have any questions, please call

(401) 848-7229 extension 15.

Animal Information Sheet
For Blood and Tissue Samples

Name and Address of Owner:

Phone: _____

Name and Address of Veterinarian:

Phone: _____

Samples collected: Blood (red top) Skin biopsy

Date collected: _____

ID	Registration #	Species	Breed	Sex	Age or DOB