



# PVL Guidelines for Sample Submission During an HPAI Outbreak

Pennsylvania Veterinary Lab  
2305 North Cameron St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17110

## Biosecurity recommendations for sample delivery at the lab

- Place specimens into leak-proof plastic bags for delivery to the lab. Place paperwork in a separate bag.
- Keep specimens cool/refrigerated and deliver to the laboratory in a disposable cooler with ice packs.
- Deliver specimens with completed submission forms to the Specimen Receiving area at the back of the laboratory. See map on page 2 for directions.
- Put on disposable shoe covers (not supplied) or boots before exiting delivery vehicle.
- Use the disinfectant foot bath before entering receiving area.
- For after hour submissions: place specimens with completed submission forms (instructions to complete form available at <http://padls.agriculture.pa.gov/> under Forms) in the Specimen Receiving refrigerator located inside the specimen receiving vestibule. The outer doors are unlocked 24/7 for drop offs.
- Use hand sanitizer and walk through the disinfectant foot bath when leaving the receiving area.
- Remove and discard shoe covers as you re-enter the delivery vehicle and dispose of appropriately or disinfect boots with disinfectant solution.

## General biosecurity recommendations

- Wash delivery vehicles at a commercial car wash before returning to the farm.
- Avoid visits to multiple farms during the infection phase unless full biosecurity practices are followed.
- Collect samples from multiple farms or sites at a designated point and then deliver them from this point to the lab.
- Shipping boxes or containers will not be returned.

## Supplies for testing

Supplies (Brain Heart Infusion or BHI broth 5.5 ml tubes and swabs for PCR) can be picked up from the lab or any PADLS location. These or equivalent supplies (as listed below) can also be ordered directly from any of the lab supply vendors to avoid a trip to the laboratory. (e. g. [Northeast Laboratory Services](#), [VWR](#), [Fisher Scientific](#), [Amazon](#)).

The manufacturer's part numbers are included for ordering convenience.

**BHI Broth** : Northeast Laboratory Services # [T1158](#), Hardy Diagnostics: # [K27](#), Thermo Scientific™ Remel™: # [R060270](#) or [R060272](#).

**Swabs**: Puritan® Swabs- Puritan Medical: Sterile 6-inch Polyester Tipped Applicators # 25-806 2 PD WH Neutral <https://www.puritanmedproducts.com/contact-us>

**NOTE: WOODEN SHAFT OR COTTON TIPPED SWABS WILL BE REJECTED**

**Specimen collection guidance:** Guidance can be found on the “Sampling/Submitting” tab at: <http://padls.agriculture.pa.gov/InnerPages/HPAI.html>

## Results and access to lab results

For same-day results, specimens must be received by 11:30 a.m., barring any capacity or operational issues.



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**Place samples and paperwork in the High Path Avian Influenza cooler located outside on the Specimen Receiving dock. Please write your information on the sample drop off log using the form provided.**

**Contact Pennsylvania Veterinary Laboratory with any questions related to HPAI Outbreak submissions at 717-787-8808.**