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Submission of Samples for Detection of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

PADLS recommends submission of the following avian samples to the laboratories for rapid detection of HPAI using PCR:

Source	Preferred Specimen*	Collection
Gallinaceous poultry (chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail)	Tracheal (TR)/oropharyngeal swabs (OP)	1 swab per bird from a single flock and species, maximum of 11 swabs pooled in 1 BHI broth tube
Domestic waterfowl	Cloacal (CL) swab	1 swab per bird from a single flock and species, maximum of 5 swabs pooled in 1 BHI broth tube
Wild birds	CL and TR/OP swab	1 swab from each site (1 CL and 1 TR/OP) from a single bird pooled in 1 BHI broth tube

*Polyester (Dacron), rayon or other inert swabs must be used. Do not use cotton or calcium alginate swabs or swabs with wooden shafts.

Media (5.5 mL) and swabs are available from the laboratories. After sample collection, swabs should be immersed in media, swirled, squeezed on the upper inside walls of tube, and then discarded as a biohazard waste. Dry swabs are not accepted. If leaving swabs in the tube, no more than 5 swabs per tube are acceptable. All swab tips must be completely immersed in the medium.

Laboratory Submission:

- Please complete **ALL** sections of the Avian Submission Form (found at www.padls.org under Forms)
- Required information includes:
 - Owner and Sample Collector - name, address, telephone, fax, email
 - Premises ID and address
 - Collection and submission dates
 - Production type (backyard, commercial, etc.) and number(s) of birds on premises
 - Species and age
 - Sample type (CL and/or TR/OP)

For questions or to discuss on-farm mortality issues, please contact either the laboratories (contact information above) or the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Animal Health at 717-772-2852.

For additional information: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/lab_info_services/downloads/WIAV0020.pdf