

B.W.Davis Lab Tissue Panel Sampling Instructions

Thank you very much for donating samples for our research into feline genomics. We have tried to streamline the sample collecting process as much as possible; if you feel that we could improve the procedure, please let us know.

RNA Later – Storage of tissue for the study of GENE EXPRESSION

RNA will **degrade rapidly** once the cell membrane is disrupted, so it is **important for the samples to be processed QUICKLY. DO NOT handle the tissues without gloves** as contact with human skin will promote RNA degradation from RNAses.

Blood for RNA analysis: For every tissue panel, please collect ~3-4 ml of blood and immediately place in 5 ml of RNAlater within a 15 ml conical vial and label appropriately.

Collection of tissue panel for gene expression analysis: In the unfortunate event that an animal dies we request that the keeper, or representative collect 1 cm x 1 cm for RNA analysis of all major tissues/organs. Please use a clean, washed cutting board or plate and a clean knife/scissors/scalpel to cut into **8-10 smaller pieces** up to 1 cm² of tissue total (each piece wider than 1 mm), and place the sectioned tissues into 5 ml of RNAlater in a 15 ml conical vial.

It is important that tissues are cut into **small pieces**. If RNAlater does not saturate the tissue it will not be preserved.

Please indicate which tissues were sampled from the panel requested, and label each tube.

Animal Name _____ **Species** _____ **Collection Date** _____

Spleen	Muscle	Stomach
Liver	Heart	Large Intestine
Lung	Blood Vessel	Small Intestine
Pancreas	Eye (whole)	Urinary Bladder
Kidney	Paw Pad	Tongue
Testis	Ovaries	Uterus

Additionally, we request multiple skin biopsies if possible. When doing so, please take 2 x 5mm core biopsies from each of the distinct colors present on the pelage. Example: for tiger, sample 2 cores in the striped area, two in the lighter background area, and two from the white belly.

Colors Sampled: _____

Please LABEL and wrap the tops of the tube with provided paraffin wax
Keep in a cool place – But, DO NOT freeze these samples

Please ship these samples immediately (preferably) and notify Dr. Brian Davis using the information listed below. Please send the shipment early in the week, not over a weekend.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at **ANY TIME** by phone or email.

Brian W Davis, PhD
National Institutes of Health
Building 50, Room 5344
50 South Dr, MSC 8000
Bethesda, MD 20892-8000

TEL: (979) 485-8996
LAB: (301) 496-7029
EMAIL: davisbw@mail.nih.gov