



New Tests for 2010

Our latest companion and farm animal price brochures should be with you shortly and we are pleased to offer several new tests for 2010.

For suspect cases of lymphoma in canine and feline patients we now provide serum **Thymidine Kinase** assay to assist in diagnosis and monitoring of response to therapy. This test is also useful in determining the prognosis in canines. We also offer the **Petscreen Lymphoma Blood Test** for the detection of specific lymphoma biomarkers. For pregnancy diagnosis in cats and dogs we have introduced **Relaxin** assay on heparin plasma. The test is suitable from 28 days post mating in bitches, 31 days in queens.

A new **Leptospira IFA Screen** is now available for dogs. The test detects antibodies to a wide range of serovars. Primarily useful in equines, we are offering **aerobic culture on endometrial swabs at a very competitive price.**

Finally, in keeping with the icy weather, we have frozen the prices of our recently launched Senior Health Checks at just £20.00 + VAT without T4 and £25.00 + VAT including T4.

See our 2010 Price Brochure for further details.

Fluid Cytology —Which Tubes?

We are frequently asked about which tubes should be used to submit samples of fluid or urine for cytological examination. The aim is to preserve cell morphology and still keep options open for further testing (eg bacteriology, biochemistry), so where sample size permits, dividing the sample is helpful.

Thoracic or abdominal effusions: EDTA and plain tubes, plus air dried smears

Synovial fluid: EDTA and air dried smears, plus plain tube if sample volume permits

CSF: Often small sample, so plain tube, EDTA if possible

Washes, cystic fluid or urine: EDTA and plain tubes, plus plain tube with one drop of formalin per ml of sample

For urine cytology it is vital that the sample is split and formalin added as soon as possible after collection, as exposure to urine rapidly distorts cellular detail. Rather than the EDTA tube, a boric acid tube may be used, in case culture is required.

Any blood tubes with a clotting accelerant should be avoided. Where infection is strongly suspected, particularly if there may be anaerobic organisms involved, taking a swab of fluid into charcoal transport medium for culture can be helpful.

Salmonellosis in Cattle



Recent faecal samples from a dairy herd with a history of a number of scoured cows proved positive for *Salmonella Dublin*. Interestingly, affected cows were bright and the scour was not blood stained in all cases. NWL Leeds have also recently manufactured emergency vaccines for two herds, one dairy, one dairy with a small beef unit, persistently infected with Serogroup E salmonellae.

NWL Clin Path Club - New Venue for NE Region

NWL are committed to offering quality CPD on a complimentary basis at comfortable and easily accessible venues. Our next meeting for the North East Region will therefore be at a new venue, Village Leeds South Hotel, LS27 0TS, which offers excellent access from the M62, M1 and the Leeds Ring Road. The next monthly meeting is on Thursday 28 Jan 10 at 8.00 pm, refreshments from 7.30 pm. Dr Peter Graham will speak on **"Solving endocrine cases"** - an interactive presentation of endocrine case laboratory results. Please feel free to bring your own interesting endocrine case histories along.