



**SAN MATEO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY
TEST INFORMATION**

Section: Environmental

Test Name: Rabies (Direct Fluorescent Antibody)

Test Includes: Direct Fluorescent Antibody	
<i>Reporting</i>	
Results Available: Within 7 days for non-emergencies. ASAP for emergencies.	Contact Number: 650-573-2500
<i>Reference</i>	
Method: Direct Fluorescent Antibody Test	
Turnaround Time: up to 7 days	Reference Range: Negative by Direct FA for rabies
Limitations: May not detect rabies virus if improper or inadequate specimen submitted.	Interpretation: Any positive result requires immediate action by health care provider.
<i>Specimen Requirements</i>	
Specimen Collection: Avoid damage to the brain; do not traumatize the head. Separate the animal head from the body immediately after death.	Sample Type: Animal head or brain material.
Volume/Amount Required: Complete transverse section of brain stem and portions of the cerebellum or hippocampus.	Preferred Specimen: Animal head. Whole animal carcasses are not accepted, except for bats and similar very small animals.
Collection/Preservation: Refrigerate specimen immediately.	Storage Instructions: Keep refrigerated
Causes for Rejection: Non-mammal animal species. Insufficient or no brain material to examine. Decayed specimen.	Sample Container:
Sample Test Kit:	Availability:
Test Information: Specimen should be delivered to lab within one business day.	
<i>Specimen Submission</i>	
Request Form: Animal Bite Report	Specimen Handling:
Transport Temperature: Keep refrigerated.	Shipping Requirements: Notify laboratory of the shipment by calling 650-573-2500.
<i>Billing</i>	
Effective Date: July 1, 2008	Fees: \$300.00 for non-mammals