Service update

Important change in acceptable sample type for Cardiopet™ proBNP Test (Canine) effective January 18, 2027

IDEXX Reference Laboratories are committed to returning diagnostics that are accurate and timely. To continue providing quality results, we will be requiring that all profiles, panels, and standalone tests that utilize the Cardiopet proBNP Test (Canine) fully transition to using EDTA plasma as the only sample type for the Cardiopet proBNP Test (Canine).

EDTA plasma has always been the preferred sample type for canine testing for the Cardiopet proBNP Test (Canine). The proBNP analyte is stable within EDTA plasma at both refrigerated and room temperature for up to 48 hours.[1] Serum has previously been considered an acceptable sample type when submitted under specific temperature and storage conditions to help ensure stability. As we are unable to adequately account for shipping conditions, potential delays, and temperature stress to individual samples prior to arrival at the reference laboratory, we are changing the allowable sample type for this test to be EDTA plasma only.

When will this change in acceptable sample type occur?

A note on all results for Cardiopet proBNP Test (Canine) will encourage submission of EDTA plasma for this test through the end of the year (2026). On January 18, 2027, IDEXX Reference Laboratories will no longer run this test if only serum is submitted and a comment will be returned that the test was not run as the correct sample type was not submitted.

Should I be concerned about the results for a test previously submitted with serum only?

Most Cardiopet proBNP Test (Canine) samples that are submitted to an IDEXX Reference Laboratory location arrive on the same day that the sample is drawn and are tested within 24 hours. This timeframe allows for minimal degradation to occur. Serum samples shipped on ice minimize or even avoid this degradation. While the potential for degradation may be low, the movement to EDTA plasma as the only allowable sample type for the Cardiopet proBNP Test (Canine) will help to ensure consistent quality across all results.

Does a separate sample tube with already separated EDTA plasma need to be sent in to complete this test?

No. While separated EDTA plasma in its own labeled vial is the ideal sample type for the Cardiopet proBNP Test (Canine), it isn't required. The same lavender/purple/pink top (EDTA) tube used for hematology testing can also be used for this test, so a separate plasma sample is not necessary.

Does this change affect Cardiopet proBNP Test (Feline)?

This change is for canine only. Both serum and EDTA plasma are stable for feline and continue as acceptable sample types for the Cardiopet proBNP Test (Feline).[2]

References

1. Cahill, R. J., Pigeon, K., Strong-Townsend, M. I., Drexel, J. P., Clark, G. H., & Buch, J. S. (2014). Analytical validation of a second-generation immunoassay for the quantification of N-terminal pro–B-type natriuretic peptide in canine blood. *Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation*, 27(1), 61–67. https://doi.org/10.1177/1040638714562826

2. Mainville, C. A., Clark, G. H., Esty, K. J., Foster, W. M., Hanscom, J. L., Hebert, K. J., & Lyons, H. R. (2015). Analytical validation of an immunoassay for the quantification of N-terminal pro–B-type natriuretic peptide in feline blood. *Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation*, 27(4), 414–421. https://doi.org/10.1177/1040638715588330

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