

SENIOR PET PROMOTION 2010



The VETPATH Senior Pet screening promotion has always been popular with practices and in 2010 we are once again offering these low fees for health screening of elderly pets. This promotion provides you with a very significant discount on these tests. As usual you will need to book your month early this year. The offer is available from May until October 2010.

Canine Senior Pet Screen: \$25.00

- ALT, ALP, urea, creatinine, glucose, urine SG.

Feline Senior Pet Screen: \$25.00

- ALT, ALP, urea, creatinine, glucose, urine SG.

Senior Pet Screen Plus: \$50.00

- ALT, ALP, urea, creatinine, glucose, urine SG plus total T4.

Senior Pet Screen with CBC: \$48.00

**Senior Pet Screen with CBC and T4:
\$65.00**

Prices exclude 10% GST and are inclusive of courier charges. Please refer to tests as **Senior Pet Screens** to avoid confusion with the full cost Geriatric Profiles.

New submission form

Vetpath Laboratory Services is introducing new submission forms in mid-June 2010. The forms will have boxes to check for our most commonly requested tests, as well as areas for a comprehensive history and handwritten requests for other tests. Clinics that use Vetpath frequently will have their name, address and clinic number pre-printed on the forms. We hope that the new forms will be easier to use and reduce the incidence of incorrect tests being performed.

What crystal is this?



Source:

<http://diaglab.vet.cornell.edu/clinpath/modules/UA-SED/crystal1.htm>

The answer is over the page.....

Tritrichomonas foetus testing

Tritrichomonas foetus is a protozoon that can infect the large intestine, potentially causing prolonged and intractable diarrhea. The stool of an infected cat is often diarrhea of semi-formed to viscous consistency which may contain fresh blood or mucus and be malodorous. While the mode of infection is still unknown, it is suspected that the organism is passed through contact with an infected feline's feces to a non-infected feline. Both purebred and non-purebred cats have been found to be infected.



Vetpath Laboratory Services provides a combined transport and culture system for *T. foetus*. The InPouch™ TF system provides medium for selective transport and growth of the trichomonad, while inhibiting the growth of yeast and bacteria. The system consists of a plastic pouch with two V-shaped chambers connected by a narrow passage. The upper compartment is for direct observation (wet mount) of freshly inoculated specimen before expressing the contents into the lower chamber for culture.

Inoculation of faecal material into the pouch immediately will provide better results as desiccation of the sample has a negative effect. The pouch provides an environment that maintains organism viability for during transport for 48 hours. Vetpath can provide pouches with instructions for immediate use after collection of faeces in your practice. Alternatively, a sample of freshly voided faeces (as little as 0.5 grams) or a rectal swab can be submitted. However, if the sample will not arrive at Vetpath within 24 hours, direct inoculation into the pouch is recommended.

The test can take up to 14 days to complete and the cost is \$30 + GST.

The crystals are

Bilirubin.

Bilirubin crystals are generally seen as yellow-red or brownish needles or granules. These crystals tend to precipitate onto other elements in urine. In the top picture, bilirubin crystals have formed on an underlying cell and in the bottom picture, the crystals have formed on a droplet of fat.

Bilirubin crystals are most commonly seen in dogs. In healthy dogs they are often of no significance, as dogs can often have a small amount of detectable bilirubin in their urine. Bilirubin crystals in cats, horses and cattle should be investigated as they are suggestive of hyperbilirubinemia.