



## Bacteriology is now performed in our Brisbane laboratory

We are very pleased to announce that from July 2016 bacterial cultures<sup>#</sup> will be performed in our Brisbane laboratory. This will reduce turnaround times while maintaining our current high standard of microbiology.

(<sup>#</sup>Excludes faecal cultures)

## New Price List

**Please find enclosed with this newsletter a copy of our new price list, effective August 1st 2016.**

To accommodate our ever expanding list of tests on offer, we have redesigned the price list to a more user friendly format including a comprehensive, itemised list of tests and panel codes. These codes will assist you when speaking with our staff about tests, and can be used as an alternative to writing the test name on request forms.

The new price list format includes a tabulated representation of the tests included in our frequently requested profiles, lists of the more commonly requested tests under section headings, as well as a comprehensive alphabetical test list.

We have further expanded the analytes included in several of our profiles, most notably;

- **Canine Non-interpreted Profile now includes TT4.**
- Expanded biochemistry tests within Avian and Reptile Profiles.

Prices have been reviewed, with some of the tests referred to external laboratories, e.g., frozen samples, incurring a larger price increase reflective of additional transport costs. TML Pathology Vetnostics remains extremely cost competitive compared with other laboratories. If you have any further queries, please contact Vetnostics on email [enquiries@tmlpath.com.au](mailto:enquiries@tmlpath.com.au) or phone your local laboratory on (03) 6711 2000 (Launceston) or (03) 6108 9900 (Hobart).

### Requesting tests not listed on our request form

These tests need to be requested in the space under OTHER TESTS and NOT as part of the history, to avoid test requests being delayed or omitted.

## Automated Equine Fibrinogen Analysis from July 2016

Effective from July 2016, equine fibrinogen analysis will be performed using an automated assay on EDTA plasma, following completion of all concurrent haematology testing. A new reference interval has been established for this assay, with comparison of fibrinogen results via the existing manual assay with the new automated assay as follows;

Manual Fibrinogen Result (g/L)	New Automated Fibrinogen Result (g/L)
<b>Reference interval: 2.0 – 4.0</b>	<b>Reference Interval: 0.8 - 2.0</b>
4.0	2.0
5.0	2.4
6.0	2.8
7.0	3.2
8.0	3.6
9.0	4.1
10.0	4.5





## DGGR Lipase in cats

Further to our March 2016 newsletter article outlining the high agreement between results of the DGGR lipase assay used by TML Vetnostics and Spec cPL® results, a recent study has been published which compared the results of the DGGR assay and Spec fPL® with a standardised histologic assessment of the pancreas. Both assays had a similar performance when compared to pancreatic histology.

Sensitivity and specificity of DGGR lipase (cutoff value >26 U/L) for the diagnosis of pancreatic inflammation were approximately 67% and 79% respectively whilst sensitivity and specificity of Spec fPL® (cutoff value of ≥5.4 ug/L) were approximately 61% and 69%.

The authors concluded that the **DGGR assay is at least as useful as the Spec fPL® assay and certainly more advantageous when cost is considered.**

**Thus, for diagnosis of pancreatitis in cats, there appears to be no further value in performing Spec fPL™ (or SNAP® fPL™) over the DGGR lipase assay performed by TML Vetnostics.**

(Panel code for DGGR lipase/amylase is **VLA**, located in the Biochemistry section on the request form)

Reference: JVIM 2016;30:764–770.

## ‘USG For Free’ and discounted combination testing

Urine Specific Gravity (USG) will be performed free of charge whenever a USG is requested **concurrently** with interpreted and non-interpreted profiles listed within the Pathology Profiles section of the request form.\*

To receive the ‘USG for Free’ all you need to do is tick the Specific Gravity box (test code VSR) listed within the Urine Examination section of the request form together with your profile request.

The complete list of tests offered at a significantly discounted price when requested **concurrently** with pathology profiles is now as follows:\*

Test	Normal Price (ex. GST)	Reduced Price (ex. GST)
Total T4 (TT4)	\$45.00	\$19.00
Urinalysis (VUX)	\$39.00	\$19.00
Urinalysis + Urine Culture (VUY)	\$78.00	\$42.00
FIV & FeLV (FVX)	\$82.00	\$49.00
Urine Specific Gravity (VSR)	\$26.00	FREE
Urinalysis + Cytology (=VUCY)	\$73.00	\$55.00
Faecal Floatation (VFF)	\$35.00	\$19.00

*(As per price list effective August 2016.)*

The reduced pricing will also apply for these tests when accompanying non-interpreted profiles, however note that these results are also non-interpreted. Pathologists and medical consultants ARE NOT available for result/case comment or discussion for non-interpreted profiles.

Non-interpreted profiles can be upgraded to an interpreted profile to include pathologist +/- medical consultant comments and case discussion at an additional fee of \$60.00 (ex. GST). Panels must be upgraded PRIOR to phone discussion or issue of a written interpretation.

These reduced prices will also apply for any of these tests that are subsequently ‘added on’ to a pathology profile already performed, but only for the originally submitted samples (not samples submitted separately or at a later date).

\*See tabulated list of included profiles in the price list.



## Expanded Molecular Testing available at Vetnostics!

We are very pleased to announce a significantly expanded list of molecular testing offered by TML Vetnostics, available from August 2016. This will allow for more extensive investigation for infectious causes of respiratory, gastrointestinal and other diseases. Examples of the infectious disease PCR panels available are listed below, please refer to the August 2016 price list for the comprehensive list of molecular testing currently available. Molecular diagnostics is a rapidly advancing field. PCR based tests are sensitive and specific and more tests are coming online all the time.

Test Name and Panel Inclusions	Test/Panel Code	Price (ex. GST)
<b>Faecal Diarrhoea Multiplex PCR - Canine</b> Campylobacter sp., Salmonella sp., Canine Parvovirus-2, Giardia sp., Cryptosporidium sp.	MVC	\$79.00
<b>Faecal Diarrhoea Multiplex PCR - Equine Adult</b> Clostridium difficile Toxins A/B, Clostridium perfringens Toxins A/CPE/cpb2, Equine Coronavirus, Lawsonia intracellularis, Salmonella sp.	AFM	\$105.00
<b>Faecal Diarrhoea Multiplex PCR - Equine Foal</b> Clostridium difficile Toxins A/B, Clostridium perfringens Toxins A/CPE/cpb2/netF, Cryptosporidium sp., Equine Coronavirus, Rotavirus, Salmonella sp.	FHP	\$105.00
<b>Faecal Diarrhoea Multiplex PCR - Feline</b> Campylobacter sp., Salmonella sp., Feline Parvovirus (panleukopaenia), Giardia sp., Cryptosporidium sp., Feline Coronavirus, Tritrichomonas foetus, Toxoplasma gondii	MVF	\$79.00
<b>Feline Haemotropic Mycoplasma PCR</b> M.haemofelis, M.haemominutum, M.turicensis	FBP	\$55.00
<b>Leptospira PCR - Canine (L.interrogans) (LES)</b>	LES	\$79.00
<b>Respiratory PCR Panel - Canine</b> Bordetella bronchiseptica, Streptococcus equi subsp. zooepidemicus, Canine Adenovirus type 2, Canine Herpesvirus type 1, Canine Coronavirus, Canine Parainfluenza virus, Mycoplasma cynos	RPC	\$79.00
<b>Respiratory PCR Panel - Equine</b> Equine Herpesvirus 1, Equine Herpesvirus 4, Rhodococcus equi, Streptococcus equi subspecies equi, Chlamydia psittaci	RPE	\$99.00
<b>Respiratory PCR Panel - Feline</b> Feline Calicivirus, Bordetella bronchiseptica, Chlamydomphila felis, Feline Herpesvirus-1, Mycoplasma felis	FUP	\$79.00

## Labelling of slides

Ensure that you label individual slides as well as the slide holders

- Cytology and haematology slides must be individually labelled with the name of the patient and the site of the lesion (Fig 1). The site identification is critical when multiple sites are aspirated.
- We suggest labelling slides with pencil as this will not wash off during the staining process.
- The slide holders should also be labelled either with pre-formatted clinic patient details stickers or with permanent marker pen (Fig 2).



Fig 1. Slide labelled with pencil.



Fig 2. Slide holder labelled with permanent marker. (Adapted from Vetpath, November 2015 Newsletter)





# Equine Serum Amyloid A (SAA) is now performed in the Brisbane Laboratory

**\$30.00** ex.GST



## TML Vetnostics' Equine Pathology Service

### **FAST → Improved Turnaround Times**

- ✓ Ability to process urgent haematology and biochemistry testing in Tasmanian laboratories, ensuring rapid results.
- ✓ Results able to be faxed, emailed, downloaded into clinic software and available online.
- ✓ Serial reports on racing profiles.
- ✓ Add on pathologist's interpretation.
- ✓ Add on SAA.

### **RELIABLE**

- ✓ Premier diagnostic pathology services.
- ✓ Quality controlled testing on state-of-the-art instrumentation.

### **AFFORDABLE**

- ✓ Competitive prices.
- ✓ Non-interpreted haematology and biochemistry results available.

