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Sampling instructions for diagnostic investigation of suspected cases of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)

These instructions aim at ensuring that (1) suitable samples are collected and (2) samples are stored and shipped correctly, in order to ensure laboratory diagnostic investigation of suspected cases of PPR.

Animals to be sampled: sheep and goats

Samples to collect

Status of animal	Clinical symptoms	Type of test	Aim of test	Types of samples
Alive	with symptoms	QPCR	Detection of virus	<u>Priority:</u> Nasal swab Ocular swab <u>Optional:</u> Whole Blood (for buffy coat*)
Dead/ euthanized	with symptoms	QPCR	Detection of virus	<u>Priority:</u> Nasal swab Ocular swab Lymph node Lung <u>Optional:</u> Whole Blood (for buffy coat *) Spleen
Alive Dead/ euthanized	No symptoms	Competition ELISA	Detection of antibodies (past infection)	Serum

(*) Buffy coat to be collected at the NRL, from the fresh whole blood samples received, after density gradient centrifugation. Blood can also be stored for diagnosis of other diseases.

EU Reference laboratory for Peste des Petits Ruminants



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Sample container

Type of sample	Container	Preservation medium
Swab	Viscose swab in original tube (avoid cotton swab)	No
Whole blood	Blood collection tube	EDTA
Tissues from internal organs	Plastic tube with screw-cap	No
Serum	Blood collection tube	No

Storage and shipment of samples

Site	Type of sample	Storage condition	Length of storage	Packaging
From field to lab	All	On ice	<24hr	Double packaging
National lab	All	5 ± 3°C	<3 days	Double packaging
National lab	Swabs, tissues, buffy coat	≤ -65°C	No limit	Double packaging
National lab	Serum	≤ -16°C	No limit	Simple packaging
From NRL to EURL*	All	Dry ice	3-5 days	Triple packaging P650

(*) Organized by EURL.

Links to OIE and FAO manuals for PPR:

<http://www.oie.int/en/standard-setting/terrestrial-manual/>

<http://www.fao.org/3/X1703E/X1703E00.htm>