

CANINE DNA SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURE

Cheek (buccal) swabs can be used to collect cheek epithelial cells from the inside of the mouth of the dog. These swabs (also known as PAP smear brushes) are processed to obtain small amounts of DNA. Participation in this DNA collection is non-invasive and strictly confidential.

This kit contains submission form for each family, 2 swabs per dog to be sampled, and a return-addressed envelope.

Before taking sample(s):

- ❖ If the animal has eaten, wait 15 minutes and then let it drink water or wash its mouth with water. Visually inspect the dog's mouth between the cheek and gums for food debris. The objective is to collect epithelial cells, not food debris.
- ❖ Do not sample nursing pups. The mother's milk contains white blood cells that are present in the mouth of the suckling pups. Foreign DNA will give ambiguous results.
- ❖ The cytology swabs warning statement on the label pertains to women during PAP smear tests. These swabs are suitable for pregnant dogs for this procedure.

Taking sample(s):

1. When sampling more than one dog, wash your hands between samplings to prevent cross contamination.
2. Write the dog's name and owner's last name on both cytology brush wrappers.
3. For each brush, open the package by peeling back the loose edges of the sleeve about one inch. **DO NOT TOUCH THE BRUSH.**
4. Grasp the swab's plastic handle and pull the swab out of the sleeve.
5. Steady the dog's head. Holding the swab half way down the applicator stick, gently rub and rotate the swab bristles head against the inside surface, between the cheek and the gums. Keep good contact with the surface while rubbing for 10 seconds. Try not to rub too hard. This will cause the animal's mouth to bleed or cause discomfort.
6. Let the brush air dry for 30 seconds. **DO NOT BLOW ON THE BRUSH.**
7. Place the brush back into the package sleeve. Just fold the top 1-inch of the sleeve. No need to reseal airtight. A wet brush in an airtight sleeve may grow bacteria and destroy the sample.
8. Repeat steps #2 to #7 for the second brush. Choose a different location of the cheek area for DNA collection.
9. For another sampling of a different dog, repeat entire procedure.
10. Upon completion of all samplings for all available dogs, complete the sample submission form. Enclose forms and brush collections into provided return addressed envelope to be returned by regular mail. Sampled swabs can be stored at room temperature before mailing.
11. Send all collection kits to the following address:

Canine Behavioral Genetics
Hamilton lab
UC San Francisco, LPPI
401 Parnassus Ave.
Box 0984-NGL, Rm. G-70
San Francisco, CA 94143

Thank you for your assistance.