



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Environmental Health, CEDEP, C. E. Kord, Animal Control Agencies, Veterinarians  
**FROM:** Richard Steece, PhD, D(ABMM) *RSteece*  
Laboratory Director  
**DATE:** February 1, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** Restoration of Full Rabies Processing

---

Effective Monday, February 14, 2022

The Tennessee Department of Health – Division of Laboratory Services (TNDH-DLS) in Nashville is pleased to announce the restoration of full rabies laboratory functionality. We express highest gratitude to the C. E. Kord Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory which assumed all intake and initial processing duties usually performed at the Public Health Laboratory (630 Hart Lane, Nashville 37216) from May 2021. Please take into consideration Fed Ex submissions on Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup> need to be sent to the Nashville Central (Public Health) Laboratory for Saturday Priority Overnight delivery.

For all county health departments, veterinary clinics, and animal control agencies that are assigned to send rabies specimens to the Nashville Central Laboratory:

1. Please send all routine rabies specimens (cats, dogs, bats, skunks, foxes, raccoons, etc.) to the Nashville Central Laboratory either by Fed Ex (send tracking info to [NCL.Rabies@tn.gov](mailto:NCL.Rabies@tn.gov)) or courier to this address:

Tennessee Department of Health – Division of Laboratory Services  
c/o Rabies Lab  
630 Hart Lane  
Nashville, TN 37216

2. Please continue sending all large livestock rabies specimens (cows, pigs, horses, goats, etc.) to C. E. Kord either by Fed Ex (send tracking info to [Kord.Lab@tn.gov](mailto:Kord.Lab@tn.gov)) or courier to this address:

C. E. Kord Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory  
Tennessee Department of Agriculture  
Ellington Agricultural Center  
436 Hogan Road, Nashville, TN 37220

(Continued next page)

Rabies triage and human postexposure vaccination questions are still handled by CEDEP rabies epidemiologists (615-741-7247). One new addition to both the Nashville Central and the Knoxville Regional Laboratories is an implementation of new email addresses for each site:

Nashville Central Rabies Laboratory: [NCL.Rabies@tn.gov](mailto:NCL.Rabies@tn.gov)

Knoxville Regional Rabies Laboratory: [KRL.Rabies@tn.gov](mailto:KRL.Rabies@tn.gov)

These email addresses are viewable by all rabies testing personnel instead of specific individuals. Therefore, any testing questions, shipping notifications, result queries, etc. can be directed to one of these mailboxes. This prevents the absence of a single staff member from delaying communication. We will be updating Health Department rabies resources (e.g. CEDEP Rabies Control Manual, Division of Laboratory Directory, etc.) to implement the universal use of these email addresses.

For questions regarding this change, please contact Bryan Mason, Immunoserology and Rabies Manager, at 615-262-6350 or [Bryan.P.Mason@tn.gov](mailto:Bryan.P.Mason@tn.gov).