



Animal and Plant  
Health Inspection  
Service

Veterinary Services

Center for Veterinary  
Biologics

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**CENTER FOR VETERINARY BIOLOGICS NOTICE NO. 14-05**

**TO:** Biologics Licensees, Permittees, and Applicants  
Directors, Center for Veterinary Biologics  
Veterinary Services Leadership Team

**FROM:** Steven A. Karli /s/ *Steven A. Karli*  
Acting Director

**SUBJECT:** Availability of Swine Influenza Virus (SIV) Isolates

**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Notice is to inform interested parties that SIV isolates are available for purchase from the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) online catalog.

**II. BACKGROUND**

Swine influenza is a respiratory disease of swine caused by multiple subtypes of type A influenza viruses. SIV in swine is not a reportable or regulated animal disease in the United States, but is endemic in swine populations in North and South America, Asia, and Europe. The influenza virus genome consists of eight distinct gene segments and the subtypes of viruses are generally described by the characterization of two gene segments, the hemagglutinin (HA) gene and neuraminidase (NA) gene. Classic SIV infection was caused by the H1N1 subtype and remained relatively unchanged while circulating in U.S. swine populations for over 75 years. Since 1998, SIV infections in the United States have evolved from a seasonal disease caused by a single, relatively stable H1N1 genotype to an endemic year-round respiratory disease caused by multiple genetically unstable SIV subtypes (H1N1, H1N2, and H3N2).

The USDA, in cooperation with State and industry, conducts voluntary surveillance for SIV in the U.S. The function of the surveillance program is to identify viruses that may be circulating in swine, and gain knowledge to contribute to improved animal health diagnostics and vaccines. One of the goals of the SIV surveillance program is to make SIV isolates and associated epidemiologic data available for research and analysis.

The SIV surveillance program was initiated in May 2009 and the SIV isolates available from NVSL include isolates generated from this program. Veterinary Services is making these isolates available to the public without restrictions to

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encourage disease research and development of vaccines and diagnostic test kits to benefit the U.S. swine industry. It is expected that any Master Seeds derived from these isolates be tested according to title 9, *Code of Federal Regulations* in the same way that any other Master Seed candidate would be tested.

### III. ACTION

Biologics firms wishing to obtain samples of the SIV isolates for research purposes should do the following:

- A. Complete and submit a "Reagent Request Form," VS Form 4-9, and submit it to the NVSL, along with the current user fee, and shipping charges. The form can be obtained by any one of the following methods.
  1. Access NVSL's homepage at [www.aphis.usda.gov/nvsl](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/nvsl) and click on "Reagents and Proficiency Testing."
  2. Contact the NVSL Reagents Office, at Box 844 Ames, Iowa 50010 by mail.
  3. Request a form by FAX at 515-337-7402.
  4. Request a form by email to [NVSL\\_concerns@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:NVSL_concerns@aphis.usda.gov)
- B. The completed VS Form 4-9, and the payment associated with the order, may be submitted:
  1. By mail: NVSL User Fees Box 844 Ames, Iowa 50010
  2. By email: to [NVSL\\_concerns@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:NVSL_concerns@aphis.usda.gov)
- C. Additional guidance regarding placing an order is available at NVSL's catalog website, or by telephone at (515) 337-6200.
- D. Note that a USDA permit is required to receive this virus. Ensure that your facility has the appropriate permit to receive the virus.

### IV. IMPLEMENTATION/ APPLICABILITY

The reagent is currently available from the NVSL.