

**National Veterinary Services Laboratories  
American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians  
(AAVLD) Internal Bacteriology Quality Assurance Survey**

**Panel Summary**

- 1. Composition of panel:** The panel consists of 4 to 5 samples containing pure or mixed cultures. Contents of the panel vary each year and are chosen by the AAVLD Bacteriology Committee.
- 2. Cost of panel:** Click [here](#) to view current NVSL Catalog of Reagents
- 3. Storage conditions:** Kits are stored at -70°C or lower before shipping and should be stored at -70°C or lower after receipt if not used immediately.
- 4. Sample preparation/selection criteria:** Most isolates are veterinary or human biosafely level 2 pathogens, but may also include common contaminating organisms. Laboratories should adhere to BSL-2 safety practices. The organisms to be included in the test are determined by the AAVLD Bacteriology Steering Committee each year. Members of the committee write case histories to go with each sample.
- 5. Panel quality control:** At least two vials of each sample are tested prior to kit assembly. Following assembly but prior to shipment, ten kits or 10% of kits are tested for homogeneity. Three kits are subjected to simulated normal shipping for stability testing. One is tested immediately and two are stored as directed and tested on or after the results due date. One additional kit is subjected to extended stressed shipping conditions, stored, and tested on or after the results due date.
- 6. Timing of the panel distribution and data collection:** The AAVLD Bacteriology Survey is offered annually. It is usually shipped in the late spring or early summer and results are sent to AAVLD in time for them to be presented at the AAVLD/USAHA meeting in the fall.
- 7. Test method:** Laboratories are instructed to test a heavy loopful or 50 microliters of sample per plate or broth. Individual laboratories are free to test this panel by their method of choice. These samples should be treated as normal diagnostic samples would be in the participating laboratory.
- 8. Submitting test results:** Participating laboratories submit their data as instructed in the announcement letter. The AAVLD Bacteriology Committee is responsible for summarizing and presenting results.
- 9. Scoring of individual panel samples:** This panel is not scored. Individual laboratory results are compiled and summarized and the results presented at the AAVLD/USAHA meeting in the fall.
- 10. Laboratory pass/fail criteria:** N/A

**11. Reporting laboratory test scores:** N/A

**12. Remedial actions required for failing laboratories:** N/A.

**13. Special requirements:** A valid USDA transport permit is required to receive the panel. The permit is form 16-6A, United States Veterinary Permit for Importation and Transportation of Controlled Materials and Organisms and Vectors. If you do not have a permit you can apply for one at <https://epermits.aphis.usda.gov>. It can take several weeks to receive your permit so apply early. A copy of the permit must be provided to NVSL prior to shipment.