THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

VPDS

CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS
2026-2027
Veterinary Pathology Diagnostic Services
Sydney & KHH

Dear staff and clients: November 10th, 2026

On behalf of the VPDS Sydney team, thank you for your continued support throughout the year. The cases you submit play a key role in strengthening our DVM and resident training programs.

We'd like to share our service arrangements as we approach the Christmas and New Year period. The **University of Sydney will be closed from Monday 21 December 2026, to Monday, 4 January 2027 (both dates inclusive)**, and most VPDS and KHH services will resume from that date.

The **VPDS Lab operates Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm**. Please keep these hours in mind when submitting samples, either by post or in person.

Sample receipt cut-off dates vary by department and are listed in the table below.
All services will resume sample receipt from Tuesday 5, January 2026.

Please get in touch with the lab if you have questions regarding the submission of samples before Thursday, 17th December 2026.

For further information, please visit the VPDS website, vpds.sydney.edu.au/

Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2027!

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Laboratory Manager VPDS

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Service	Final Date for Sample Receipt	Important Information
Koala Health Hub – KoRV & Chlamydia Testing	**Wednesday 16 December**	*Results issued by 18 December. Samples collected during the closure period should be frozen and submitted after reopening on **5 January 2027**.*
Anatomical Pathology – Biopsies (Unfixed Specimens)	**Thursday 10 December**	*Samples received after the cut-off may not be reported until **January 2027**.*
Anatomical Pathology – Biopsies (Fixed Specimens)	**Friday 11 December, 12:00 pm**	*Samples received after the cut-off will not be reported until **January 2027**.*
Anatomical Pathology – Immunohistochemistry (including FIP IHC)	**Wednesday 9 December**	
Post-Mortems **(By Appointment Only)**	**Wednesday 9 December, 12:00 pm**	*Confirm with laboratory staff prior to submission. Legal PM cases are currently unavailable. Gross reports cannot be guaranteed before year-end for cases submitted after 8 December. Final histopathology reports for PM cases submitted in November and December may not be issued until 2027.*
Microbiology – Culture & Sensitivity	**Friday 11 December, 12:00 pm**	*Cut-off allows a minimum 5-day incubation period for fungal and difficult samples.*
FIP Testing – Immunofluorescence (Fluid Samples), LCATs & Lateral Flow Tests	**Friday 11 December, 12:00 pm**	***Urgent samples after Cut-off:** please contact the laboratory in advance to make arrangements.*
Cytology	**Thursday 17 December**	
Clinical Pathology – Haematology, Biochemistry & Urinalysis	**Wednesday 16 December**	*UVTHS urgent samples can be received until **12:30 pm Thursday 17 December**.*
Molecular Diagnostics – Routine Testing	**Friday 11 December**	
Molecular Diagnostics – Samples Requiring Sequencing	**Friday 4 December**	*Required to allow sufficient time for external sequencing.*
Parasitology – Identification, Flotation & Baermann	**Friday 11 December, 12:00 pm**	
Toxoplasma / Neospora	**Friday 11 December, 12:00 pm**	***Urgent samples after Cut-off:** please contact the laboratory in advance to make arrangements.*

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