



Specialist Drug Monitoring Service

As a veterinary professional you will know the importance of regular drug monitoring for your patients. NationWide Specialist Laboratories offer the following monitoring services to our practices:-

Cyclosporine - Same day turnaround

We use an accurate methodology specifically tailored for veterinary samples. Sample requirement EDTA whole blood. Weekly to bi-weekly monitoring is recommended for critical patients and then monthly for the first few months of therapy until concentrations have stabilised. Three to six monthly sampling is recommended for long term maintenance.

Potassium Bromide (KBr)

Fully validated against Mass Spectroscopy. Serum sample (non-gel tube) taken any time post dosing. Care should be taken to avoid either haemolysis or lipaemia as these can falsely raise KBr results. If possible a separated serum sample should be submitted. Serum levels of potassium bromide may take at least 125 days to stabilise due to the long half life of the drug. For patients on regular dosage the first monitoring sample should be taken approximately one month into treatment followed by samples taken on a six monthly basis.

Levetiracetam (LEV) (KEPPRA®)

Serum sample in a non gel tube. Sample volume 0.3mLs separated serum. Same day turn around. Can be administered in addition to KBr and PHE in dogs where seizures are difficult to control using just a combination of KBr and PHE.

Phenobarbitone (PHE)

Serum sample in a non gel tube. Sample volume 0.3mLs separated serum. Same day turn around. Phenobarbitone should be given for approximately 2–3 weeks to allow for serum levels to stabilise. Monitoring should be assessed 8–12 hours post treatment. Peak levels occur about 5 hours post treatment.

Monitoring Summary

Test	Sample Type & Volume
CYCLOSPORINE	1.0mLs EDTA Whole Blood
POTASSIUM BROMIDE (KBr)	0.3mLs Separated Serum
KBr plus (KBr, urea, creatinine, phosphorus)	0.3mLs Separated Serum
PHENOBARBITONE (PHE)	0.3mLs Separated Serum
PHE and KBr	0.3mLs Separated Serum
LEVETIRACETAM (LEV)	0.5mLs Separated Serum
LEV/KBr/PHE	1.0mLs Separated Serum

For further information contact
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