



Friesian Research Sample Protocol

Megaesophagus, Gastroparesis and Connective Tissue Disease

All Horses

- **Hair Sample:** Pull two hair samples of 30-50 hairs each from the mane or tail, pulling 5-10 hairs at a time. Ensure the majority of pulled hairs have a bulb or follicle at the end. Do not use shed hairs (from brush, comb, etc.). Align the bulb ends of the pulled hairs, then trim the other end so the sample is 3-4 inches long. Tape the hair samples on a note card or piece of paper, and do not tape over the follicles. Place the hair card in an envelope labeled with the horse's name. Do not place hair in a plastic bag or let plastic come in contact with the hair.

Living Horses

- **Blood Sample:** Draw two 10-12 ml blood tubes with EDTA (purple top) anticoagulant and label with the horse's name. If the blood cannot be shipped immediately, it may be refrigerated and shipped within 3 days of collection.

Deceased or Euthanized Horses

- **Histology:** Follow the research histology protocol for all horses, regardless of necropsy findings: https://www.fenwayfoundation.com/files/ugd/588c21_591b64d7c80f4856af2aa96baffda6d.pdf
- **Tissue Sample:** (Only if blood cannot be drawn prior to death or euthanasia). If the horse is deceased or has been euthanized before a blood sample could be drawn, and the body condition has not deteriorated, collect a small piece of tissue from the chest muscle in a leak-proof container. **Do not freeze or suspend in formalin.** Immediately refrigerate until shipping. If the body is deteriorated, include only the hair sample.

Required Documents

- **Research Consent Form:** Owner/agent must sign and submit the Research Consent form with the samples or via email to angie@fenwayfoundation.com.
- **Medical Documents:** Owner/agent or veterinarian must submit a veterinary diagnostic or necropsy report with the samples or via email to angie@fenwayfoundation.com.

Reimbursement

- The Fenway Foundation reimburses research sample collection, necropsy, histology, and shipping charges associated with research cases. Please submit a copy of your detailed receipt/invoice to angie@fenwayfoundation.com if you wish to be reimbursed.

Shipping Instructions & Address

- Notify us prior to shipping any samples at (920) 757-0877 or angie@fenwayfoundation.com.
- Ship on cold packs only.
- Blood must be shipped in a leak-proof container. If you don't have blood tube shippers, put the tubes in a plastic bag and wrap and pack them as you would for any glass item to prevent breakage.
- If you are shipping a tissue sample or if the temperature outside is above 80°F (27°C), please include a cool pack. If shipping hair only, no cool pack is needed.
- **Ship all blood samples via overnight service.**
- **Do not ship any blood samples with a weekend arrival.**

Shipping Addresses

North America

Dr. Kathryn Graves
Animal Genetic Testing
108 Gluck Equine Research Center
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40546-0099
(859) 218-1193
ktgraves@uky.edu

Netherlands & EU

Ing. B. W. Dibbits
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Research Consent Form

Fenway Foundation for Friesian Horses
N3398 State Road 76
Hortonville, WI, 54944
(920) 757-0877

STUDY: Megaesophagus, Gastroparesis, and Connective Tissue Disease in Friesian Horses

Horse Registered Name _____

Owner Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

I certify that I am the owner/agent of the above horse and that I voluntarily submit material from this animal to be used for the purpose of research. I understand that I shall have no claim to monetary compensation should use of this sample result in commercial testing applications. Confidentiality will be strictly maintained for all submitted samples.

X _____ Date: _____