

University of Vermont
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
Approved 01/24/11

Testing of Biological Materials

Cell cultures and other biological products can be infected with a variety of human and/or murine viral pathogens. These pathogens constitute a risk to the biosecurity of UVM research animal colonies and potentially to human personnel. In addition, undetected viral contamination of cell lines may alter research results and negate the value of animal studies.

In order to minimize the risk of introducing murine pathogens into the research animal population, investigators who inject biological agents, such as cell lines, hybridomas or tumor cells, or products originating from these cell cultures, must submit those agents or products for testing by an approved diagnostic laboratory. A copy of the test result assuring that product is free of the relevant murine pathogens must be submitted to the Office of Animal Care Management prior to injecting the product into animals. For cell lines which are obtained from a vendor or a collaborator, a copy of test results assuring pathogen-free status may be submitted in lieu of a new test and will be reviewed by the University Veterinarian.

For murine-origin lines, the following laboratories and tests are acceptable:

RADIL (University of Missouri), IMPACT test
Taconic Laboratories (Frederick, MD), RapidMAP-21 test
Charles River Laboratories (Wilmington, MA), Mouse Essential PCR Panel

The cost of this testing will be borne by the laboratory.