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# Neuropathic Hydrocephalus Frequently Asked Questions

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## **When will the Neuropathic Hydrocephalus (NH) test be available to producers?**

Pfizer Animal Genetics is now accepting samples for NH testing. Testing will be conducted at our new state-of-the-art facility in Kalamazoo, Michigan, which has been approved by the American Angus Association as an official NH testing laboratory.

## **What steps have been taken to ensure I get test results back in a timely manner?**

Through the move of our testing lab to Kalamazoo, as well as the establishment of strict process protocols, the time required to process DNA samples and provide results back to our customers is likely to be improved. Every effort will be made to process your order and respond back to you with results in a timely fashion.

## **What is the typical turnaround time from sample submission to results?**

Customers can expect results in four weeks or less once they have submitted samples and the appropriate order forms are in our possession.

## **What is the preferred sampling method?**

DNA samples collected as hair follicles, semen, blood FTA® cards or blood tubes are accepted. When sending in hair samples, please make sure at least 25 hair follicles are included (with bulb at the end of the hair intact) to ensure a representative sample. Producers should provide samples in a form that best suits their management and animal-handling process. If you have the option of collecting samples in any of the above forms, hair follicles are the preferred sampling method. It is possible that tests run on blood tube samples may take longer to process. A sample collection guide is available on [www.pfizeranimalgenetics.com](http://www.pfizeranimalgenetics.com).

## **Can blood cards provided by the American Angus Association (AAA) be used for submitting samples?**

Yes. Producers using this sample method should leave the space for the barcode blank, but complete information for tattoo and registration numbers.

## **How do I submit a sample?**

Once a sample has been collected, complete a Test Request Form and a Sample Information Form. These forms can be found at [www.pfizeranimalgenetics.com](http://www.pfizeranimalgenetics.com) or by calling Pfizer Animal Genetics Customer Service at 1-877-BEEF DNA (1-877-233-3362). Please send these forms along with the sample(s) to Pfizer Animal Genetics, 333 Portage Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49007. Or forms can be sent electronically, separate from the sample, to [pahgenetics.us@pfizer.com](mailto:pahgenetics.us@pfizer.com).

## **I have already submitted samples for GeneSTAR® and AM testing. Can these be used for NH testing?**

In most cases, samples already on file may be used for NH testing. If a new DNA sample is required, a Pfizer Animal Genetics Customer Service representative will contact you.

## **Can my samples submitted for NH be run for parentage and GeneSTAR tests?**

If a sufficient supply of DNA is available after NH testing is completed, then samples submitted for NH could also be tested for parentage and GeneSTAR results. If you choose to have samples analyzed for parentage and GeneSTAR, please indicate as such on the order form accompanying the DNA samples.

## **If I run a parentage test will it be recognized by my breed association?**

Pfizer will provide parentage test results to the breed association when authorized to do so by the breeder providing the DNA sample. Please be sure to complete this section on the prerelease order form if you would like results submitted to your breed association.

## **I have GeneSTAR MVP™ and Arthrogryposis Multiplex (AM) samples ready to be sent in. Will there be a package that includes these tests along with NH testing?**

The latest information on pricing and special offers can be found on the order form and on our Web site at [www.pfizeranimalgenetics.com](http://www.pfizeranimalgenetics.com).

## **Who owns the DNA samples and results?**

The person submitting samples pays for the test and owns the results. When samples are sent to Pfizer Animal Genetics, producers can indicate on the order form whether they wish results to be made public. Pfizer Animal Genetics will not release private results to anyone unless authorized to do so by the customer submitting the DNA sample.

## **Will Pfizer Animal Genetics run an NH test on an animal that does not have a registration number?**

Pfizer Animal Genetics will run a test on any animal submitted. For example, if a customer wishes to submit a sample from a calf prior to it being registered and have that result recognized by the Association, the customer must submit the following at the time of testing:

1. Tattoo number
2. Birth date
3. Sex
4. Sire breed and registration number
5. Dam breed and registration number
6. Breed association member number

## **Will Pfizer Animal Genetics release an official listing of NH-tested cattle, or will the official list be made public by the AAA?**

An "official list" of NH-tested animals as approved by the AAA is available at [www.angus.org/nh\\_info.html](http://www.angus.org/nh_info.html).

## **How much will the NH test cost?**

Costs for testing animals for NH are as follows:

NH test only (if previously tested for AM)

- 1–5: \$23
- 6–49: \$19
- 50–249: \$17.50
- 250+: \$16

NH test only (for all new samples)

- 1–5: \$25
- 6–49: \$21
- 50–249: \$19
- 250+: \$17

NH and AM Combined (for all new samples)

- 1–5: \$39.50
- 6–49: \$36
- 50–249: \$33
- 250+: \$30

## **Will I receive a credit for future testing as we did for AM testing?**

For each animal tested for NH before September 30, 2009, you will earn a \$10 credit towards future GeneSTAR® MVP™ testing. These credits must be redeemed before December 15, 2009. GeneSTAR MVPs are molecular value predictions for the economically relevant traits of feed efficiency, marbling and tenderness. NH credits may not be combined with other credits, and one animal may be tested per credit.