

Instructions for collecting a sample for microbiome analysis

Sample kit

We will send you a sampling kit after you place an online order for microbiome testing at www.genomia.cz. The sampling kit is included in the price of the test and contains:

- a sterile Copan eNAT tube with a cap, which contains a special transport medium designed to stabilize and protect DNA and RNA in samples
- a FLOQSwabs sampling swab
- an envelope with a return address

Step-by-step sampling

Sampling is simple and does not require a veterinarian.

1. Wash your hands thoroughly before starting the sampling process. You can also use protective gloves.
2. Check that the packaging is intact, within the warranty period, and shows no signs of damage or contamination.
3. Remove the test tube and swab from the sterile packaging.
4. The tip of the swab must be dry and sterile. Do not touch it or place it on any surface before collection.
5. Take a sample of the anal mucosa behind the anal sphincter (approx. 3–5 cm deep, depending on the size of the animal). Gently rotate the swab against the rectal wall, ideally for 5–10 seconds. The sample should be taken from the mucosa, not just from the feces.
6. Immediately place the swab with the collected material into the tube, break it at the marked break point, and close the cap tightly.
7. Label the tube with the unique identification of the animal being tested (sample number, if assigned; animal name; microchip...).

Sending the sample

1. Wrap the test tube in a napkin to protect it from impact and prevent it from breaking.
2. Place the test tube in a plastic bag and label it with the unique identification number of the animal being tested.
3. Place the wrapped test tube in the enclosed envelope and send it to the laboratory address: Genomia, Republikánská 6, 312 00 Plzeň
4. The sample can be transported and stored at room temperature (2–25°C) for up to 4 weeks