



# Health Monitoring Services

Animal health and welfare is a concern to you. A thorough evaluation provides the information you need to ensure that your colonies' health meets facility and research standards. We offer Health Monitoring (HM) for both routine surveillance of rodent and rabbit colonies and for diagnosis of disease. Services included as part of our HM Protocols are as follows:

## Pathology

A thorough postmortem gross examination is performed. Any gross abnormalities are noted and collected for histological evaluation by a board-certified veterinary pathologist.

## Serology

The testing of serum for the detection of antibodies to viruses, and selected bacteria and protozoa. Our primary methodology for serologic testing is the Multiplexed Fluorometric ImmunoAssay<sup>®</sup> (MFA<sup>®</sup>).

## Microbiology

The collection and screening of respiratory and enteric cultures for a selected group of bacteria that are considered to be important opportunistic pathogens. Identification methods include API<sup>®</sup> and Vitek<sup>®</sup>.

## Parasitology

Fur and skin are examined under magnification for detection and identification of ectoparasites. Phase contrast microscopy is used to detect enteric protozoa while direct examination of the intestinal tract for helminths is performed. Fecal concentration is used as a confirmatory test for helminth eggs and enteric protozoa.

## Infectious Disease PCR Testing

Our HM Basic Protocol for immunodeficient mice includes TaqMan<sup>®</sup> PCR assays for *Pneumocystis* and *Corynebacterium bovis*. Other PCR tests (e.g., *Helicobacter*) can be added to any protocol upon request.

## Species Tested

- Mouse
- Rat
- Gerbil
- Hamster
- Guinea Pig
- Rabbit
- Other

## Comprehensive Protocols

We offer several levels of HM testing designed for immunocompetent and immunodeficient animals; please view our current catalog for details. We also offer customized protocols and protocols designed to meet FELASA recommendations.

## Health Monitoring Submission

In the interest of animal welfare, all live animal submissions must be scheduled in advance by contacting Charles River.

**To request free shipping materials or a cost estimate, visit us online at [www.criver.com/info/quotes](http://www.criver.com/info/quotes).**