SOP No: ATT 018

SUBJECT: Nasal or nasopharyngeal sampling in Ruminants using swabs (April 2015)

POLICY: This procedure may only be performed by, or under the supervision of operators skilled in the technique

PRECAUTIONS: Restraint of the animal is necessary for the procedure, for cattle this is ideally a crush with a headlock or in the case of smaller ruminants this may be achieved by manual restraint in the standing position.

EQUIPMENT: Viral or bacterial culturette, or Cotton swabs on a 15 to 20 cm (approximate) stick (or similar collection equipment) Nasopharyngeal swab or guarded culturette (or similar) Viral and/or bacterial transport media Halter

PROCEDURE: 1. Restraint: The animal is restrained using methods appropriate for its size and demeanour. A halter may be used to control the head. The gross contamination of the nostril and external nares is removed.

2. Culturette sampling: The swab is inserted into the nostril to as deep a depth as possible. The tip of the swab is rubbed several times back and forth against the nasal mucosa. The swab is removed and the sample processed.

3. Nasopharyngeal swab sampling: The swab is inserted into the nostril to as deep a depth as possible. The tip of the swab is rubbed several times back and forth against the nasal mucosa. The swab is removed and the sample processed.

Samples should be transferred to the appropriate sample containers and delivered to the laboratory as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Results of sample analysis will determine the recommendations.

DATE APPROVED: April 2009

15.04.2015

REFERENCES