<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VDL Lab Section</th>
<th>General Sample Retention Policy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bacteriology</td>
<td>Submitted samples are retained for approximately two weeks from the date they are received. Significant isolates are stored for 12 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electron Microscopy</td>
<td>Samples submitted for negative staining will be retained for 3 days at 4 degrees Celsius, processed samples on grids will be retained for 5 weeks at room temperature.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Samples submitted for Ultrastructural diagnoses will be processed and retained in resin blocks along with corresponding semi-thin sections and thin sections for 5 years at room temperature.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Histology</td>
<td>Fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue samples, and the corresponding stained micro slides are retained for 5 years at room temperature.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immunohistochemistry</td>
<td>Fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue samples, and the corresponding stained micro slides are retained for 5 years at room temperature. Exception: Samples submitted for CWD testing and testing negative are retained for 3 years at room temperature. Samples testing positive for CWD are forwarded to the NVSL/USDA Laboratory in Ames, IA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udder Health</td>
<td>All submitted samples are retained for two weeks from the date received.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory</td>
<td>Avian serology samples are retained for 7 days after completion of testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>Retention Details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Molecular Diagnostics</td>
<td>Tissue samples are retained for two years. All other original material is kept for two weeks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Necropsy</td>
<td><strong>Fresh tissues:</strong> various specimens, selected at the discretion of the pathologist, may be retained in refrigeration for 10 days. <strong>Fixed tissues:</strong> retained for 20 days. <strong>Large animal remains:</strong> ordinarily will not be held after necropsy, but if requested, will be held no more than 15 days. <strong>Companion animals and horses:</strong> see the information on handling of animal remains in our necropsy guidelines.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parasitology</td>
<td>Samples are retained for 7 days after submission.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serology</td>
<td>Serum samples are retained for 30 days after completion of testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virology</td>
<td>All tissue/serum/swab samples that have requests for virus isolation are stored for 2 years. Samples that are positive in virus isolation are stored indefinitely.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** If longer retention time is desired by the specimen submitter, special arrangements may be possible by contacting the laboratory. See also [http://www.cvm.umn.edu/iar/](http://www.cvm.umn.edu/iar/)