

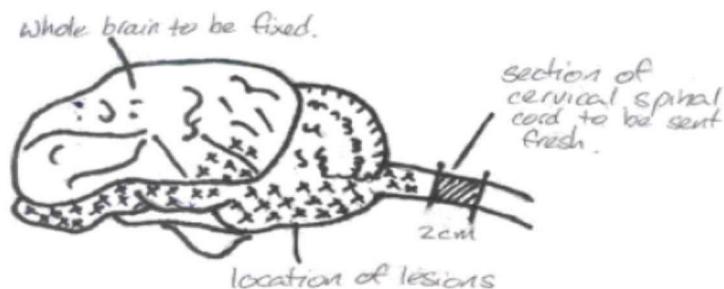
TSE Surveillance - Specimen preparation guideline

To enable accurate screening for potential TSE infection as well as histological examination of the brain, it is critical to follow the following specifications:

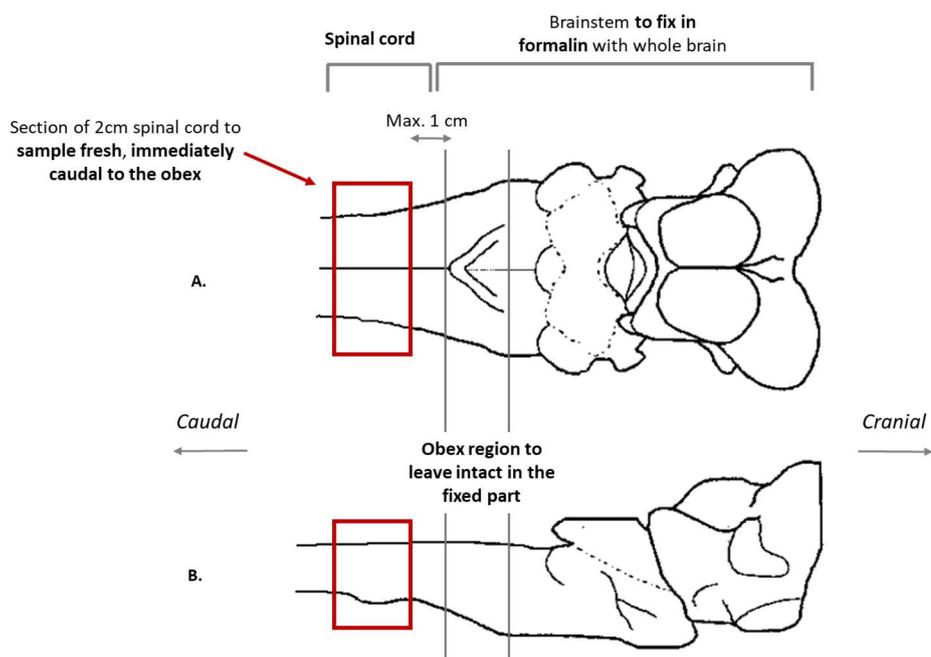
Please **do not submit the whole head** to the lab. Submitting the whole head will incur a penalty in the amount of the incentive.

The specimen to collect are

1. **Fixed whole brain** in 10% formol saline, including the brainstem with intact obex region,
2. **Fresh 2 cm length of cervical spinal cord** severed within 1 cm caudal to the obex. Sufficient fresh material can usually be obtained by severing the cord as far back from the brain as possible when removing the head from the atlas. The piece of cervical cord can then be cut from the medulla before the brain is fixed. Please make sure that the obex region remains intact for fixation with the whole brain.



The fresh spinal cord will be used for TSE screening while the whole brain will be used for histopathological examination of the brain and potential confirmatory testing.



Brainstem and spinal cord, view after removal of the cerebellum, from A. dorsal and B. lateral aspects