SAMPLE COLLECTION:

CEREBROSPINAL FLUID

CONSIDERATIONS:

• Preferred euthanasia methods are electrocution, euthanasia solution, and CO₂.
• Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) must be collected prior to necropsy.
• Use personal protective equipment.
• Use sterile supplies to avoid sample contamination.
• Label samples with permanent marker.

SUPPLIES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>□ Knife</th>
<th>□ Cooler and icepacks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ 3 mL syringe</td>
<td>□ Submission form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 1.5” x 20 G needle</td>
<td>□ Permanent marker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Sampling tube</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Place the pig on its chest (sternal recumbency).
2. Using a clean knife, cut and remove the skin from the middle of the neck to just in front of the pig’s ears on the top of the head.
3. Flex the head downward at a 45-degree angle to expose the joint between the skull and first cervical vertebrae (atlanto-occipital joint).
4. With the bevel pointing upward, direct the needle and syringe at a 45-degree angle into the space. A slight “pop” may be felt when entering the space.
5. Slowly draw back on the syringe and collect up to 3 mL of CSF to avoid drawing blood and compromising sample quality. A clear-to-yellow fluid should flow easily.
6. Place the CSF into a labeled, sterile tube. Promptly refrigerate samples for shipment and submit to a veterinary diagnostic laboratory.