



ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR ATTENDING VETERINARIANS

Zoo veterinarians are encouraged to include foreign or emerging diseases in their differential diagnoses. If suspicion is high for a foreign animal disease, the State Veterinarian or U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) should be notified as soon as possible.

Depending on the suspected disease, the facility or a government Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician (FADD) may submit appropriate samples to a state laboratory within the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN). If confirmation is required (as with all foreign animal diseases) the sample will be forwarded to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) or the Plum Island Animal Disease Center (PIADC).

All collection animals that die in a zoo should receive a complete necropsy. This helps check on the disease status of the zoo's animal collection. If lesions consistent with high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) are present, appropriate samples for additional diagnostic testing should be collected (e.g. affected tissue, tissue fluid, serum) if possible. The state animal health official/State Veterinarian and USDA Area-Veterinarian-in-Charge should be notified of suspect cases.