

RESULTS

How quickly will results be available?

Designated laboratories undertake to report 95% of results within 7 working days with an average turnaround of 5 days or less. In practice, many results are reported more rapidly. The results will then be transmitted to AHWNI, linked to APHIS and sent by text directly to the farmer where AHWNI has their mobile number.

Why are the results going to AHWNI and not the farmer in the first instance?

One of the challenges of a national eradication programme is the handling and coordination of all the test data that will be generated. Experience in other countries has shown that the use of a central database for handling results is highly beneficial for the efficient delivery of the programme.

In addition, the use of a central database reduces the workload for the diagnostic labs and therefore the cost associated with testing. The AHWNI database is ideally placed to provide this, with interactions with DAERA's systems allowing results to be transferred, the movement of PI animals to be controlled and the facility to identify the mothers of virus positive calves and to monitor the progress of the programme over time.

I have received a positive result for a strong, apparently healthy calf- is it definitely a PI?

Many PI calves can be deceptively healthy looking in early life but will generally deteriorate as they grow older. You have an option to do a re-test three to four weeks after the initial sample was taken to clarify the calf's status, with a second positive result confirming it as PI. A negative result on a re-test is typically due to the calf having been transiently infected (TI) with BVD virus when the first sample was collected. Even when apparently healthy, PI calves represent a significant risk of infection to other animals in your and neighbouring herds and you are advised to isolate them prior to confirmatory testing and to cull them as soon as possible after confirmation of PI status.

Are the results of all BVD testing transferred to the AHWNI database?

The criteria by which laboratories are designated for provision of test results for the BVD eradication programme requires them to forward without delay the results of all BVD tests relating to animals born after 1st March 2016 to the AHWNI database. BVD test results from other animals can be uploaded to the database provided they have been tested by an approved lab using an approved method, that the sample is identified with the full tag number of the animal and that the herdowner has given the necessary data sharing permission.

How do I access my BVD results via AHWNI Database?

In order for a herd owner to access their BVD results online, go to <http://www.animalhealthni.com>

and click on the  button. Enter your Government Gateway ID (issued by DAERA) and password in the appropriate box to log into the AHWNI results database. If a herdowner requires assistance with finding these log in details, they should contact the DAERA helpline on 03002007855. It is possible for a herdowner to view all of their testing results and print negative results declarations from within the AHWNI database.