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Which test for an infectious agent? When?

Grant Maxie, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACVP

We offer an array of tests for detecting infectious agents - either the agent itself (**agent or antigen detection**), or the body's reaction to the agent (**antibody detection**). Although this spectrum of tests is designed to uncover the various facets of an infectious disease, it can at times be bewildering. We hope that, in concert with the AHL User's Guide, the AHL Fee Schedule will be of assistance in finding the right test and submitting the right sample taken at the right time.

Below is a graphical overview of the usual course of an infectious disease, which gives some insight into test selection:

