



Canine reference ranges, interpretive reports and recommendations are based upon hair properly sampled according to the directions specified below.

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- **LOCATION:** The sample should be taken in small portions from several areas behind the dog's head above the shoulders. (see figure above).
 - **LENGTH:** Cut hair as close to the skin as possible. The length of hair submitted should not exceed 1 ½ inches. Retain the proximal portion (closest to skin) as it reflects the most recent metabolic activity and discard the distal portion.
 - **AMOUNT:** The amount of hair necessary for an accurate elemental assay is 125 mg, or about one tablespoon full.
 - **SCISSORS:** Use of plated scissors (even new) will contaminate hair specimen with many of the metallic elements. Sampling scissors should be high grade stainless steel or plastic to avoid micro contamination of the hair. This factor cannot be emphasized enough in order to avoid reporting inaccurate test results.