

Asure Test, Inc.

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Legal Newsletter

Compassion

Integrity

Guidance

DNA PATERNITY TESTING

Asure Test, Inc. strives to provide the most accurate and confidential DNA Paternity Testing available.

Our office provides a safe and comfortable setting with toys and minimal waiting time. In most cases, we are able to schedule appointments the same day.

Most DNA Paternity Tests are completed within three business days.

For example, if all the parties are tested on Monday, their test results will be back before the next weekend.

Complicated situations are made easy with one phone call to our office. Even if donors are in different states or countries, we can coordinate all testing and take care of all the details.

DNA PRENATAL PATERNITY TESTS

A prenatal paternity test can now be done anytime after nine weeks of gestation and does not have the risks that prior tests had.

Previously, the only way to determine who the alleged father was, prior to delivery, involved an invasive procedure such as an amniocentesis. This procedure posed risks to both the mother and baby.

Now, a simple blood test from the mother and alleged father, can be used to determine paternity prior to delivery.

This test cuts off months of waiting so questions such as who's name should be on the birth certificate and who may want to be present at the delivery are answered; allowing all parties to know well in advance who the father of the child is.

The accuracy of this test is the same as a standard DNA paternity test and is court defensible, however, it cannot be done on alleged fathers who are brothers or close relatives. This test is also expensive so if there are two or more alleged fathers, it is best to test them all at the same time as testing other alleged fathers at a later date can incur significant costs.

DRUG TESTS AVAILABLE FOR HAIR AND NAILS

Standard Hair/Nail Test

Marijuana
Opiates (also includes Heroin)
Cocaine
Amphetamines (also includes Meth)
Phencyclidine (PCP)

Standard Hair/Nail Test + Synthetic Opiates (also called Extended Opiates)

This test tests for the drugs listed above plus:

Oxycodone,
Hydrocodone
Hydromorphone

Multiple Hair/Nail Drug Testing Panels

While a standard 5 or 10 panel drug test picks up many prescription medications, neither of these panels will pick up the synthetic opiates mentioned above nor will they pick up a host of other prescription medications.

The multiple drug test panels range from 7 to 15 drug panels. It is important to call first to find out if the panel ordered contains the substances you want to test for.

HAIR TESTS FOR DRUGS

Head hair grows approximately ½ inch per month and shows a history of abuse. A standard head hair test will go back 90 days (3 months) if the length of the head hair is 1½ inches long.

However, if the length of the hair specimen is shorter, the time period of detection will also be shorter.

Always pay attention to the hair length printed on the final result.

For example, if the length of the hair is ½ inch, it will only show drug usage back 30 days (one month) not 90 days (3 months).

SEGMENTED HEAD HAIR TESTS

If a donor's head hair is of sufficient length, it can be divided into segments which can show drug usage as far back as one year.

Sometimes the first section of a hair test representing 90 days (3 months) is negative for drugs while the second section of a hair test representing 91 –180 days (3 to 6 months) is positive.

STANDARD BODY HAIR TESTS

Body hair grows differently than head hair. Consequently, it is hard to tie down an exact time period of abuse. Body hair could possibly show abuse up to one year.

We do not do body hair tests on women.

NAIL TESTS FOR DRUGS

Nail tests for drugs continue to be the best way of preventing adulteration. It is almost like the nails "cement in" the drugs.

Nail testing does present problems in that nails have to be a certain length to provide a sufficient weight needed for testing.

Asure Test, Inc. encourages the

measuring of nails at the time the court order is written. Either all fingernails or all toe nails should be tested in order to have a more accurate record of the time frame in which the drugs were ingested.

A regular ruler can be used to measure millimeters. They are the small lines printed opposite the inch marks on a ruler.

When the donor arrives at our office, we measure his/her nails before any testing is started. If each toenail or each fingernail does not measure 2 mm in length, then the donor will be sent home with a letter stating that it will take at least three

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WWW.ASURETEST.COM

weeks for adequate nail growth. If the nails are very short, even more time for growth is needed.

Because the majority of people who are having a nail test have shorter nails, the time frame of drug usage will average 3 to 6 months for fingernails and up to 12 months for toenails.

NAIL EtG TESTS

It is possible to now detect alcohol usage in nail tests with the ethyl glucuronide (EtG) test. Unlike drugs, alcohol usage can only be detected back three months in nails and testing can only be done on fingernails.

Only multiple rapid drinks at one sitting, consumed on more than one occasion, will raise the blood alcohol level enough to show up in a nail test.

The behavior described above will need to be repeated fairly frequently to have a positive EtG test, consequently, this is not a test to show occasional social drinking or whether a person consumed alcohol at all.

URINE EtG TEST

The ethyl glucuronide (EtG) urine alcohol test can show alcohol usage for a longer period of time than a standard urine alcohol test.

The EtG urine alcohol test can

detect ingestion of alcohol during the previous 72 hours. Testing on a regular basis using the EtG urine alcohol test can assure that no time period is uncovered where the donor has had the opportunity to abuse alcohol.

OBSERVED COLLECTIONS

As testing laboratories become more sophisticated and better at what they do, so do the individuals who try to beat the test. It doesn't matter how good the test is if you aren't testing the right person or the right person is identified but then substitutes or adulterates the urine test behind the closed door of the restroom.

To avoid these questions, we recommend observed collections on all urine tests.

We appreciate the dedication of judges, attorneys and their staff in diligently looking into how best to provide a safe environment for a child.

While parents initially are upset and resistant to admitting there is a problem, once drug or alcohol abuse is determined, it becomes the first step in the recovery process which has a direct impact on the future of the child.

All of us here at Asure Test Inc. feel privileged to be a part of this process.

We employ strict chain-of-custody procedures which include the identification of the donor by a government issued picture ID and having the donor seal and initial his/her specimen in the presence of the collector.

An observed collection ensures the urine specimen is from the donor and not substituted.

PAYMENTS

Payments can be accepted over the phone via VISA or MasterCard. Therefore, one person can call in to pay for another.

We also accept cash, check and charge card payments at the time of the collection.

COURT ORDERS

We have listened to your suggestions for our court order and hope it helps you to order the exact test you need for your client.

This court order is now available in a PDF format.

Please fax court orders to our office at (636) 916-5471 as soon as possible so we can set up the correct testing for your clients.

PLEASE CALL TO SCHEDULE THE FOLLOWING TESTS

- DNA Paternity Testing
- Hair Drug Testing
- EtG Urine & Nail Alcohol Tests
- Nail Drug Testing
- Steroid Testing
- Observed Collections

HINTS FOR TESTING

- Fax Court orders immediately to our office so we know what tests to do and who will be responsible for payments. FAX 636-915-5471
- Be sure your client has photo identification (driver's license, passport or state ID).
- Require clients to go directly from court to our facility for testing.
- To ensure that the final test results are not tampered with, insist that all results be sent directly to your office from Asure Test.
- Payments made by other parties should be on file at Asure Test prior to the client coming in for a test. Charge card payments can be taken over the phone.
- Observed collections illuminate the question, "Did the donor smuggle in a urine sample?" Please schedule in advance and call the day of the collection to be sure a collector of the same gender is available to observe the donor.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Business Affidavits
- Expert Testimony
- On-Site Collections
- Random Programs
- Digital Picture of Donor

Hours of Collection: Monday - Friday (9:00 to 4:00 pm)

After-hours appointments available

The information in this newsletter is for informational purposes only and should not be deemed or construed to be legal advice.