

Road Traffic Act

Independent Analysis of Specimens

This information is intended for any person who is likely to have a sample of their blood and/or urine analysed for alcohol and/or drugs in England or Wales.

The Forensic Capability Network and the National Police Chiefs' Council are unable to advise on individual cases. All enquiries should be directed to the analysts listed within this leaflet.

Introduction

Individuals who are required by the police¹ to provide a specimen of blood or urine will be supplied with part of the specimen, if at the time the specimen is provided, they request part of it.²

This leaflet contains a list of Forensic Service Providers who can analyse blood and/or urine specimens to determine the alcohol and/or drug concentrations in compliance with the Forensic Science Regulator's Code of Practice.

Although this list is regularly reviewed, analytical laboratories and their capabilities can change in between these reviews. Once a copy of this leaflet is printed, it is no longer controlled and may not provide the most up-to-date information.

An online version of this leaflet can be found at **www.fcn.police.uk/forensic-consumables**

The FCN and NPCC accept no legal responsibility or liability for the services, results or advice provided by the forensic service providers listed in this leaflet.

The individual named under each Forensic Service Provider is a contact name. It should not be inferred that this is the person who will carry out the analysis or who will attend court should an expert witness be required. These matters will be decided by the service provider. The analyst will prepare a report and send it to the client. In this report, the analyst will note the circumstances and conditions in which the specimen was received.

¹ Under the Road Traffic Act 1988, the Railways & Transport Safety Act 2003, Road Traffic Offenders Act 1988, Transport and Works Act 1992 or Armed Forces Act 2006

² In the case of individuals that are incapable of giving valid consent for medical reasons, they will subsequently be offered part of the specimen

Procedure for obtaining analysis of blood and urine specimens

1. Choose an appropriate service provider.
2. BEFORE sending your specimen, YOU MUST contact your chosen service provider to find out:
 - a) If they can carry out the testing required.
 - b) How much time is required for the testing.
 - c) How much you will have to pay.
 - The fees charged for analysing blood or urine specimens can vary and payment will be required upfront.
 - If your chosen service provider is not able to do the test, please contact another from the list.
3. **Deliver the specimen to the service provider as soon as possible** either in person or by post in a strong protective package. Your chosen provider should be able to supply you with additional guidance on how to do this. In drug cases, the specimen will need to be delivered to the laboratory in a chilled state. Do NOT send your specimen to the laboratory unless the service provider has agreed to undertake the analysis.

NOTES

- The blood or urine specimen should be kept cool, in a refrigerator (NOT in the freezing compartment) before being sent.
- It is essential that the tamper evident bag that contains your specimen remains unopened. If this is opened, your chosen service provider may decline the specimen on receipt.

Regulation and Accreditation of Analysis

Most forensic testing in England and Wales is subject to the Forensic Science Regulator Act (2021) and the Forensic Science Regulator Code of Practice ('FSR Code'), which applies equally to the prosecution and the defence. Compliance with the FSR Code is a mark of reliability of forensic science in the Criminal Justice System.

For forensic activities such as laboratory testing for drugs and alcohol in blood and urine specimens, the Forensic Science Regulator requires accreditation to the international standard ISO/IEC 17025 to demonstrate compliance with the FSR Code. This accreditation is carried out by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service ('UKAS') which is the national accreditation body for the United Kingdom.

Organisations provided in this leaflet have demonstrated compliance with the FSR Code, have relevant forensic testing activities listed on their UKAS schedule of accreditation, and have processes in place to analyse defence specimens. If you choose to send your specimen to an organisation that is not listed in this leaflet, the results of any testing should be accompanied by a statement of non-compliance with the FSR Code, and this may mean that the admissibility of the evidence is called into question.

List of Current Forensic Service Providers

Analytical Services International Ltd (ASI)



City St. George's, University of London, Cranmer Terrace, LONDON, SW17 0RE



020 8725 2845



info@bioanalytics.co.uk



Dr Lewis Couchman BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD, MRSC Facility and Research Director
Jacqui Dokoupil, Managing Director



UKAS ISO/IEC17025 Accredited Lab number 7641

Analysis for Alcohol in Blood and Urine, alcohol technical defence, and the full panel of Drugs in Blood listed under Section 5A of the Road Traffic Act 1988

Kingston University Enterprise Ltd (KUEL)



Kingston Analytical Services Toxicology (KAST), Kingston University, Penrhyn Road, KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES, KT1 2EE



020 8417 2048



<https://kastforensics.com/our-services/>



Professor J Barker BSc PhD CSci CChem FRSC MCSFS Forensic Toxicology Consultant
J.Barker@kingston.ac.uk



UKAS ISO/IEC17025 Accredited Lab number 23543

Analysis for Alcohol in Blood and Urine, alcohol technical defence, and the full panel of Drugs in Blood listed under Section 5A of the Road Traffic Act 1988

Key Forensic Services Ltd



207B / 207C Cavendish Place, Birchwood Park, WARRINGTON, WA3 6WU



02477 712246



sales@keyforensic.co.uk



UKAS ISO/IEC17025 Accredited Lab number 10308

Analysis for Alcohol in Blood and Urine, alcohol technical defence, and the full panel of Drugs in Blood listed under Section 5A of the Road Traffic Act 1988. Key Forensics are also able to analyse specimens taken under Section 4 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 - please contact them to discuss your requirements.

List of Current Forensic Service Providers (continued)

Orchid Cellmark Ltd (Keith Borer Consultants)



Locard House, Belmont Business Park, DURHAM, DH1 1TW



0191 332 4999



kbc@keithborer.co.uk



Karl Ebejer BSc (Hons), MSc, MRSC, MCSFS, CQP MCQI



Keith Borer Consultants is a division of Orchid Cellmark Ltd

Analytical services provided by Orchid Cellmark Ltd (Trading as Cellmark)

UKAS ISO/IEC17025 Accredited Lab number 2045

Analysis for Alcohol in Blood and Urine, alcohol technical defence, and the full panel of Drugs in Blood listed under Section 5A of the Road Traffic Act 1988. Cellmark Forensic Services are also able to analyse specimens taken under Section 4 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 - please contact them to discuss your requirements.

Other organisations are available which offer advice and may sub-contract testing to the providers named above or arrange testing with a different provider that is not compliant with the Code. As an overall service, this would not be compliant with the Code and therefore these organisations have not been included in this list. If you want to seek the services of an organisation not listed here, please contact your solicitor for further details.