

INTERPRETING HAIR ALCOHOL RESULTS & SUGGESTED PACKAGE OPTIONS

Dr Pascal Kintz - World Leading hair testing expert

In order for the correct interpretation of alcohol tests it is important that the correct hair and blood test is ordered.

The Society of Hair testing state that hair results should never be used in isolation and Dr Pascal Kintz advises blood testing is critical.

When instructing a testing firm it is important they are provided:

- ✓ Hair products used by client
- ✓ Chemical treatments or dyes
- ✓ History of drinking habits
- ✓ Current and recent medication

This information is used to provide an accurate interpretation of the results.

Understanding testing

Cut-Off Levels

An EtG results of below 7pg/mg indicates abstinence, one above 30 pg/mg indicates excessive alcohol abuse.

An FAEE result in a 0-3cm segment below 0.2ng/mg indicates abstinence, one above 0.5ng/mg indicates excessive alcohol abuse. For a 0-6cm segment below 0.4ng/mg indicates abstinence and above 1.0ng/mg indicates excessive alcohol abuse.

EtG Testing limitations

EtG testing is susceptible to false negative results if the donor has chemically treated their hair or involves in excessive washing. If hair products that contain EtG are used then a false positive can occur.

FAEE Testing limitations

FAEE testing is susceptible to false positive results due to the fact that hair sprays and related products containing alcohol affect the concentrations in the hair.

Example Interpretations

Basis of Interpretation

The EtG result is the main test result. The purpose for testing FAEE's in hair and testing blood, is for mutual confirmation of the EtG result. An FAEE result should not be used to overrule at EtG result.

Negative EtG (10pg/mg), negative bloods and positive FAEE (0.85ng/mg).

In accordance with the SoHT and given the fact that a positive FAEE can not rule over a negative EtG unless in exceptional circumstances, combined with negative blood tests - this result would be reported as someone who in the last 3 months has not been an excessive alcohol abuser.

Positive EtG (48pg/mg), positive FBC & CDT, negative LFT and negative FAEE (0.49ng/mg).

These results would be interpreted as either positive or negative depending on the hair products used and medication of the client.

Positive EtG (52pg/mg), positive FBC & CDT, negative LFT and positive FAEE (1.24ng/mg).

These results would be interpreted as either positive for excessive alcohol abuse in the previous 3 months and is a strong result given the mutual confirmation of hair and bloods.

Negative EtG (21pg/mg), negative FBC & CDT, positive LFT and negative FAEE (0.34ng/mg).

These results would be interpreted as no indication of excessive alcohol abuse in the previous 3 months. the positive LFT could be long term damage from drinking or medication.

Which Test to Order

Clients who DO NOT bleach, dye or chemically treat their hair

Hair Test - EtG*
Blood Test - CDT, LFT & FBC
Expert Witness statement
Nurse / Doctor Sample collection

Gold Package - £520 + vat

* for mutual confirmation FAEE testing can also be done with the platinum package

Clients who DO chemically treat their hair

Hair Test - EtG & FAEE Blood Test - CDT, LFT & FBC Expert Witness statement Nurse / Doctor Sample collection

Platinum Package - £625 + vat

To determine Abstinence and/or social drinking vs excessive alcohol abuse

Hair Test - EtG & FAEE
Blood Test - CDT, LFT & FBC
Extended Expert Witness statement
Nurse / Doctor Sample collection

Diamond Package - £695 + vat

Testing can be done over a 0-3cm (average 3 months) or 0-6cm (average 6 months) section of hair.

Please call DNA Worldwide on 01373 800130 or email legal@dna-worldwide.com with any questions.



Dr Pascal Kintz - World renowned father of hair testing, and founder of SoHT is the lead expert for DNA Worldwide cases.