

DNA Analyst Training Laboratory Training Manual

Protocol 2.08
Saliva Stain Indication:
Phadebas Amylase Test



This laboratory protocol (or part thereof) has been provided as an example of a laboratory SOP, courtesy of the Illinois State Police. It has been included for training and example purposes only.

PRESIDENT'S
DNA
INITIATIVE



INTRODUCTION

This test is a preliminary screening test to aid in the identification of saliva.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

NaOH - Sodium Hydroxide - Danger! Corrosive!

PREPARATIONS

Reagents:

Phadebas[®] tablets (Magle Life Sciences,
Cambridge, MA)

0.5 M Sodium hydroxide

INSTRUMENTATION

No Instrumentation Required.

MINIMUM STANDARDS & CONTROLS

A known saliva stain of the same size as the unknown stain. A negative control (reagent blank).

PROCEDURE OR ANALYSIS

1. Place a small piece of the sample material in a 10 x 75 test tube. In a second tube, place an equal-sized piece of known saliva stain as a positive control. In a third tube add no sample (negative control).
2. Add 1.0 ml. H₂O and 1/4 Phadebas[®] tablet to each tube using forceps, not fingers, to handle the tablets.
3. Vortex to mix thoroughly.
4. Incubate at 37°C for 30 minutes.
5. Add 0.25 ml. of 0.5 M sodium hydroxide to each tube to stop the reaction.
6. Centrifuge for 5 minutes.
7. A transparent dark blue supernatant of equal or greater intensity than the positive control is regarded as a positive test for amylase activity, indicative of the presence

of saliva. A blue color that is less intense than the positive control but darker than the negative control is considered inconclusive. This is not a confirmatory test for saliva.

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