



Quality Division Use Only

Quality Tracking #:	2021-051	Classification:	Incident
Non-Conformance Level:	N/A	Section:	Toxicology
Date of Discovery:	08/25/21	Date of Incident:	08/24/21

Forensic Case Number(s), if applicable:	Agency Case Number(s), if applicable:
2020-11076	107854020

Description of Non-conformance:

Due to insufficient volume in the original blood tube, an additional blood tube was sampled for confirmatory analysis. However, the analyst should have selected another blood tube with similar collection date to the original blood tube used for analysis as required per the Toxicology Analytical Manual.

Additional Information/Follow-Up:

Item 002 for this case consisted of nine blood vials: five collected on August 15, 2020 and four on August 16, 2020, according to the labels on the blood vials. Item 002-01, collected on August 15, was initially analyzed. Due to insufficient volume, an additional blood tube, item 002-02 (collected on August 16, 2020) was sampled for amphetamine confirmatory analysis. The analyst discovered this discrepancy in collection dates while discussing with another analyst about their analysis on the same item. After referring to the collection dates of the test tubes, she noted that item 002-02 was not the same day as item 002-01.

The selection of blood tubes for analysis is based on multiple factors such as the sample volume, biological fluid type, tube type, and collection date/time. The selection of blood tubes to proceed with analysis is commonly performed by the analyst completing blood alcohol analysis which is the initial phase/step in the toxicology analytical workflow. It is not a routine practice for the analysts completing confirmatory analysis to select blood tubes for analysis, since this type of analysis is the last phase/step in the toxicology workflow. Although a low volume situation may require the selection of additional blood tubes during this phase, this is not a common occurrence.



Actions Taken:

The Toxicology Analytical Manual v3.6, section 3.7.2 was discussed further with the manager and the procedure and reason for selecting certain items for analysis was clarified. Collection date/time will now be considered in future analyses on instances when another item may need to be analyzed.

The analyst selected another blood tube, item 002-03 which has the same collection day and time as item 002-01 and analyzed it for amphetamine confirmatory analysis.

The selection of blood tubes and the required comment denoting the reason for selecting a particular tube for non-HFSC DWI collection kits was discussed during the section meetings held on August 27,2021 and September 3, 2021.

Summary of Root Cause Analysis:

Note: Incidents are documented for tracking purposes and trend analysis. Root Cause Analysis is not required for incidents.

N/A

Section Manager: Dayong Lee _____

Date: 09/10/21 _____

Division Director: Amy Castillo _____

Date: 09/20/21 _____

Incidents or Corrective Actions that involve the Biology/DNA section are reviewed by the Technical Leader and CODIS Administrator.

Technical Leader: N/A _____

Date: N/A _____

CODIS Administrator: N/A _____

Date: N/A _____

Quality Director: Erika Ziemak _____

Date Closed: 09/21/21 _____