California Department of Justice
Jan Bashinski DNA Laboratory

Buccal DNA Collection Kit Instructions

Specimen Identification Card: Print clearly, in capital letters and in blue or black ink, all of the requested information in the spaces provided on both sides of the Specimen Identification Card. Incomplete or illegible cards will delay processing of the specimens. If requested information is unknown, leave the area blank. Do not write in the “Date Received” or “For DOJ Use Only” areas. Be sure to include a complete SID/CII number. Sign the card where indicated on both sides and have the subject sign where indicated also. Lightly ink the subject’s right thumb and gently roll the thumb across the designated areas on both sides of the card. If the right thumb is not available, please indicate which was used.

Collection of the Buccal Sample:

Print the required CII number (indicated as SID) and name in permanent marker where indicated on the label provided on the handle of the Collector.

Step 1

To protect the sample from contamination use the new pair of gloves provided in each kit. Remove Buccal DNA Collector from package and discard plastic wrapper. Move Slider Cover back (C, in above diagram) if necessary to fully expose the Collection Paper (B).

Step 2

Instruct the subject to hold the Buccal DNA Collector with thumb on the area marked “Thumb” on the back of the Collector. The subject does not need gloves to collect his or her own sample.

Step 3

Instruct the subject to open his or her mouth and place the Collection Paper side flat against inside of cheek.

Step 4

With Collection Paper pressed against inside of cheek, ask subject to drag it firmly toward lips and out of the mouth. This causes a bulge that can be observed during the collection. (This motion is similar to the “popping” of the cheek with a finger that children do.)

Step 5

Repeat this action 7 more times. DO NOT rub Collector back and forth against cheek. It is not a toothbrush. Note: It is important for collection personnel to observe subject pressing Collection Paper flat against cheek and dragging it across and bulging the cheek out during collection.

Step 6

Close the Slider Cover towards the tip of the Collector, covering the Collection Paper. To avoid sample contamination, DO NOT touch Collection Paper with your hand. Ensure collector is properly labeled with the correct individual’s SID/CII and name on the collector label (A).

Step 7

Place the Collector into the paper Transport Pouch. Seal the Pouch and discard gloves.

Submitting the Kit: Place only the sealed Transport Pouch and Specimen Identification Card into the pre-addressed paper return envelope provided. Seal the envelope and send to the Jan Bashinski DNA Laboratory.

NOTE: Staff must directly oversee all samples self-collected by subjects.