



## 04-05 Appendix A

### National Missing Persons DNA Program (Samples/ Submissions)

**Status:** Reviewed

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Submitting DNA to the National Missing Persons DNA Program (NMPDP) may provide leads in missing persons or found human remains investigations.

The DNA of a missing person may be collected from items containing their saliva, blood, skin cells or sweat. Ideally, more than one item is suggested, provided that they are packaged separately and in accordance with Procedure 04–21.

DNA evidence should be collected as soon as practicable. Absent exceptional circumstances, DNA evidence should be collected within 48 hours, and in any event, within 30 days if the missing person is not located.

#### Direct Reference Samples:

DNA may be obtained from a direct reference sample that was previously collected from the missing person. This may include items such as:

- medical specimens
- samples from national biobanks bone-marrow donor programs
- blood droplets obtained during neonatal screening
- other clinical blood or serum samples
- paternity-testing laboratories
- reference samples from military services or other employers
- samples from sperm banks
- dried umbilical cord

#### DNA Extract from Personal Effects:

If there are no direct reference samples available, it is possible to extract DNA from personal effects used exclusively by the missing person such as:

- toothbrushes, razors, hair brushes and combs, lipstick, deodorant rollers and other hygiene items
- unwashed clothing that has been worn
- bandages, feminine hygiene products, cigarette butts, pipes, used cups and glasses, eyeglasses or contact lenses, jewellery, and wristwatches
- helmets, caps and hats, ear plugs, headphones or ear buds may be considered if the items listed above are unavailable

### Family Reference Samples

A DNA sample from blood relatives are used to confirm that the correct DNA profile has been obtained from the personal effects of the missing person. The most useful family reference samples are from immediate blood relatives such as the missing person's biological mother, father, children, brothers and sisters. There is more strength in the DNA comparison if samples from multiple biological relatives of the missing person are obtained.

For additional information pertaining to the collection of DNA in missing person investigations and the specific requirements of the NMPDP, officers shall contact the MPU directly.

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