

## SER: Training - Identification of Semen Stains

---

**Topics of study**    The trainee will study:

- visual and fluorescent methods
  - presumptive tests
    - Acid Phosphatase Spot Test
    - ABACard p30 Immunoassay Test
    - RSID Semen Test
  - confirmatory test
    - microscopic examination
- 

**Knowledge**    The trainee will read appropriate sections from the following references:

- Li, Richard, 2008, *Forensic Biology*.
- Gaensslen, R.E., 1983, *Sourcebook in Forensic Serology, Immunology, and Biochemistry*.
- Saferstein, Richard, 1988, *Forensic Science Handbook Volume II*.

It is recommended that trainees review relevant literature located in the Serology/DNA Laboratory and laboratory library.

The trainee will review the technical procedures for the visualization and analysis of semen.

---

*Continued on next page*

## SER: Training - Identification of Semen Stains, Continued

---

### Practical exercises

Using normal and fluorescent light and presumptive tests, the trainee will test:

- semen samples
- biological fluids
- substances which might be encountered in sexual assault cases (for example, lotions and oils)
- substances which might visually be mistaken for semen

Some of these stains may be available in the laboratory, but the trainee is also encouraged to make fresh stains for testing.

The trainee will gain experience examining slides for the presence of spermatozoa by:

- preparing, staining, and microscopically examining semen slides
- examining vaginal slides (not mixed with semen)
- examining vaginal slides (mixed with semen)
- examining a reference collection of semen slides

Using the ABACard p30 and RSID Semen tests, the trainee will test:

- semen from different individuals
  - aspermic semen/seminal fluid
  - a serial dilution of semen
- 

### Assessment

The trainee will perform a competency test using the procedures in this section to identify semen stains.

This competency test may be given as part of a more comprehensive test upon completion of all body fluid identification training.

---