

**BUCCAL SWAB  
 COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS**

Your DNA testing kit contains all of the appropriate materials and paperwork for sample collection. **PLEASE CAREFULLY FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW. INCORRECT COLLECTION WILL RESULT IN DELAYS IN PROCESSING OR RECOLLECTION.**

**PERFORMING THE TEST**

Read and understand the instructions below and collect all supplies before proceeding. For paternity testing, the blue envelope should be used for the alleged father, the yellow envelope should be used for the child, and if the mother is available for testing, the pink envelope should be used for the mother. For all other types of tests, the appropriate envelope will be provided. Packages of sterile swabs are attached to each specimen envelope (4 swabs in total for each individual). **DO NOT** collect samples immediately after brushing, eating, smoking or breast feeding (wait at least one hour).

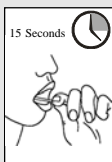
1. Complete the "Patient Information and Consent Form" for each individual. Perform the collection of buccal swab samples from only one individual at a time.



2. Wash and dry hands thoroughly.



3. Carefully peel apart the sleeve containing the sterile buccal swabs. Remove buccal swab carefully - holding only onto the base of the swab.



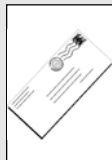
4. Scrape and rotate the swab vigorously on the inside of the cheek of the appropriate individual for 15 seconds.



5. Immediately after collecting the cheek cells, place the swab **directly into the appropriate color coded envelope**. Repeat for remaining three swabs. After all four swabs are collected for the individual, allow the swabs to

dry inside the envelope at room temperature for at least 30 minutes. After the swabs are completely dry, seal and label the envelope.

6. If more than one individual is tested, collect buccal cells from the next individual by repeating steps 2 to 5 using the appropriate color coded envelope and swabs.



7. After completing the collections, double check to ensure that the information has been correctly filled in on the front of the specimen envelope and on the Consent Form. Place the specimen envelopes back into the original shipping container.

Return the specimens together with the completed consent forms directly to the laboratory for testing using the pre-addressed envelope provided in the kit.

**\*Regular Mail:** If you will be returning the samples by mail, apply sufficient postage to the pre-addressed envelope provided and send by regular mail.

**\*Courier:** If you will be returning the samples by overnight courier (i.e. FedEx or UPS), please note the following instructions to prevent delays in shipping: (1) the value of the swab/sample is to be declared as \$1.00 on the international waybill. Any value over \$1.00 may result in delays in shipping. (2) The contents should be marked as "swabs and documents".

Testing will begin immediately once the samples are received in the laboratory.

If you have any questions, contact our laboratory at 1-888-828-1899.

**REMINDERS AND TIPS**

- \* Collect the samples from only one individual at a time. Complete the collection for one individual before proceeding with the next collection.
- \* DNA stores best in the dried form. After sample collection, remember to allow the swabs to dry completely at room temperature inside the envelope before sealing the envelope.
- \* Ensure that soothers, fingers, and toys are kept away from the mouth for at least 30 minutes prior to sample collection.
- \* Always hold the swabs by the stick. Do not touch the tip of the swab.
- \* If you smoke, wait at least 1 hour after smoking before collecting the samples.
- \* Buccal cells are collected by rubbing the swabs against the inside of the cheek (not the tongue, or gums).
- \* The buccal swab collection kit can be stored unused at room temperature for up to 3 years.
- \* Once the samples are collected, the dried samples can be stored at room temperature for up to 3 months. However, it is recommended that the samples be returned to the laboratory for analysis as soon as possible after sample collection.

**The Genetrack Confidential Information Line**

If you have any questions about the test or your result, please call the GENETRACK Confidential Advice Line at 1-888-828-1899. Our specially trained technical staff will be glad to answer any questions you may have. Please have your order ID number and password ready in the event it is required.

**☎ 1-888-828-1899**

Monday-Friday, 8 am to 5 pm PST or 11 am to 8 pm EST.

You may also visit the Genetrack website: [www.genetrack.bc.ca](http://www.genetrack.bc.ca) for more information.

