

Dear Doctor

DNA Paternity Testing

Orchid Cellmark was established in 1987 as the world's first commercial DNA Paternity Testing laboratory. We carry out highly informative DNA analysis, which will either provide a probability of paternity in excess of 99.99%, or will exclude an individual from paternity with 100% certainty. We provide a rapid, quality service.

Paternity Testing is carried out on a mouth swab sample from the mother, child and alleged father. The samples are taken either by the client's own GP or by a doctor they have chosen from a list which we provide, using a sampling kit supplied by us. The doctor then sends the samples to our Oxfordshire laboratories, and after approximately 5 working days the test report is despatched directly to the individuals who have been tested.

We receive requests for our service from throughout the UK and are always interested in expanding our list of samplers. If you would like to be included on Orchid Cellmark's list of samplers please complete and return the form.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

Judith Sawyer
Customer Services

JS02-01DP

DNA Paternity Testing - Sampler's Information

Orchid Cellmark

Orchid Cellmark was established in 1987 as the world's first commercial DNA Paternity Testing laboratory, and has now carried out relationship analysis hundreds of thousands of individuals. Orchid Cellmark is accredited by the Department for Constitutional Affairs for Paternity Testing and abides by a voluntary Code of Practice for Genetic Paternity Testing in the UK and our quality procedures are accredited to ISO17025. DNA Paternity Testing is carried out at Orchid Cellmark's laboratories in Abingdon, Oxfordshire, and we also provide a forensic DNA profiling service for the police. Orchid Cellmark is a registered name of Orchid BioSciences Europe Ltd.

DNA Paternity Testing

Paternity cases are undertaken using DNA analysis called Short Tandem Repeat (STR) profiling. Typically 15 STR tests are used to analyse a paternity case. When a mother, child and alleged father are tested Orchid Cellmark will either exclude the man with 100% certainty, or will provide a probability of paternity in excess of 99.99%.

The use of the amplification technology PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) to examine the STR markers means that very small cellular samples can be used, such as Mouth Swabs (buccal scrapes). Most cases are completed in just 5 working days.

Samplers

In order to comply with legal requirements, samples must be taken by a Registered Medical Practitioner or, under their supervision, by a Registered Nurse or a Registered Medical Laboratory Technician.

We must also remind you that the sampler must not be related to the Donor and must have no financial interest in the outcome of the test.

The Sampling Appointment

When our clients request a DNA paternity test we ask them to arrange a sampling appointment. This can be done using their own GP, or they may choose a doctor from the list that we supply.

The client will make an appointment (sometimes for all three, but often for the mother and child, *or* for the alleged father) at least 5 working days in advance, and then notify Orchid Cellmark. Orchid Cellmark will then send the doctor a sampling kit for each person to be tested (please see below for kit contents) and we will provide the name and date of birth of the Donor for your reference.

We ask the sampler to collect a Mouth Swab sample from each individual attending the appointment and to complete some basic identification paperwork.

It is extremely important that the person who fills out the identification paperwork must either take the sample or witness it being taken.

The sampler should then send the samples back to Orchid Cellmark by ordinary first class post in the tamperproof postage-paid packaging provided.

Donors must never be allowed access to the samples they have given and therefore MUST NOT be given their own samples to post back to Orchid Cellmark.

Identification

Clients are requested to bring two passport-sized photographs of themselves to the appointment. Within the kit we supply a sample declaration form for each individual to be tested. The form needs to be signed by the individual or, if under sixteen, by a person with parental responsibility and care and control of the child (usually the mother). The photographs must be stapled to the form, and following careful examination of the photographs the sampler must sign to confirm that they are a true likeness of the individual they have sampled.

The collection card for Mouth Swab samples incorporates an identification section that must be completed and signed.



Payment for the Sampler

In private cases, recognised by the case number prefixes **P** and **I**, the individuals who attend the appointment are responsible for paying your fee. In the majority of Orchid Cellmark's cases you will be responsible for collecting the sampling fee.

We recommend that you collect this fee at or before the appointment.

YOUR INVOLVEMENT ENDS AFTER THE SAMPLING APPOINTMENT

Some paternity cases may arise as part of legal proceedings. However, in the tens of thousands of paternity cases that Orchid Cellmark has carried out over the last 15 years, it has **never** been necessary for the doctor to appear in court. Indeed, our results are so conclusive that it has only ever been necessary for Orchid Cellmark to provide expert testimony in a handful of cases.

Kit Contents

Each Mouth Swab kit contains the following:

- A Mouth Swab
- A collection card
- A plastic bag with identification label
- A sample declaration form
- A postage-paid tamperproof return envelope
- Sampling instructions

Further Information

If you have any further questions about Orchid Cellmark's DNA Paternity Testing service please contact a member of our Customer Services Department on: **01235 528000**



DNA Paternity Testing Samplers List

Request for Entry

I have read and I understand Orchid Cellmark's procedures for mouth swab sampling and would like my details included on the Orchid Cellmark list of samplers. I understand that this list will be sent to customers of Orchid Cellmark's DNA Paternity Testing service. I will then be contacted directly by Orchid Cellmark's customers to arrange and undertake sampling.

Name:

Address:
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Tel:

Fax:

I understand that the clients will pay me directly for my sampling services, and that it is my responsibility to arrange the collection of my fees.

Signed:

Date:

Please return the form to Orchid Cellmark, PO Box 265, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 1YX.