Body Fluid Report Format

1. To standardize report formats, the Body Fluid Section will use the following uniform phrases in Laboratory Reports:

1.1 When no chemical tests were performed.

“A visual examination of ______________ (Item(s) ______) failed to reveal the presence of __________.”

1.2 When chemical or microscopic tests for semen, blood, or saliva yield negative results.

“Examination of ______________ (Item(s) ___) failed to reveal the presence of __________.”

1.3 When a presumptive test for blood yields a positive result, but confirmatory tests yield inconclusive results or the material is of limiting quantity to do additional testing.

“Examination of ______________ (Item(s) ___) revealed chemical indications for the presence of ______________.”

1.4 When a presumptive test for blood yields a positive result, but confirmatory tests yield inconclusive or no result, possibly because the material is of limiting quantity.

“Examination of ______________ (Item(s) ___) revealed chemical indications for the presence of ______________. Further testing failed to confirm the presence of blood.”

NOTE- Obtaining a negative result or no reaction on a Takayama test
does not mean that blood isn’t present, only that you failed to confirm the presence of blood.

1.5 When test for the confirmatory test for blood yields a positive result, but species origin testing yield inconclusive results, negative, or no results because material is of limiting quantity.

“Examination of _____________(Item(s) ___) revealed the presence of blood. Further testing failed to confirm the presence of human blood.”

NOTE- A negative or no reaction finding for human protein or human hemoglobin does not mean that the blood is not of human origin; only that you failed to confirm human protein or hemoglobin. One should never draw a positive inference from a negative result. The finding of no human protein from a small or weak blood sample could mean that the blood was from a non-human source, or that the sample was degraded or of limiting quantity. For this reason, analysts who have small or weak samples should consider these results as inconclusive.

1.6 When blood or human blood is identified.

“Examination of _____________(Item(s)____) revealed the presence of human blood.”

1.7 When a positive P-30 result is obtained, but no spermatozoa are observed.

“Examination of _____________(Item(s)_____ ) revealed the presence of semen.”

1.8 When sperm cells are confirmed microscopically.

“Examination of _____________(Item(s)_____ ) revealed the presence of spermatozoa.”
1.9 When a Phadebas amylase result is obtained that is above the absorbance threshold.

“Examination of ____________(Item(s) _____) revealed elevated levels of amylase, which is an indication of, but not specific for saliva."

2 Special Reporting Procedures:

2.1 Forms used in the Body Fluid Identification Unit for analysis of Sexual Assault Kits have areas for analysts to note as to whether any blood is seen. Anytime a reddish stain is noted, analysts are conducting phenolphthalein tests to confirm if chemical indications of blood are present. The laboratory report will note the results of positive phenolthalein testing on such items of evidence.

2.2 In some cases, the finding of human blood may be of evidential significance. Examples would include cases involving children or elderly females who would not expect to be menstruating. Additional
testing to establish that the blood is human may be useful in showing that trauma sufficient enough to induce bleeding was used by the perpetrator, or to collaborate the victim’s statement of virginity prior to the assault. Any further testing
conducted will be at the discretion of the analyst and their reviewers, and all results will be disclosed in the laboratory report.

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