

Criteria for Hair Examination Conclusion

- Hairs that are found to be microscopically consistent and could have originated from an individual.
These hairs must be identified as to race and body area. Only Pubic and Head hairs are compared back to known standards. Criteria for acceptance are when the questioned and known hairs exhibit the same microscopic characteristics when comparing the cuticle, cortex, and medulla. The benchmark for the standard is that if the questioned hair was placed in the standard hair sample, it could not be differentiated microscopically.
- Similarities and differences are observed, no conclusion reached.
Questioned hairs exhibit similarities in characteristics, yet the benchmark for consistency is not applicable. This conclusion would result in an inconclusive statement - could not eliminate question from known standard, yet you could not make the statement that the hair could have originated from known standard.
- Question and known hair are microscopically different and therefore did not originate from the same source.
This statement is associated with the comparison of hair in which one or more of the characteristics associated with the cuticle, cortex and medulla are different in question and known hair.
- Not suitable for comparison purposes.
This statement is used when the question hair either does not contain sufficient characteristics for comparison or is too short or damaged for comparison purposes.