
TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Seminal Fluid DISCHAPS™

Catalog No. DCS100

INTRODUCTION

DISCHAPS™ (disposable chemical applicators) is a complete chemical application system that includes reagents for applying various forensic techniques, including preparing, testing, and enhancing evidence found at the crime scene either in the field or in the lab. The DISCHAPS system, being a one time use test with all components pre-measured and packaged in a self-contained unit, virtually eliminates error and contamination issues.



In the case of sex crimes, the field investigator is compelled to gather and preserve highly fragile, unstable physical evidence. Considerable time is often saved when the investigator conducts presumptive, non-destructive chemical tests in order to localize and identify possible seminal stains. Seminal Fluid DISCHAPS™ applications rely on *using the contact method of testing*—that is, a few drops of distilled water are placed on a strip of filter paper, and the wet filter paper is pressed against the suspected stain.

The DISCHAPSTTM reagent is then applied to the filter paper, thus preserving the original evidence stain.

CAUTIONS

- Before using, consult the appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) found on our website at www.sirchie.com/support.
- Wear protective gloves, and safety glasses/goggles.
- DISCHAPSTTM should be disposed of in accordance with all federal, state, and local regulations.

PROCEDURE

Seminal Fluid—The Acid Phosphatase Test

This test is considered to be the most conclusive, non-spermatozoa test for the presence of semen. The content of this enzyme is from 20 to 400 times greater in human semen than in any other fluid. This fact makes it unlikely that another material would test positive and give false results.

The reagents for determining the presence of acid phosphatase in suspected stains are sealed in glass ampoules to ensure their integrity and long life. Preliminary examination before testing should be accomplished with longwave ultraviolet lights (360nm or 390nm) or an alternate light source such as BLUEMAXXTM (450nm light with orange barrier filter for viewing).

The reagents should not be applied directly to suspected stains, thus eliminating the possible contamination in subsequent laboratory tests of the recovered evidence. The “contact” method, i.e., wetted filter paper is touched to the suspect area and the reagent is then applied to the contact paper only.

SEMINAL FLUID DISCHAPSTTM (No. DCS100)

A strong purple color reaction in 3 seconds is presumptive evidence that acid phosphatase is present. Seminal Fluid DISCHAPSTTM set contains six individual tests with contact paper.



DCS100 reaction

CONTACT TESTING METHOD

Seminal Fluid DISCHAPS™ Reagents require the use of the contact method for acid phosphatase testing. Cotton-tipped swabs may be substituted for contact paper. By using this method, the original stain is left intact and uncontaminated.

1. Place a few drops of distilled water onto a contact (filter) paper or cotton swab (Fig. 1).
2. Press the wet portion of the collection device to the suspected stain for 1-2 minutes.
3. Place the collection device on a flat, protected surface.
4. Select the DISCHAPS™ to be used. Slide protective sleeve over the top of each ampoule and break by applying pressure with the tip of the thumb and forefinger. Apply pressure only to the *middle* of ampoule (Fig. 2).
5. Shake the tube for approximately one minute to ensure proper mixing of the reagents (Fig. 3).
6. Remove the integrity cap. Saturate the swab by holding the applicator tube in a downward position and then apply reagent to test paper (Fig. 4).
7. Recap and discard the applicator. Observe the reaction.



FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3



FIGURE 4



100 HUNTER PLACE, YOUNGSVILLE, NC 27596 USA

919-554-2244 • 800-356-7311

www.sirchie.com