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Standard Guide for the Conduct of PDD Screening Examinations¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This guide establishes essential and recommended elements in the procedures for the conduct of a psychophysiological detection of deception (PDD) screening examination.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

E1954 Practice for Conduct of Research in Psychophysiological Detection of Deception (Polygraph)

E2000 Guide for Minimum Basic Education and Training of Individuals Involved in the Detection of Deception (PDD)

E2063 Practice for Calibration and Functionality Checks Used in Forensic Psychophysiological Detection of Deception (Polygraph) Examinations

E2035 Terminology Relating to Forensic Psychophysiology

E2062 Guide for PDD Examination Standards of Practice

E2064 Guide for Minimum Continuing Education of Individuals Involved in Psychophysiological Detection of Deception (PDD)

3. Location and Test Conditions

3.1 Conditions under which testing occurs shall be free from distractions that would interfere with the ability of the examinee to appropriately focus on the issues being addressed. The examination site should be reasonably free from outside noise and distraction.

4. Preparation

4.1 All relevant paperwork pertaining to the examinee should be made available to the examiner in ample time for review prior to the examination.

4.2 Only instruments meeting ASTM standards, as a minimum, should be used during the conduct of PDD screening examinations.

4.3 No examination shall be conducted unless the instrument is functioning in accordance with Practice E2063.

4.4 An examiner shall, prior to the examination, dedicate sufficient time to identify the issues and unique circumstances in any area of anticipated testing.

5. Pretest Practices

5.1 The examiner shall adhere to the following practices:

5.1.1 Verify the correct identity of the examinee to the extent possible.

5.1.2 Obtain the consent of the examinee prior to testing.

5.1.3 The examiner shall ensure that the examinee is a fit subject for testing to the extend legally practicable.

5.1.3.1 At any time during the PDD examination that it becomes apparent to the examiner that the examinee is not suitable for testing, the examination will be terminated.

5.2 All screening examinations shall be conducted in compliance with governing local, state, and federal regulations and laws.

5.3 The examiner shall display objectivity.

5.4 Sufficient time shall be spent to discuss the issues to be tested and to allow the examinee to explain his/her position.

5.5 The examiner shall formulate all test questions in compliance with recognized professional practices.

5.6 The examiner shall allow sufficient time to introduce each test question to the examinee in a manner which complies with recognized professional practices.

5.6.1 Sufficient time shall be spent to ensure that the examinee recognizes and understands each question.

5.7 Sufficient time shall be spent to ensure that the examinee understands the PDD process and that cooperation is required.

5.8 Screening examinations shall be audio/visual recorded in their entirety unless precluded by provisions in 5.2.

6. Intest Practices

6.1 Examiners shall use testing formats and techniques in accordance with ASTM standards.

6.2 Examiners shall only use screening formats for which they have been trained in accordance with Guide E2000 and Guide E2064.

6.2.1 No more than five relevant questions should be addressed in any one series of a screening examination.

6.2.2 Screening tests, like other multiple-issue PDD techniques, are tests for utility, designed as a screening method and

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.