

AbuseCheck Alcohol Abuse Test Comparison Chart

Products		Detection Window	Markers	Result Details	Benefits	Limitations		
GOLD	SILVER	FAEE (Ethyl Palmitate) Hair Test	1 - 6 months	Fatty Acid Ethyl Ester (Ethyl Palmitate)	Quantitative; 0.45ng/mg for 6cm length and 0.35ng/mg for 3cm length cut-off	No concerns for environmental 'wash-out' influencers. Non invasive sample collection. Longest detection period available for alcohol abuse. Sample cannot be tampered with.	Some alcohol containing hair products may elevate FAEE levels, and contribute to false-positives. Cannot determine exact dates or amounts of alcohol consumed. Six centimeters length (about 2 1/2 inches) of hair required.	ABUSECHECK PRODUCTS
	BRONZE	EtG Hair Test	1 - 3 months	Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG)	Quantitative; 30pg/mg cut-off	Provides a lower cost solution for determination of alcohol abuse, although it is recommended that this test is always accompanied with an FAEE test.	Must also take into consideration medical and other contextual information, including FAEE and/or blood alcohol test results. False-negatives are a concern due to wash-out effects from shampooing over time and bleaching. Three centimeters length (about 1 1/4 inches) of hair required.	
		CDT Blood Test	2-4 weeks	Carbohydrate Deficient Transferrin	Qualitative	Can detect prior alcohol abuse 2-4 weeks after donor stopped drinking.	Invasive sample collection; measures only excessive alcohol consumption (average of 60g per day, for at least 2 weeks)	NA
		Breath	Several hours after alcohol consumption	Exhaled alcohol vapor	Quantitative	Non invasive sample collection. Correlates with blood alcohol concentration (BAC). Measures very recent alcohol consumption	High false-positive rate due to alcohol in the air or in the mouth or stomach; also detects molecules similar to alcohol	NA
		Saliva	10-24 hours after alcohol consumption	Alcohol	Quantitative	Non invasive sample collection. Correlates with blood alcohol concentration (BAC). Measures very recent alcohol consumption.	Unclear standards for analysis; chance for false negatives if donor takes measures to "beat" the test.	NA
		Urine	1-3 days after alcohol consumption	Alcohol or Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG)	Positive/negative	Non invasive sample collection. Detects very recent alcohol consumption.	Cannot determine how much alcohol was consumed; chance of false positive results.	NA
		Standard Blood Alcohol Test	Several hours after alcohol consumption	Alcohol	Quantitative	Most accurate measure of recent alcohol consumption.	Invasive sample collection.	NA