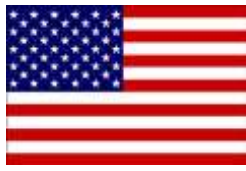




**20<sup>th</sup> International Forensic Science Managers Symposium**  
INTERPOL Headquarters, Lyon, France  
10 November 2022



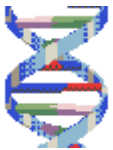
# Recent Advances in Forensic Biology and Forensic DNA Typing 2019-2022

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**Points of view are mine** and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Certain commercial entities are identified in order to specify experimental procedures as completely as possible. **In no case does such identification imply a recommendation or endorsement** by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, nor does it imply that any of the entities identified are necessarily the best available for the purpose.

# Overview of Papers Reviewed

20<sup>th</sup> International Forensic Science Managers Symposium

Years Examined 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022  
(through October 2022)

Number of Papers **636 +137 = 773**

Number of Journals **96** (*FSI Genetics* = 240)

Topics Covered **15+**

17<sup>th</sup> INTERPOL Review on DNA (2010-2013) examined **114 articles** (Jolicoeur 2013)

18<sup>th</sup> INTERPOL Review on DNA (2013-2016) examined **75 articles** (Laurent & Pene 2016)

19<sup>th</sup> INTERPOL Review on DNA (2016-2019) examined **235 articles** (Butler & Willis 2019)



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Forensic Science International: Synergy

journal homepage: <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/forensic-science-international-synergy/>



Interpol review of forensic biology and forensic DNA typing 2016-2019

John M. Butler<sup>a</sup>, Sheila Willis

<sup>a</sup>National Institute of Standards and Technology, USA

(2020) 2: 352-367

# The 2016-2019 INTERPOL DNA Review

**Discussed 235 references  
from 35 journals**



INTERPOL

19th INTERPOL International Forensic Science

Managers Symposium

Lyon, France

7-10 October 2019

Review Papers

Review of forensic biology and DNA publications from 2016 to 2019

- Category selection and article selection:
  1. Core Loci Expansion
  2. Rapid Analysis of STR Markers
  3. Investigative Genetic Genealogy
  4. Next-Generation Sequencing
  5. DNA Mixture Interpretation and Probabilistic Genotyping Software
  6. DNA Transfer and Activity Level Evaluations
  7. Forensic Biology and Body Fluid Identification
  8. DNA Phenotyping
  9. Privacy and Ethical Issues
  10. Guidance Documents (SWGDM, OSAC, ASB, ENFSI, UK Regulator)
  11. Contamination Avoidance and DNA Success Rates
  12. Recent Special Issues and Review Articles of Note

<https://www.interpol.int/content/download/14458/file/Interpol%20Review%20Papers%202019.pdf>

# Search Strategy

Seeking to learn from Ménard, H., et al. (2021) Research trends in forensic science: a scientometric approach to analyze the content of the INTERPOL reviews. *WIREs Forensic Sci.* 2: e1147. doi: 10.1002/wfs2.1447

- Scopus *and Web of Science* searched “forensic DNA” from March 7, 2022, combined **(4087)**
- Removed duplicates and those not associated with forensic DNA based on title **(1891)**
  - Sorted by 26 MVP topics and added 6 other topic areas
  - Removed Chinese-only articles (e.g., *Fa Yi Xue Za Zhi*) (44)
  - Removed German-only articles (e.g., *Rechtsmedizin*) (9)
  - Resulted in **1779 articles** (68 pages of 8pt font single-spaced separated in 32 categories)
- Added FSI Reports, which were not in Scopus (40 from manual search of 256 total on 3/29/22)
- Added WIREs Forensic Science, which were not in Scopus (28 from manual search 3/31/22)
- Added other articles as identified in specific searches
- **3/31/2022: references from which to start writing the review (1860)**
  - Continuing to add additional references as they become available and located with supplemental searches
- 6/13/2022: performed another Scopus search “forensic DNA” from 2019 to 2022 (3,059)
- 8/26/2022: performed another Scopus search “forensic DNA” from 2019 to 2022 (3,188)
- 11/1/2022: performed another Scopus search “forensic DNA” from 2019 to 2022 (3,361)

# Topics Covered: Forensic Biology and DNA Typing

		# articles
1.	Introduction	
1.	Books, Special Issues, and Review Articles of Note	39
2.	Guidance Documents (SWGDM, OSAC, ASB, NIFS, ENFSI, UK Forensic Science Regulator)	70
2.	Advancements in Current Practices ( <b><i>Practitioner Focused</i></b> )	
1.	Rapid DNA Analysis	23
2.	Use of DNA Databases (Familial Searching, Investigative Genetic Genealogy, Privacy and Ethical Issues, SAKs)	83
3.	Forensic Biology and Body Fluid Identification	32
4.	DNA Collection and Extraction	34
5.	DNA Typing	35
6.	DNA Interpretation at the Source or Sub-Source Level (Probabilistic Genotyping Software)	50
7.	DNA Interpretation at the Activity Level (DNA Transfer)	45
3.	Emerging Technologies, Research Studies, and Other Topics ( <b><i>Researcher Focused</i></b> )	
1.	Next-Generation Sequencing	82
2.	DNA Phenotyping (Ancestry, Appearance, Age Predictions) + Supplemental File (N=30+51+56)	27 +137
3.	Lineage Markers (Y-chromosome, mtDNA, X-chromosome)	67
4.	New Markers and Approaches (Microhaplotypes, InDels, Proteomics, Human Microbiome)	69
5.	Kinship Analysis, Human Identification, and Disaster Victim Identification	30
6.	Non-Human DNA Testing and Wildlife Forensics	26

Hyperlinks to documents in tables  
and 50 footnotes to relevant websites

# Sources: Top 30 Countries (# documents published)

## 1. United States (717)

2. China (639)

3. India (256)

4. Australia (254)

5. United Kingdom (226)

6. Italy (185)

7. Germany (175)

8. Spain (136)

9. Netherlands (132)

10. Brazil (97)

11. Japan (94)

12. Switzerland (92)

13. Portugal (71)

14. South Korea (69)

15. Austria (66)

16. New Zealand (64)

17. Canada (60)

18. Poland (60)

19. France (57)

20. Malaysia (54)

21. Denmark (52)

22. Pakistan (49)

23. Russian Federation (47)

24. Sweden (47)

25. Saudi Arabia (47)

26. Thailand (44)

27. Norway (43)

28. South Africa (43)

29. Belgium (38)

30. Indonesia (38)

**Based on Scopus search “forensic DNA” and “2019 to 2022”  
(1 Nov 2022; 3,361 document results)**

# Sources: Top 30 Journals (# documents published)

- 1. FSI Genetics (466)**
2. Int J Legal Med (288)
3. Forensic Sci Int (201)
4. FSI Genetics Sup (198)
5. J Forensic Sci (116)
6. Legal Med (88)
7. Sci Justice (69)
8. Genes (65)
9. Australian J Forensic Sci (64)
10. Scientific Reports (56)
11. Electrophoresis (55)
12. J Forensic Med (51)
13. Annals Human Biol (49)
14. Forensic Sci Tech (43)
15. Front Genet (38)
16. Indian J Forensic Med Tox (33)
17. Forensic Sci Res (32)
18. J Forensic Legal Med (29)
19. FSI Reports (25)
20. Forensic Sci Med Path (25)
21. PLoS One (25)
22. Egyptian J Forensic Sci (23)
23. FSI Synergy (22)
24. Mol Genet Gen Med (17)
25. Mol Biol Reports (17)
26. Rechtsmedizin (17)
27. Forensic Genet Res Prog (15)
28. Med Sci Law (15)
29. Russian J Genetics (14)
30. Gene (13)

**Based on Scopus search “forensic DNA” and “2019 to 2022”  
(1 Nov 2022; 3,361 document results)**

# Top Ten Most Prolific Authors (2019 to 2022)

Scopus search  
(1 Nov 2022)

## in *FSI Genetics only*

1. **Duncan Taylor (29) – Australia**
2. Walther Parson (27) – Austria
3. Jo-Anne Bright (21) – New Zealand
4. Bruce Budowle (18) – USA
5. Chris Phillips (18) – Spain
6. Manfred Kayser (17) – Netherlands
7. Yiping Hou (16) – China (Chengdu)
8. Wojciech Branicki (12) – Poland
8. Leonor Gusmão (12) – Brazil
8. Adrian Linacre (12) – Australia
8. Titia Sijen (12) – Netherlands
8. Catarina Xavier (12) - Austria

## In all indexed journals

1. **Bruce Budowle (49) – USA**
2. Walther Parson (47) – Austria
3. Pankaj Shrivastava (43) – India (Sagar)
4. Chengtao Li (39) – China (Shanghai)
5. Duncan Taylor (38) – Australia
6. Adrian Linacre (36) - Australia
7. Jo-Anne Bright (35) – New Zealand
8. Chao Liu (33) – China (Guangzhou)
9. Bofeng Zhu (33) – China (Guangzhou)
10. Guanglin He (32) – China (Xiamen)



# Topics Covered: Forensic Biology and DNA Typing

## 1. Introduction

1. Books, Special Issues, and Review Articles of Note
2. Guidance Documents (SWGDM, OSAC, ASB, NIFS, ENFSI, UK Forensic Science Regulator)

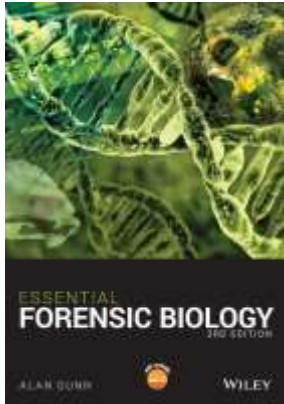
## 2. Advancements in Current Practices (*Practitioner Focused*)

1. Rapid DNA Analysis
2. Use of DNA Databases (Investigative Genetic Genealogy, Privacy and Ethical Issues, SAKs)
3. Forensic Biology and Body Fluid Identification
4. DNA Collection and Extraction
5. DNA Typing
6. DNA Interpretation at the Source or Sub-Source Level (Probabilistic Genotyping Software)
7. DNA Interpretation at the Activity Level (DNA Transfer)

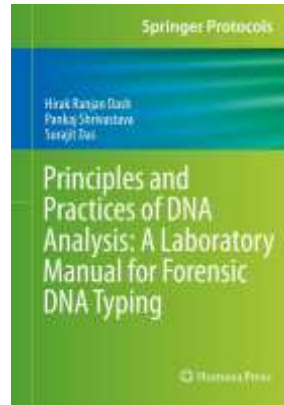
## 3. Emerging Technologies, Research Studies, and Other Topics (*Researcher Focused*)

1. Next-Generation Sequencing
2. DNA Phenotyping (Ancestry, Appearance, Age Predictions)
3. Lineage Markers (Y-chromosome, mtDNA, X-chromosome)
4. New Markers and Approaches (Microhaplotypes, InDels, Proteomics, Human Microbiome)
5. Kinship Analysis, Human Identification, and Disaster Victim Identification
6. Non-Human DNA Testing and Wildlife Forensics

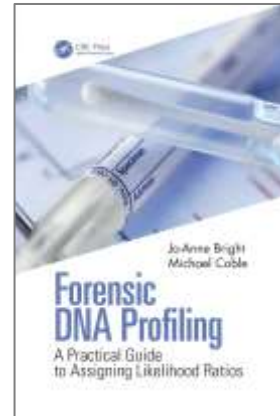
# Recent Books on Forensic Biology and Forensic DNA Typing (2019-2022)



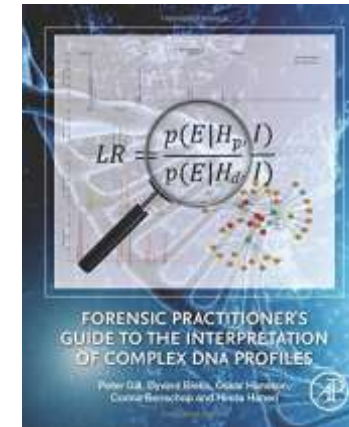
Essential Forensic Biology, Third Edition (2019, Wiley)



Principles and Practices of DNA Analysis: A Laboratory Manual for Forensic DNA Typing (2020, Humana Press)



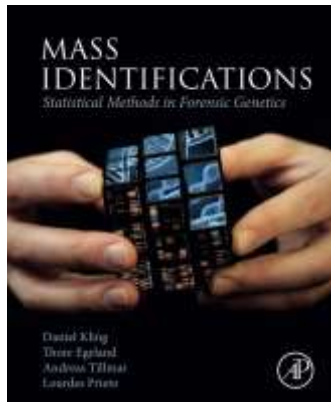
Forensic DNA Profiling: A Practical Guide to Assigning Likelihood Ratios (2020, CRC Press)



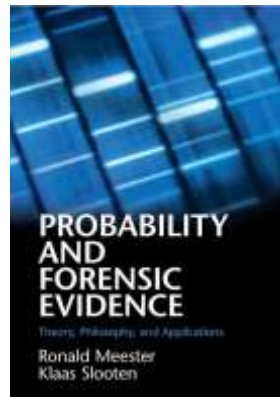
Forensic Practitioner's Guide to the Interpretation of Complex DNA Profiles (2020, Elsevier)



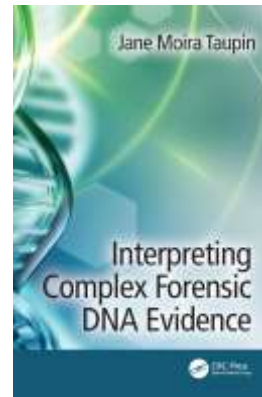
Silent Witness: Forensic DNA Evidence in Criminal Investigations and Humanitarian Disasters (2020, Oxford University Press)



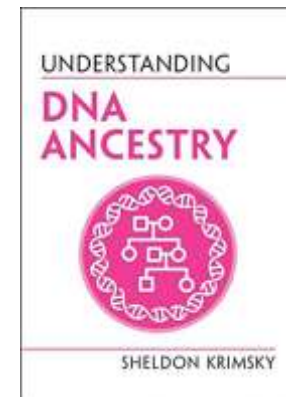
Mass Identifications: Statistical Methods in Forensic Genetics (2021, Elsevier)



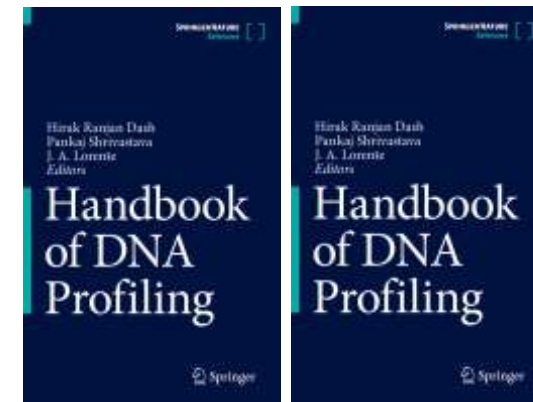
Probability and Forensic Evidence: Theory, Philosophy, and Applications (2021, Cambridge University Press)



Interpreting Complex Forensic DNA Evidence (2021, CRC Press)

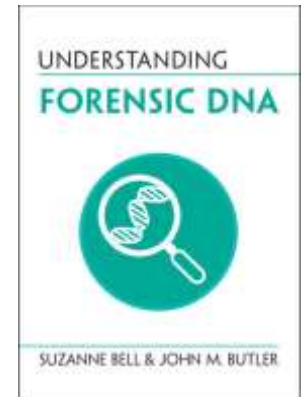


Understanding DNA Ancestry (2022, Cambridge University Press)



Handbook of DNA Profiling, 2 Volumes (2022, Springer)

1206 pages with 54 chapters from 115 contributors representing 17 countries



Understanding Forensic DNA (2022, Cambridge University Press)



# **FSI Genetics Special Issues**

(both guest edited by Manfred Kayser)

## **Trends and Perspectives in Forensic Genetics (2018/2019)**

1. [Introduction to special issue](#)
2. [DNA transfer in forensic science: A review](#)
3. [Evaluation of forensic genetics findings given activity level propositions: A review](#)
4. [Probabilistic genotyping software: An overview](#)
5. [Match probabilities for Y-chromosomal profiles: A paradigm shift](#)
6. [Microhaplotypes in forensic genetics](#)
7. [From next generation sequencing to now generation sequencing in forensics](#)
8. [Next generation database search algorithm for forensic mitogenome analyses](#)
9. [Forensic human identification with targeted microbiome markers using nearest neighbor classification](#)
10. [Estimating the postmortem interval using microbes: Knowledge gaps and a path to technology adoption](#)
11. [Large scale DNA identification: The ICMP experience](#)
12. [Recent progress, methods and perspectives in forensic epigenetics](#)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/forensic-science-international-genetics/special-issue/10TSDS4360H>

## **Forensic Genetics: Unde venisti et quo vadis? (2021/2022)**

1. Editorial/Prelude (written by ISFG Prize Winners)
2. [Massively parallel sequencing is unlocking the potential of environmental trace evidence](#)
3. [The germlines of male monozygotic \(MZ\) twins: Very similar, but not identical](#)
4. [Investigative genetic genealogy: Current methods, knowledge and practice](#)
5. [Forensic transcriptome analysis using massively parallel sequencing](#)
6. [Interpreting NUMTs in forensic genetics: Seeing the forest for the trees](#)
7. [Capture enrichment and massively parallel sequencing for human identification](#)
8. [Forensic proteomics](#)
9. [Progress in forensic bone DNA analysis: Lessons learned from ancient DNA](#)
10. [Integrating the human microbiome in the forensic toolkit: Current bottlenecks and future solutions](#)
11. Forensic DNA Phenotyping (ancestry, appearance, age)
12. Microfluidic Technology in Forensic DNA Analysis

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/forensic-science-international-genetics/special-issue/10D6PT650B2>

# Recent or Forthcoming Special Virtual Issues Related to Forensic Genetics from the Online Journal *genes*

As of  
10/31/2022



Special Issue Title (publication dates)	Editor(s)	# Articles
<a href="#">“Forensic Genetics and Genomics”</a> (2020-2021)	Emiliano Giardina & Michele Ragazzo	12
<a href="#">“Forensic Mitochondrial Genomics”</a> (2020-2021)	Mitch Holland & Charla Marshall	11
<a href="#">“Advances in Forensic Genetics”</a> (2021-2022)	Niels Morling	25
<a href="#">“State-of-the-Art in Forensic Genetics”</a> (2022)	Chiara Turchi	10
<a href="#">“Trends in Population Genetics and Identification—Impact on Anthropology”</a> (2022)	Antonio Amorim, Veronica Gomes, & Luisa Azevedo	7
<a href="#">“Identification of Human Remains for Forensic and Humanitarian Purposes: From Molecular to Physical Methods”</a> (2023)	Elena Pilli & Cristina Cattaneo	1
<a href="#">“Improved Methods in Forensic and DNA Analysis”</a> (2023)	Marie Allen	3
<a href="#">“Forensic DNA Mixture Interpretation and Probabilistic Genotyping”</a> (2023)	Michael Coble	
<a href="#">“Advances in Forensic Molecular Genetics”</a> (2023)	Erin Hanson & Claire Glynn	



Since July 2022,  
available as a [518 page PDF file](#) or a  
\$130 printed book



*genes*

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

# **Special Issue** (*Niels Morling, editor*): **Advances in Forensic Genetics**

[https://www.mdpi.com/journal/genes/special\\_issues/Advances\\_Forensic\\_Genetics](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/genes/special_issues/Advances_Forensic_Genetics)

## **25 articles published (2021-2022), topics covered include:**

- **PGS Review: EuroForMix, DNASTatistX, STRmix**
- OpenArray for forensic phenotyping
- Skin pigmentation and genetic ancestry
- Eye color prediction
- Ancestry informative markers (VISAGE)
- Single cell analysis for forensic phenotyping
- Animal forensic genetics
- Predicting visible traits in dogs (CaDNAP)
- Single cell analysis for mixture interpretation
- New STR panel for cross-species bird DNA
- Ancient DNA methods improve Korean/WW2 IDs
- **DNA transfer review and recent progress**
- Bayesian Networks for DNA transfer questions
- SNP markers for investigative genetic genealogy (FORCE panel)
- **DNA sampling in burglary investigations**
- Body fluid ID and tissues
- Microbiome analysis
- **Software options for forensic sequencing**
- ChrY and mtDNA statistics/assessment
- Ethical decision-making as lived practice
- Aged rootless hair shafts in Romanov relics

## From Table 2 in the 2019-2022 INTERPOL DNA Review

# Guidance Documents – United States

*With hyperlinks to each document*

## **SWGDM** (see <https://www.swgdam.org/publications>)

1. SWGDAM (Apr 2019) [Mitochondrial DNA Analysis Revisions Related to NGS](#)
2. SWGDAM (Apr 2019) [Addendum to Interpretation Guidelines to Address NGS](#)
3. SWGDAM (Feb 2020) [Overview of Investigative Genetic Genealogy](#)
4. SWGDAM (July 2020) [Report on Y-Screening of Sexual Assault Evidence Kits \(SAEKs\)](#)
5. SWGDAM (July 2020) [Training Guidelines](#)
6. SWGDAM (Jan 2022) [YHRD Updates for U.S. Laboratories](#)
7. SWGDAM (March 2022) [Interpretation Guidelines for Y-Chromosome STR Typing by Forensic DNA Laboratories](#)
8. SWGDAM (March 2022) [Supplemental Information for the SWGDAM Interpretation Guidelines for Y-Chromosome STR Typing by Forensic DNA Laboratories](#)

## **FBI** (drafted by SWGDAM)

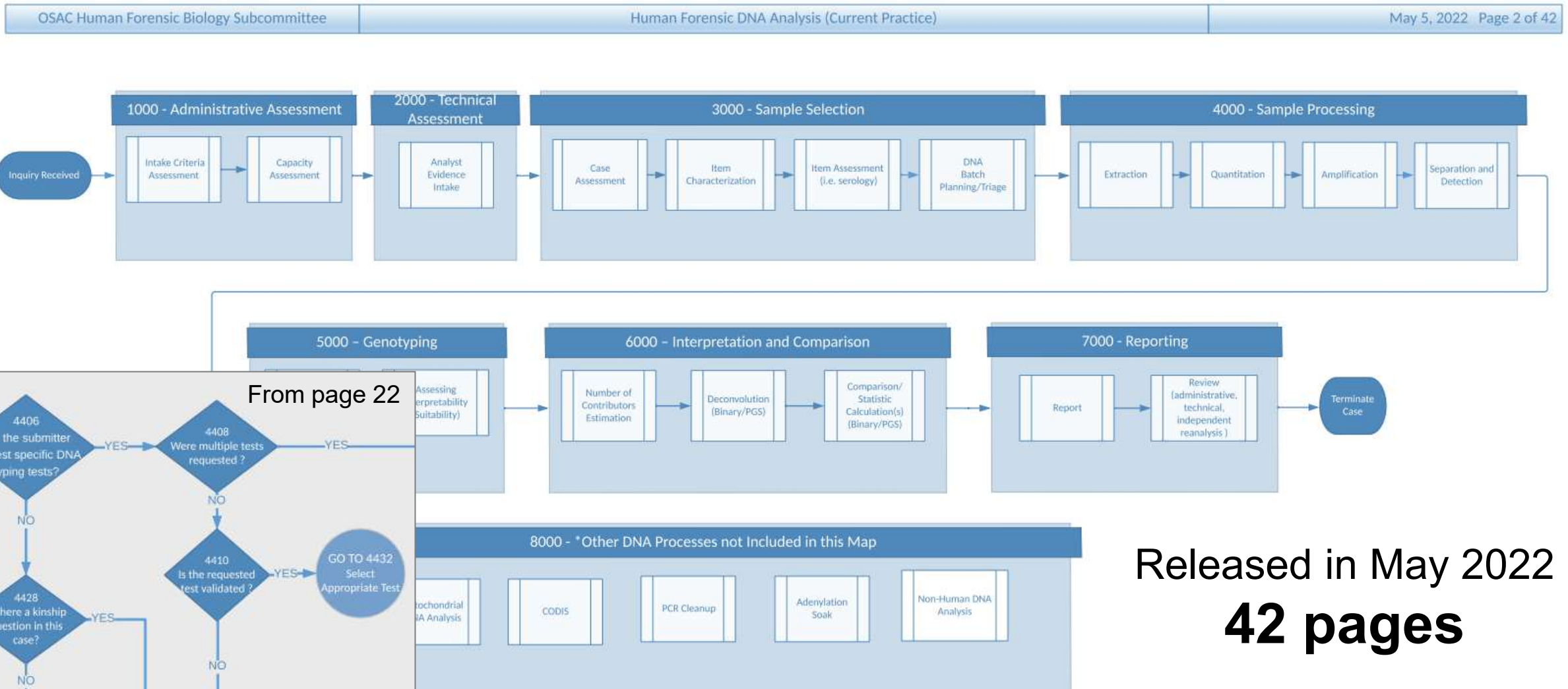
1. FBI [Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories](#) (effective July 1, 2020)
2. FBI [Quality Assurance Standards for DNA Databasing Laboratories](#) (effective July 1, 2020)
3. FBI [Quality Assurance Standards Audit for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories](#)
4. FBI [Quality Assurance Standards Audit for DNA Databasing Laboratories](#)
5. [Guidance Document for the FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing and DNA Databasing](#)

FBI – A Guide to All Things Rapid DNA (13 pages)  
<https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/rapid-dna-guide-january-2022.pdf/view>

# From Table 2 in the 2019-2022 INTERPOL DNA Review

# Guidance Documents – United States

**DNA Process Map produced by OSAC Human Forensic Biology Subcommittee** (with SWGDAM input)  
[https://www.nist.gov/system/files/documents/2022/05/05/OSAC%20Forensic%20Biology%20Process%20Map\\_5.5.22.pdf](https://www.nist.gov/system/files/documents/2022/05/05/OSAC%20Forensic%20Biology%20Process%20Map_5.5.22.pdf)

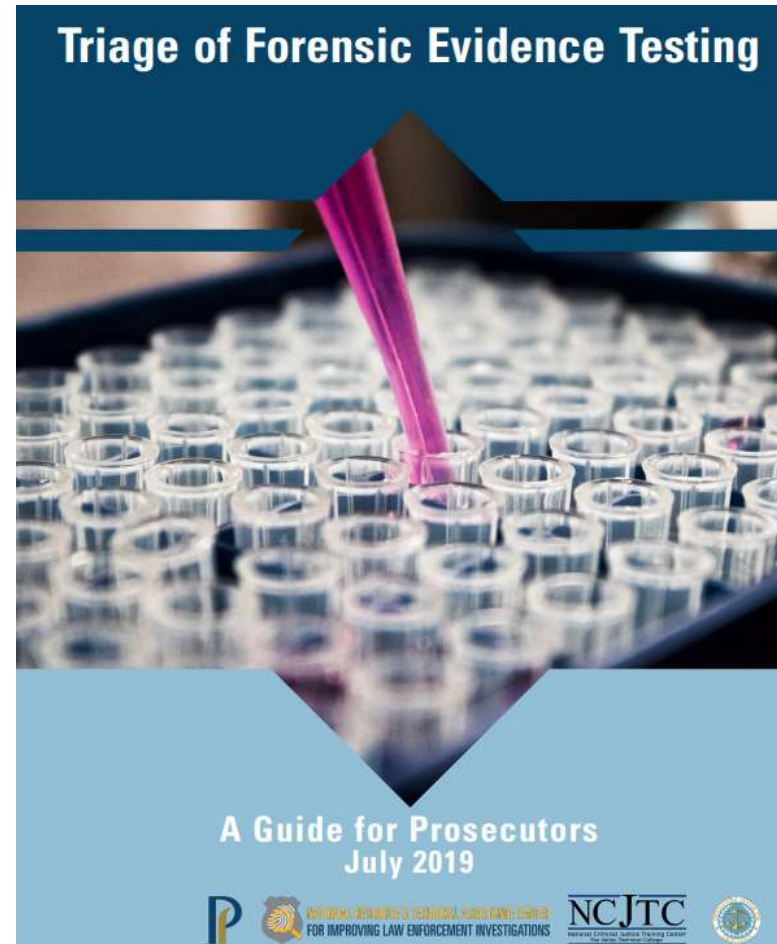


Released in May 2022  
**42 pages**

# From Table 2 in the 2019-2022 INTERPOL DNA Review

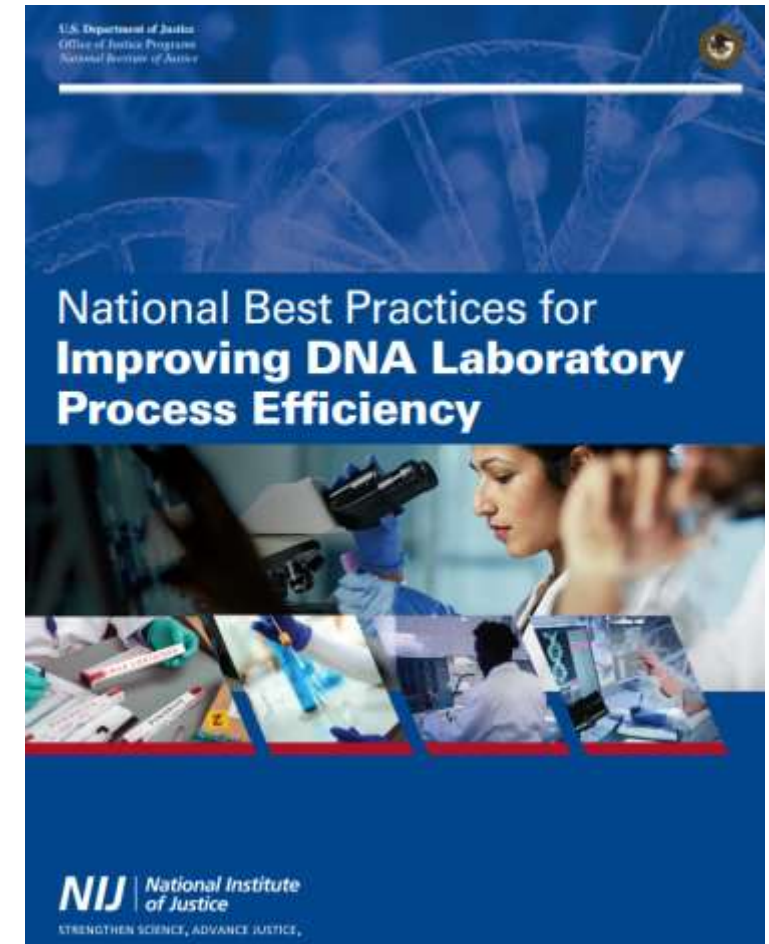
## Guidance Documents – United States

how best to maximize the resources of a public forensic laboratory, with a focus on the prosecutor's perspective



<https://bja.ojp.gov/library/publications/triage-forensic-evidence-testing-guide-prosecutors> (49 pages)

provides forensic DNA laboratories with a roadmap for managing expected increases in case submissions due to stakeholder demand



<https://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles1/nij/304051.pdf> (106 pages)

**With 67 recommendations**

1. Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) [Triage of Forensic Evidence Testing: A Guide for Prosecutors](#) (July 2019)
2. National Institute of Justice (NIJ) [National Best Practices for Improving DNA Laboratory Process Efficiency](#) (May 2022)



## From Table 2 in the 2019-2022 INTERPOL DNA Review

### Forensic Science Regulator

1. [FSR-C-100, Issue 7 – Codes of Practice and Conduct](#) (2021)
2. [FSR-C-108, Issue 2 – DNA Analysis: Codes of Practice and Conduct](#) (2020)
3. [FSR-C-116, Issue 1 – Sexual Assault Examination: Requirements for the Assessment, Collection and Recording of Forensic Science Related Evidence](#) (2020)
4. [FSR-C-118, Issue 1 – Development of Evaluative Opinions](#) (2021)
5. [FSR-G-201, Issue 2 – Validation](#) (2020)
6. [FSR-G-202, Issue 2, The Interpretation of DNA Evidence \(Including Low-Template DNA\)](#) (2020)
7. [FSR-P-300, Issue 2 – Validation – Use of Casework Material](#) (2020)
8. [FSR-P-302, Issue 2 – DNA Contamination Detection: The Management and Use of Staff Elimination DNA Databases](#) (2020)
9. [FSR-G-206, Issue 2 – The Control and Avoidance of Contamination in Scene Examination involving DNA Evidence Recovery](#) (2020)
10. [FSR-G-207, Issue 2 – The Control and Avoidance of Contamination in Forensic Medical Examinations](#) (2020)

## Guidance Documents – UK

### Forensic Science Regulator

11. [FSR-G-208, Issue 2 – The Control and Avoidance of Contamination in Laboratory Activities involving DNA Evidence Recovery Analysis](#) (2020)
12. [FSR-G-212, Issue 1 – Guidance for the Assessment, Collection and Recording of Forensic Science Related Evidence in Sexual Assault Examinations](#) (2020)
13. [FSR-G-213, Issue 2 – Allele Frequency Databases and Reporting Guidance for the DNA \(Short Tandem Repeat\) Profiling](#) (2020)
14. [FSR-G-217, Issue 2 – Cognitive Bias Effects Relevant to Forensic Science Examinations](#) (2020)
15. [FSR-G-222, Issue 3 – DNA Mixture Interpretation](#) (2020)
16. [FSR-G-223, Issue 2 – Software Validation for DNA Mixture Interpretation](#) (2020)
17. [FSR-G-224, Issue 1 – Proficiency Testing Guidance for DNA Mixture Analysis and Interpretation](#) (2020)
18. [FSR-G-227, Issue 1 – Y-STR Profiling](#) (2021)
19. [FSR-G-228, Issue 1 -- DNA Relationship Testing using Autosomal Short Tandem Repeats](#) (2021)
20. [FSR-G-229, Issue 1 – Methods Employing Rapid DNA Devices](#) (2021)

# Information Tables in This INTERPOL DNA Review

**Table 1:** Top ten journals with forensic DNA articles published from 2019 to 2022 based on a Scopus.com search on June 13, 2022

**Table 2:** Guidance documents (70 total) related to forensic DNA published from 2019 to 2022 *(with hyperlinks to each document)*

**Table 3:** Research and development needs in forensic biology as identified by the OSAC Human Forensic Biology Subcommittee *(with hyperlinks to each document)*

**Table 4:** Summary of 20 rapid DNA instrument validation and evaluation studies published from 2019 to 2022

**Table 5:** STR kits assessed with 24 published validation studies from 2019 to 2022


# Table 3 in the 2019-2022 INTERPOL DNA Review

# OSAC Research & Development Needs

## Human Forensic Biology



1. [Applications of the Microbiome in DNA Transfer and Human Identification](#)
2. [Assessing DNA Background and Transfer Scenarios in Forensic Casework](#)
3. [Best Practices to Minimize Potential Biases in the Generation and Interpretation of DNA Profiles](#)
4. [Best Practices for Reporting Likelihood Ratios or Other Probabilistic Results in Court](#)
5. [Characterization, Development and Validation of Methods in Single Cell Isolation and Analysis](#)
6. [Characterization, Optimization and Comparison of DNA Sequencing Methods](#)
7. [Characterizing the Presence and Prevalence of Cell-Free DNA](#)
8. [Development of Infrastructure to Compile and Share Raw Electronic Data for Training and Tool Development](#)
9. [Efficiency, Throughput and Speed Improvements in Rapid DNA Instrumentation Through the Development of Direct PCR Methods](#)
10. [Efficient Collection of DNA at the Scene and from Evidence Items](#)
11. [Establishing the Value and Designing a Process for Including Flanking Region SNPs in Massive Parallel Sequencing Based on STRP Casework](#)
12. [Improving the Recovery of Male DNA from Sexual Assault Kits](#)
13. [Methods in Forensic Genealogy](#)
14. [Non-PCR Based Methods for DNA Amplification and/or Detection](#)
15. [Optimization of DNA Extraction for Low Level Samples](#)
16. [Software Solutions for Low Template and High Order DNA Mixture Interpretation in Sequence and Fragment-Based Methods](#)
17. [Software Solutions for Y-STR Mixture Deconvolution](#)
18. [Solutions in Phenotyping and Ancestry Analyses](#)

**OSAC RESEARCH NEEDS ASSESSMENT FORM** 

Title of research need:

Describe the need:

Keyword(s):

Submitting subcommittee(s):  Date Approved:

*(If SAC review identifies additional subcommittees, add them to the box above.)*



From Table 4 in the 2019-2022  
INTERPOL DNA Review

# Rapid DNA Studies (N=20) Published from 2019 to 2022

Publication	Instrument	Cartridge/Kit	Test Performed and Success Rates Reported
Amick & Swiger 2019	RapidHIT ID	ACE and EXT	Performed SWGDAM internal validation studies including known and database-type samples, reproducibility, precision, sensitivity, stochastic effects, mixtures, contamination assessment, and concordance studies
Carney et al. 2019	ANDE 6C	A-Chip	Conducted SWGDAM developmental validation (across 6 labs, 2045 swabs, 13 instruments): species specificity, limit of detection, stability, inhibitors, reproducibility, reference material, mixtures, precision, concordance, signal strength, peak height ratio, stutter, non-template addition, resolution, and contamination assessment; <b>first-pass success rate (1338 samples with 20 CODIS core loci) = 92%</b> ; successfully interpreted >2000 samples with over 99.99% concordant alleles; data package led to receiving NDIS approval in June 2018
Shackleton et al. 2019a	RapidHIT ID	NGM SElect Express	Described development studies that included process optimization, sensitivity, repeatability, contamination checks, inhibition, swab age, concordance, and overall performance; <b>success rate (124 samples) = 84.5%</b> gave a full profile
Shackleton et al. 2019b	RapidHIT 200	NGM SElect Express	Performed some protocol adjustments that enhanced slightly the sensitivity with mock crime scene samples (dilutions of blood and cell line DNA)
Yang et al. 2019	MiDAS	PowerPlex ESI 16 Plus	Described protocols for analysis of reference samples with a fully automated integrated microfluidic system (MiDAS), which is not commercially available
Romsos et al. 2020	ANDE 6C, RapidHIT ID, RapidHIT 200	A-Chip, ACE	Reported results from the July 2018 rapid DNA maturity assessment with multiple instruments organized by NIST; the average success rate for obtaining the 20 CODIS core loci was <b>85% (n=240)</b>

**Table 5 in the 2019-2022  
INTERPOL DNA Review**

# STR Kits with Validation Studies (N=24) Published from 2019 to 2022

Publication	STR Kit/Primer Set	Comments
Al Janaahi et al. 2019	VeriFiler Plus	Validation studies (sensitivity, peak height ratio, precision, reproducibility, thresholds, mixtures, concordance)
Alsafiah et al. 2019	SureID 23comp Human Identification	Validation studies (following ENFSI and SWGDAM guidelines); has 17 non-CODIS STRs
Bai et al. 2019	DNATyper25	Validation studies (following SWGDAM and China National Standard); has 20 non-CODIS STRs
Cho et al. 2021	Investigator 24plex QS, PowerPlex Fusion, GlobalFiler	Examined 189 casework samples and compared performance across the three kits
Fan et al. 2021	STRtyper-32G	Developmental validation studies (SWGDAM); has 10 non-CODIS STRs
Green et al. 2021	VeriFiler Plus	Developmental validation studies (SWGDAM); concordance checked with Huaxia Platinum kits
Hakim et al. 2020	Investigator 24plex GO!	Validation studies; concordance with GlobalFiler
Harrel et al. 2021	Investigator 24plex QS and GO!	Assessment of sample quality metrics in both kits
Jiang et al. 2021a	STRscan-17LC kit	Validation studies (SWGDAM)
Jiang et al. 2021b	Novel 8-dye STR multiplex	Validation studies (SWGDAM); 18 STRs plus AMEL; detection with GA118-24B Genetic Analyzer
Lenz et al. 2020	VersaPlex 27PY system	Developmental validation studies (SWGDAM); includes D6S1043
Li et al. 2021	SureID S6 system	Validation studies (SWGDAM); concordance with Huaxia Platinum kit; uses lyophilized reagents
Liu et al. 2019	19 autosomal and 27 Y-STRs	Validation studies (Chinese National Standard); 47 loci (Fusion 6C, GlobalFiler, Yfiler Plus) with 6-dyes
Qu et al. 2019	Microreader 20A ID system	Developmental validation studies (SWGDAM)
Qu et al. 2021	Novel 6-dye, 31-plex	Developmental validation studies (SWGDAM and Chinese National Standard); 29 STRs, AMEL, Y-InDel
Wang et al. 2020a	21plex with DYS391 and ABO	Describes a 21plex with 18 autosomal STRs, ABO blood group locus, DYS391, and AMEL
Wang et al. 2020b	Investigator 26plex QS kit	Validation studies (SWGDAM); concordance with AGCU Expressmarker 22 kit
Xie et al. 2020	AGCU Expressmarker 16+22Y	Developmental validation studies (SWGDAM)
Xie et al. 2022	Novel 26plex	Validation studies (SWGDAM); multiple STRs on chromosomes 13, 18, 21, and X for prenatal diagnosis
Yin et al. 2021	Microreader 28A ID System	Developmental validation (SWGDAM); concordance with AGCU Expressmarker 22 kit
Zhang et al. 2020	SiFaSTR 21plex_NCII	Developmental validation (SWGDAM); describes 18 new non-CODIS STR loci
Zhang et al. 2021	AGCU Expressmarker 30 Kit	Developmental validation (SWGDAM); includes 6 non-CODIS STR loci; concordance with AGCU Expressmarker 22 kit
Zheng et al. 2019	SiFaSTR 23-plex panel	Developmental validation (SWGDAM and Chinese National Standard)
Zhong et al. 2019	Huaxia Platinum PCR kit	Developmental validation (SWGDAM and Chinese National Standards)

# Recent Major Conferences on Forensic DNA (2019-2022)



American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS)



European Academy of Forensic Science (EAFS)



International Society for Forensic Genetics

Prague, Czech Republic  
Sept 2019



**347**  
extended  
abstracts  
published

Washington, D.C., USA  
Aug/Sept 2022



**~126**  
extended  
abstracts  
published

International Symposium on Human Identification





ISFG Proceedings published in  
*Forensic Science International: Genetics Supplement Series*



# MVPs (Most Valuable Publications) of Forensic DNA


## AAFS 2021 MVPs Workshop


American Academy of Forensic Sciences  
VIRTUAL WORKSHOP W19  
February 16, 2021





**Last Year's Half-Day Workshop**

### MVPs of Forensic DNA: Examining the Most Valuable Publications in the Field

Chair  
John M. Butler, PhD  
  
RESEARCH. STANDARDS. FOUNDATIONS.

Co-Chair  
Robin W. Cotton, PhD  


Mechthild K. Prinz, PhD  


Charlotte J. Word, PhD  


- **4-hour virtual workshop** with pre-recorded videos from each presenter
- **116-page handout** ([available on STRBase](#))
  - **240 slides and a 33-page reference list**
- **480 references in 26 categories + 17 books**
  - Built on lists from SWGDAM July 2020 [Training Guidelines](#) and OSAC October 2020 [Informative Literature for Forensic Biology and DNA](#)
  - Valuable input from co-presenters is gratefully acknowledged: Robin Cotton, Mecki Prinz, and Charlotte Word
- Discussed principles, MVP trends (article citations, journals used), and **value of the #1 article in each category**
  - **Covered 17 of 26 categories in 10 modules**
  - Also discussed training standards and value of a knowledge base for forensic DNA analysts

**2022 Revised (and Reduced) MVPs = 85 references**

[https://strbase.nist.gov/pub\\_pres/AAFS2022-W2-NIST-Forensic-DNA-Activities-FINAL.pdf](https://strbase.nist.gov/pub_pres/AAFS2022-W2-NIST-Forensic-DNA-Activities-FINAL.pdf) (pp. 77-84)

# FSI Genetics Publications between ISFG 2019 and ISFG 2022



**ISFG  
PRAGUE**  
9-13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019  
WWW.ISFG2019.ORG

18 volumes (18 issues)

**439 articles**



**2019**

[\(v38\)](#)

[\(v39\)](#)

[\(v40\)](#)

[\(v41\)](#)

[\(v42\)](#)

[\(v43\)](#)

**2020**

[\(v44\)](#)

[\(v45\)](#)

[\(v46\)](#)

[\(v47\)](#)

[\(v48\)](#)

[\(v49\)](#)

**2021**

[\(v50\)](#)

[\(v51\)](#)

[\(v52\)](#)

[\(v53\)](#)

[\(v54\)](#)

[\(v55\)](#)

**2022**

[\(v56\)](#)

[\(v57\)](#)

[\(v58\)](#)

[\(v59\)](#)

[\(v60\)](#)

[\(v61\)](#)

439 Articles Published in *FSI Genetics* between ISFG 2019 and ISFG 2022 (vol. 43 to vol. 60)

1. Aalbes, S. E., Hipp, M. J., Kennedy, S. R., & Weir, B. S. (2020). Analyzing population structure for forensic STR markers in next generation sequencing data. *Forensic Science International-Genetics*, 49, 102364. doi:10.1016/j.foigen.2020.102364
2. Achesh, N., van Weert, A., Birk, M., van Leeuwen, T. G., Aalders, M. C. G., & van Dam, A. (2021). The compatibility of immunolabeling with STR profiling. *Forensic Science International-Genetics*, 52, 102485. doi:10.1016/j.foigen.2021.102485
3. Adolphson, E., Crivik, A., Green, H., Kling, D., Gunnarsson, C., Jonsson, J., & Green, A. (2021). Technical in-depth comparison of two massive parallel DNA-sequencing methods for formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded tissue from victims of sudden cardiac death. *Forensic Science International-Genetics*, 53, 102522. doi:10.1016/j.foigen.2021.102522
4. Agostini, V., Ballo, P., Chiti, E., Lazzarello, P., Gentile, G., Primignani, P., ... Plocinai, A. (2020). Ocular swabs on exhumed bodies: An alternative to the collection of "classical" tissue samples in forensic genetics. *Forensic Science International-Genetics*, 44, 102206. doi:10.1016/j.foigen.2019.102206
5. Agudo, M. M., Aznar, H., Roseth, A., Albert, M., Gil, P., & Bléda, O. (2022). A comprehensive characterization of MPS-STR stater artefacts. *Forensic Science International-Genetics*, 69, 102728. doi:10.1016/j.foigen.2022.102728

[https://strbase.nist.gov/pub\\_pres/FSI-Genetics-439articles-2019to2022-alphabetical-by-author.pdf](https://strbase.nist.gov/pub_pres/FSI-Genetics-439articles-2019to2022-alphabetical-by-author.pdf)





## Supplement

The 28th Congress of the  
International Society for  
Forensic Genetics  
Prague

Guest Editors:  
Mechthild Prinz,  
John M. Butler  
and Jiri Drabek

# FSI

FORENSIC SCIENCE INTERNATIONAL  
GENETICS SUPPLEMENT SERIES

Volume 7 Issue 1 December 2019 ISSN 1875-1768



**ISFG**  
**PRAGUE**

9-13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019  
WWW.ISFG2019.ORG

# ISFG 2019 Proceedings

- **Published in December 2019**
- *FSI Genetics Supplement Series, Volume 7*
- **914 pages freely available online**
- <https://www.fsigeneticssup.com/current>
- **347 articles + 1 editorial + 1 corrigendum**

**The ISFG 2022 Proceedings** (volume 8 of *FSI Genetics Supplement Series*) should be **published in December 2022** (currently 126 articles will be included)

# Topics Covered: Forensic Biology and DNA Typing

1. Introduction
  1. Books, Special Issues, and Review Articles of Note
  2. Guidance Documents (SWGDM, OSAC, ASB, NIFS, ENFSI, UK Forensic Science Regulator)
2. Advancements in Current Practices (*Practitioner Focused*)
  1. Rapid DNA Analysis
  2. Use of DNA Databases (Investigative Genetic Genealogy, Privacy and Ethical Issues, SAKs)
  3. Forensic Biology and Body Fluid Identification
  4. DNA Collection and Extraction
  5. DNA Typing
  6. DNA Interpretation at the Source or Sub-Source Level (Probabilistic Genotyping Software)
  7. DNA Interpretation at the Activity Level (DNA Transfer)
3. Emerging Technologies, Research Studies, and Other Topics (*Researcher Focused*)
  1. Next-Generation Sequencing
  2. DNA Phenotyping (Ancestry, Appearance, Age Predictions)
  3. Lineage Markers (Y-chromosome, mtDNA, X-chromosome)
  4. New Markers and Approaches (Microhaplotypes, InDels, Proteomics, Human Microbiome)
  5. Kinship Analysis, Human Identification, and Disaster Victim Identification
  6. Non-Human DNA Testing and Wildlife Forensics

# Investigative Genetic Genealogy Review Article

Forensic Science International: Genetics 52 (2021) 102474



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Forensic Science International: Genetics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/fsigen](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/fsigen)



Review article

Investigative genetic genealogy: Current methods, knowledge and practice



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## ARTICLE INFO

### Keywords:

Genetic genealogy  
SNP microarrays  
Whole-genome-sequencing  
Familial searching  
Identity by descent  
Forensic DNA analysis  
Crime investigation

## ABSTRACT

Investigative genetic genealogy (IGG) has emerged as a new, rapidly growing field of forensic science. We describe the process whereby dense SNP data, commonly comprising more than half a million markers, are employed to infer distant relationships. By distant we refer to degrees of relatedness exceeding that of first cousins. We review how methods of relationship matching and SNP analysis on an enlarged scale are used in a forensic setting to identify a suspect in a criminal investigation or a missing person. There is currently a strong need in forensic genetics not only to understand the underlying models to infer relatedness but also to fully explore the DNA technologies and data used in IGG. This review brings together many of the topics and examines their effectiveness and operational limits, while suggesting future directions for their forensic validation. We further investigated the methods used by the major direct-to-consumer (DTC) genetic ancestry testing companies as well as submitting a questionnaire where providers of forensic genetic genealogy summarized their operation/services. Although most of the DTC market, and genetic genealogy in general, has undisclosed, proprietary algorithms we review the current knowledge where information has been discussed and published more openly.

## Highlights

- Comprehensive review of investigative genetic genealogy from a forensic perspective
- Background outlined for the DNA methodology and long-range familial searching process
- Survey of current direct-to-consumer testing companies connected to investigative genetic genealogy
- Overview of DNA technologies focusing on high-density SNP genotyping

**147 references cited  
with 7 supplemental files**

# Summary of Recent Advances

- **Aiding Investigations**
  - Phenotyping and Ancestry Testing (VISAGE and beyond)
  - Investigative Genetic Genealogy (GEDmatch and growing commercial support)
- **Improving Methods**
  - DNA recovery, extraction, quantitation, amplification chemistry, new kits
  - Process mapping, standards and guidance documents
- **Speeding and Strengthening Analysis**
  - Rapid DNA
  - Massively Parallel Sequencing
- **Innovating Interpretation**
  - Probabilistic genotyping software for DNA mixtures
  - Activity level evaluations using DNA transfer studies

*These advances are reported in the scientific literature and summarized in this INTERPOL review so that we can, as Isaac Newton famously stated, “stand on the shoulders of giants” to see further*



FORENSICS@NIST 2022

# Forensics@NIST 2022 (happening this week)

<https://www.nist.gov/agenda/forensicsnist-2022>

(Free) Virtual Meeting  
>1625 registrants from 70 countries  
**55 presentations + 5 workshops**  
Recordings to be available in two weeks

## NIST Forensic Science Efforts

1. Conduct impactful **research**
2. Facilitate **standards** development
3. Assess **foundational** knowledge

DNA Mixture Interpretation  
Digital Evidence  
Bitemark Analysis  
Firearm Examination

## Research Focus Areas

**Discipline-specific Focus Areas**

- ITL** Biometrics
- ITL** Digital Evidence
- MML** Drugs & Toxicology
- PML** Firearms & Toolmarks
- MML** Forensic Genetics
- MML** Trace

**Cross-discipline Focus Areas**

- MML** Quality Assurance
- ITL** Statistics

**Future Planning Priorities**

- Computational Forensic Science
- Forensic Science Data
- Training Officers of the Court



## NIST Center of Excellence



# Thank you for your attention!

John Butler

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<https://www.nist.gov/topics/forensic-science>

## MVPs of Forensic DNA

2021 (480): [https://strbase.nist.gov/pub\\_pres/AAFS2021-W19-Handouts.pdf](https://strbase.nist.gov/pub_pres/AAFS2021-W19-Handouts.pdf) (pp. 3-35)

2022 ( 85): [https://strbase.nist.gov/pub\\_pres/AAFS2022-W2-NIST-Forensic-DNA-Activities-FINAL.pdf](https://strbase.nist.gov/pub_pres/AAFS2022-W2-NIST-Forensic-DNA-Activities-FINAL.pdf) (pp. 77-84)



## Questions?

Points of view are mine and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Certain commercial entities are identified in order to specify experimental procedures as completely as possible. In no case does such identification imply a recommendation or endorsement by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, nor does it imply that any of the entities identified are necessarily the best available for the purpose.

# Informative Forensic DNA Reviews and Research Studies (A-to-Z)

**# Articles**

<b>Category Group</b>	<b>Topic(s) Covered</b>	<b>480 (2021)</b>	<b>85 (2022)</b>
<b>A</b>	Plain Language Guides to Forensic DNA Analysis	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>B</b>	Serology and Body Fluid Identification	<b>24</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>C</b>	Collection and Storage of Biological Material	<b>25</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>D</b>	DNA Extraction/Purification, Differential Extraction	<b>18</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>E</b>	DNA Quantitation, Degraded DNA	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>F</b>	PCR Amplification, Inhibition, and Artifacts	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>G</b>	Capillary Electrophoresis Separation and Detection	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>H</b>	Assessing Sample Suitability & Complexity, Low-Template	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>I</b>	Estimating the Number of Contributors	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>J</b>	Data Interpretation, Mixture Deconvolution, Interlab Studies	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>K</b>	Interpretation: Binary Approaches (CPI, RMP, LR)	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>L</b>	Interpretation: Probabilistic Genotyping Software	<b>44</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>M</b>	Report Writing and Technical Review	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>

# Informative Forensic DNA Reviews and Research Studies (A-to-Z)

**# Articles**

<b>Category Group</b>	<b>Topic(s) Covered</b>	<b>480 (2021)</b>	<b>85 (2022)</b>
<b>N</b>	Court Testimony, Communication, Juror Comprehension	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>O</b>	Autosomal STR Markers and Kits	<b>29</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>P</b>	Mitochondrial DNA Testing	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Q</b>	Y-Chromosome and X-Chromosome Testing	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>R</b>	DNA Databases and Investigative Genetic Genealogy	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>S</b>	Statistical Analysis	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>T</b>	Population Genetics	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>U</b>	DNA Phenotyping (Ancestry, Appearance, Age)	<b>24</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>V</b>	New Technologies (Rapid DNA, Massively Parallel Sequencing)	<b>35</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>W</b>	DNA Transfer and Activity Level Reporting	<b>57</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>X</b>	Non-Human DNA Testing	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Y</b>	Method Validation, Quality Control, and Human Factors	<b>23</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Z</b>	General Forensic Science Topics	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>



# Testing the Current 26 MVP “A-to-Z” Categories with the 2019-2022 INTERPOL Review

**Starting with  
4,087 articles**

Scopus & Web of Science “forensic DNA” searches  
January 2019 to March 2022 (with some additions)

Removed duplicates  
and **sorted**  
**into 26 categories**  
**MVP “A to Z”**  
**+ 6 additional ones**

**1,884  
articles**

version  
May 16, 2022

MVP	# articles	MVP	# articles
A	9	N	18
B	56	O	49
C	116	P	95
D	100	Q	117+25
E	27	R	77
F	38	S	54
G	5	T	147
H	3	U	172
I	10	V	105+32
J	20	W	57
K	6	X	126
L	63	Y	22
M	2	Z	18

## Additional Categories

Human Remains ID (DVI)

92

Microbial & Viral DNA

59

Microhaplotypes/InDels

53

Proteomics

15

Sexual Assault Policy

33

Other Applications

48

(+12 unsorted)

# Guidance Documents – United States

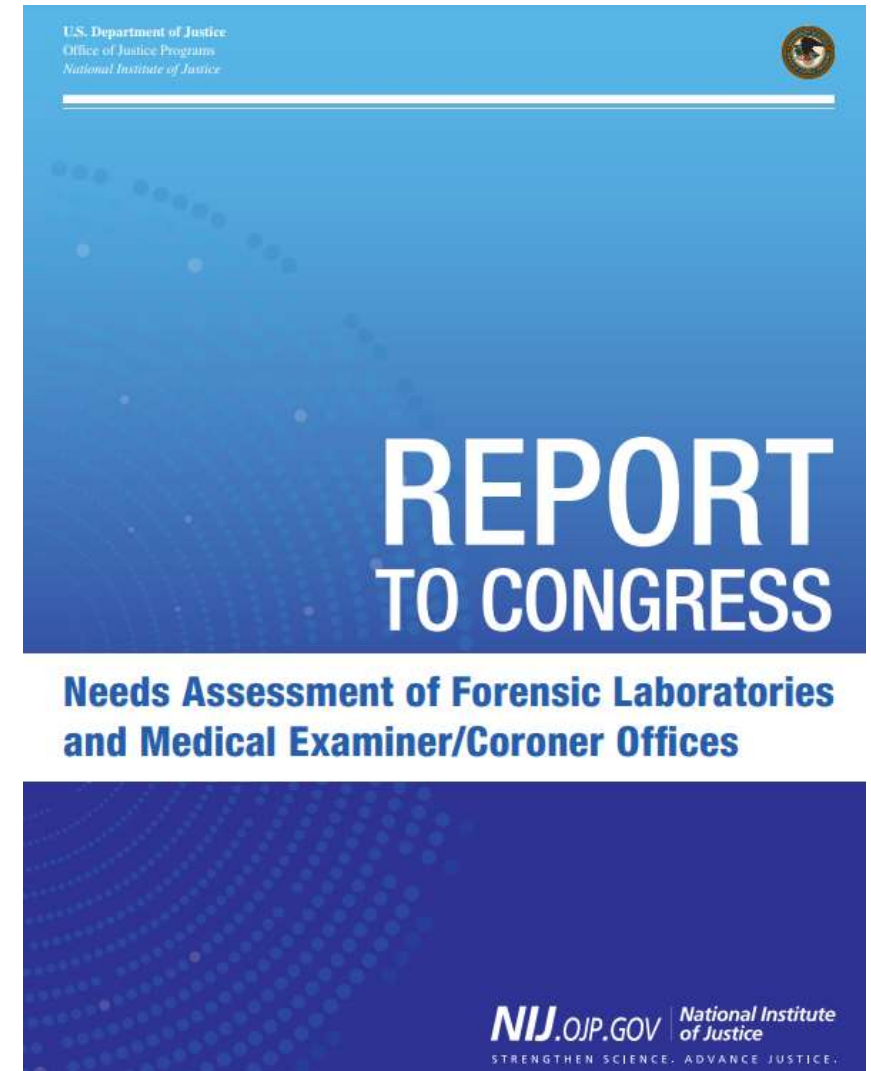
## DOJ Uniform Language for Testimony and Reports (ULTRs)

[Approved ULTR for the Forensic DNA Discipline – Autosomal DNA with Probabilistic Genotyping](#) (effective 3.18.19)

[Approved ULTR for the Forensic DNA Discipline – Mitochondrial DNA](#) (effective 3.18.19)

[Approved ULTR for the Forensic DNA Discipline – Y-STR DNA](#) (effective 3.18.19)

<https://www.justice.gov/olp/uniform-language-testimony-and-reports>



December 2019, 200 pages

<https://www.justice.gov/olp/page/file/1228306/download>

# Guidance Documents – United States

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
INTERIM POLICY  
FORENSIC GENETIC GENEALOGICAL DNA ANALYSIS AND SEARCHING

## I. Purpose and Scope<sup>1</sup>

The purpose of this interim policy is to promote the reasoned exercise of investigative, scientific, and prosecutorial discretion in cases that involve forensic genetic genealogical DNA analysis and searching ('FGGS').<sup>2</sup> It provides guidance to Department agencies when formulating a thoughtful and collaborative approach to important interdisciplinary decisions in cases that utilize this investigative technique. Collaboration between investigators, laboratory personnel, and prosecutors is important because the decision to pursue FGGS may affect privacy interests, the consumption of forensic samples, and law enforcement's ability to solve violent crime.

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Approved: 09.02.2019

1

Effective: 11.01.2019

## EDITORIAL

### Responsible genetic genealogy

The scientific development of forensic genetic genealogy (FGG), which couples genetic analysis with investigation of publicly available genealogy information, has successfully transformed law enforcement investigations by solving more than 50 cases over the last 18 months in the United States. However, use of FGG by law enforcement has preceded widespread development of best practices to protect the genetic privacy of private citizens who have voluntarily submitted samples to genealogy databases. Absent best practices, use of FGG could lead to compromised cases, diminished use, or the loss of this new investigative tool. Public support for FGG could be jeopardized and confidence

in forensic DNA analysis could be undermined. As the custodian of a national law enforcement DNA database (CODIS), the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is looked to by many in the law enforcement and forensic DNA communities for guidance, and its efforts often influence the global community. The emergence of FGG suggests that further discussions on privacy, genomics, and the use of genealogy by law enforcement would be beneficial. Accordingly, the FBI seeks to engage the scientific and bioethics communities in such a dialogue.

Use of FGG involves databases and family trees composed of genetic data of private citizens who are not under suspicion for any crimes. When searching crime scene DNA in these databases, potential perpetrators may be uncovered by identifying their close or distant relatives, and then building family trees that can extend over many generations and may include hundreds to thousands of relatives. To date, this approach is only used if crime scene DNA has not matched genetic profiles in the CODIS database of known offenders and arrestees. A consensus has emerged that there is no legal prohibition on such use. The question is how it should be done.

Under a recently released interim policy from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), effective this November, federal investigative agencies may develop internal policies and procedures and can utilize FGG if the case involves an unsolved violent crime (homicide

or sex crime) for which a CODIS search resulted in no matches, and for which reasonable investigative leads have been pursued. The DOJ Interim Policy is the first substantial attempt to address "how genetic genealogy should be done." The interim guidance restricts investigative agencies to using only public databases or direct-to-consumer genetic genealogy services that provide clear notice to users and the public that law enforcement may access their sites for investigative or unidentified human remains identification purposes.\*

The forensic DNA community is also working on guidance to address the "how to" question. In April, the Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods (SWGDM; swgdam.org), which recommends

standards to the FBI for CODIS and issues guidance for the forensic DNA community, formed an interim committee on FGG composed of genealogists, bioethicists, academicians, law enforcement, and forensic scientists, as well as representatives of the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes and the International Society of Forensic Genetics (the author is co-chair of this committee). This group held an FGG technical symposium for SWGDAM membership in July and recently submitted recommendations to SWGDAM leadership that included establishing an FGG Working Group.

With the FBI and other agencies now moving to develop internal policies and procedures under the DOJ interim policy, the FBI has committed to leading the process of receiving stakeholder input by hosting a symposium on Genetic Privacy and Law Enforcement in 2020. In addition to symposium presentations, a comprehensive discussion of the interim FGG policy should also consider comments solicited from the scientific community on FGG privacy and ethical implications; metrics required by the interim policy, transparency, and SWGDAM guidance and recommendations. To initiate this review, the scientific community and other interested parties are encouraged to provide the FBI with comments at [forensicgenealogy@fbi.gov](mailto:forensicgenealogy@fbi.gov).

—Thomas F. Callaghan



Thomas F. Callaghan is chief biometric scientist at the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Laboratory Division in Quantico, VA, USA. [tfcallaghan2@fbi.gov](mailto:tfcallaghan2@fbi.gov)

**"Absent best practices... confidence in forensic DNA analysis could be undermined."**

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

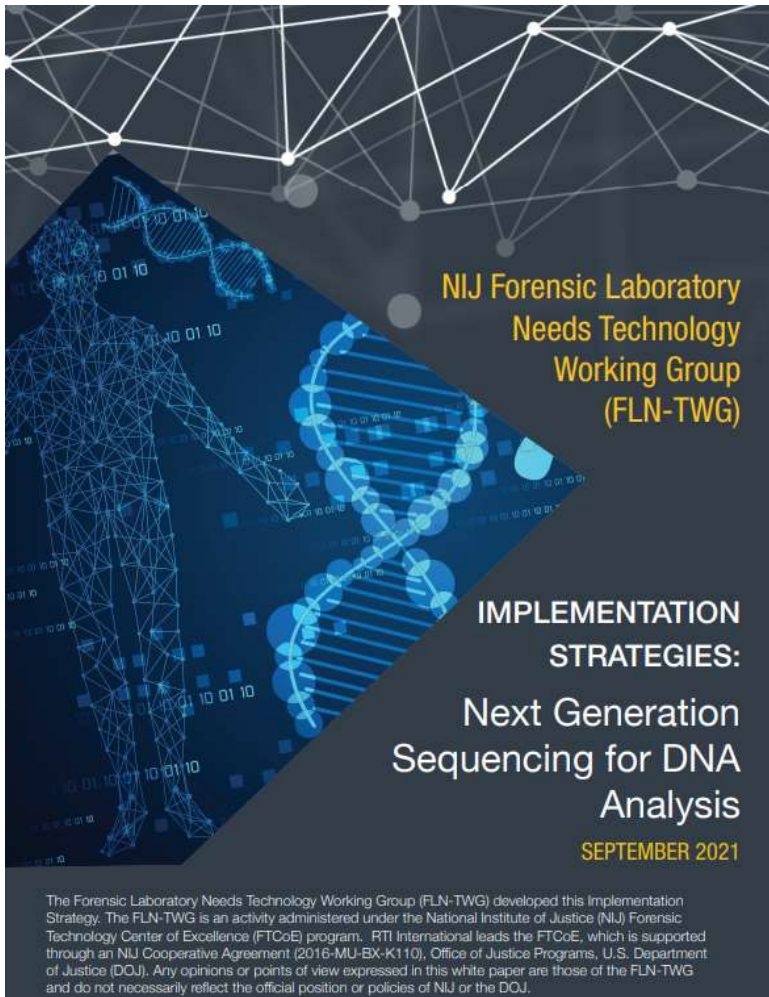
\*U.S. Department of Justice, Interim Policy on Forensic Genetic Genealogical DNA Analysis and Searching (2019). [www.justice.gov/opa/pages/file/1204386/download](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pages/file/1204386/download).

10.1126/science.aaz6578

# Guidance Documents – United States

## NIJ FLN-TWG

(Forensic Laboratory Needs Technology Working Group)



## Human Factors Sourcebook

- [https://forensiccoe.org/human\\_factors\\_forensic\\_science\\_sourcebook/](https://forensiccoe.org/human_factors_forensic_science_sourcebook/)

Publication of six articles in *Forensic Science International: Synergy*, March 2022

- 1) [Overview of special issue: Human factors in forensic science practice sourcebook](#)
- 2) [The need for research-based tools for personnel selection and assessment in the forensic sciences](#)
- 3) [The benefits of errors during training](#)
- 4) [Challenges to reasoning in forensic science decisions](#)
- 5) [Stressors in forensic organizations: Risks and solutions](#)
- 6) [Describing communication during a forensic investigation using the Pebbles on a Scale metaphor](#)

# Guidance Documents – United States

## Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science (OSAC)

1. [OSAC 2020-N-0007, Best Practice Recommendations for the Management and Use of Quality Assurance DNA Elimination Databases in Forensic DNA Analysis](#) (added April 6, 2021, to OSAC website and sent to [ASB](#) for further development and publication).
2. [OSAC 2020-S-0004, Standard for Interpreting, Comparing and Reporting DNA Test Results Associated with Failed Controls and Contamination Events](#) (added June 1, 2021, to OSAC website and sent to [ASB](#) for further development and publication).

## Academy Standards Board (ASB)

1. [ANSI/ASB Standard 020, Standard for Validation Studies of DNA Mixtures, and Development and Verification of a Laboratory's Mixture Interpretation Protocol, First Edition, 2018](#) (added to OSAC Registry May 12, 2020).
2. [ANSI/ASB Standard 040, Standard for Forensic DNA Interpretation and Comparison Protocols, First Edition, 2019](#) (added to OSAC Registry May 12, 2020).
3. [ANSI/ASB Standard 022, Standard for Forensic DNA Analysis Training Programs, First Edition, 2019](#) (added to OSAC Registry September 1, 2020).
4. [ANSI/ASB Standard 018, Standard for Validation of Probabilistic Genotyping Systems, First Edition, 2020](#) (added to OSAC Registry May 4, 2021).
5. [ANSI/ASB Standard 023, Standard for Training in Forensic DNA Isolation and Purification Methods, First Edition, 2020](#) (added to OSAC Registry August 3, 2021).
6. [ANSI/ASB Standard 110, Standards for Training in Forensic Serological Methods, First Edition, 2020](#) (added to OSAC Registry August 3, 2021).
7. [ANSI/ASB Standard 115, Standard for Training in Forensic Short Tandem Repeat Typing Methods using Amplification, DNA Separation, and Allele Detection, First Edition, 2020](#) (added to OSAC Registry August 3, 2021).
8. [ANSI/ASB Standard 116, Standard for Training in Forensic DNA Quantification Methods, First Edition, 2020](#) (added to OSAC Registry August 3, 2021).

# Guidance Documents – Australia and Europe

## Australian National Institute of Forensic Science (NIFS)

1. [Case Record Review in Forensic Biology](#)  
(September 2019)
2. [Empirical Study Design in Forensic Science - A Guideline to Forensic Fundamentals](#)  
(September 2019)
3. [Transitioning Technology from the Laboratory to the Field - Process and Considerations for the Forensic Sciences](#) (December 2019)

## European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) DNA Working Group

1. [DNA Database Management Review and Recommendations](#) (April 2019)
2. [Guideline for the Training of Staff in Forensic DNA Laboratories](#) (March 2022)

# ISFG DNA Commissions

<https://www.isfg.org/Publications/DNA+Commission>

*Provide recommendations and considerations to enable interconnectivity and advance the quality of forensic DNA evidence*

- Autosomal STRs and allele nomenclature
  - [Bär et al. 1994](#) allelic ladders & partial repeats (e.g., 9.3)
  - [Bär et al. 1997](#) motif choice & repeat nomenclature
  - [Parson et al. 2016](#) 8 considerations with sequence data
- mtDNA
  - [Carracedo et al. 2000](#) guidelines on QC, nomenclature, heteroplasmy, and interpretation
  - [Parson et al. 2014](#) 16 recommendations on sequencing, quality control, interpretation, and databases
- Y-STRs
  - [Gill et al. 2001](#) locus & allele nomenclature, allelic ladders
  - [Gusmão et al. 2006](#) repeat nomenclature, new loci
  - [Roewer et al. 2020](#) statistics and report information
- X-STRs
  - [Tillmar et al. 2017](#) 10 recommendations on use of X-STRs in kinship analyses, linkage, and statistical calculations
- DNA mixture interpretation and assessing evidence
  - [Gill et al. 2006](#) nine recommendations on mixture interpretation (e.g., LR vs. CPI)
  - [Gill et al. 2012](#) allele drop-in and drop-out using probabilistic methods
  - [Gill et al. 2018](#) formulation of propositions; investigator and evaluator roles
  - [Gill et al. 2020](#) activity level propositions
- Other topics
  - *DNA Polymorphisms*: [Brinkmann et al. 1989](#), [1992](#), [Bär et al. 1992](#)
  - *Disaster Victim Identification*: [Prinz et al. 2007](#) 12 recommendations
  - *Biostatistics in Paternity Testing*: [Gjertson et al. 2007](#)
  - *Non-human DNA*: [Linacre et al. 2011](#) 13 recommendations
  - *STRidER*: [Bodner et al. 2016](#) quality control of autosomal STR allele
  - *Software Validation*: [Coble et al. 2016](#) 16 recommendations and expectations

## **Current (Active) DNA Commissions**

1. STR nomenclature with DNA sequencing information (building on STRAND efforts): *K. Gettings*
2. Phenotyping (building on VISAGE efforts): *M. Kayser*