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Standard Guide for PDD Examination Standards of Practice[1]

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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) examination.

1.1.1 Other unique PDD applications are addressed separately.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

E 1954 Practice for Conduct of Research in Psychophysiological Detection of Deception (Polygraph)[2]

E 2000 Guide for Minimum Basic Polygraph Training and Education

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. This is not intended to address examinations conducted for demonstration purposes.

4. Preparation

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

4.2 No examination shall be conducted unless the instrument is functioning in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

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 degree practicable.

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 extent legally practicable.

5.1.3.1 Mental, physical, and medical conditions of the examinee should be reviewed.

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

5.2 All 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 fully 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 the examinee recognizes and understands each question.

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

6. Intest Practices

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

6.2 A continuous recording shall be made and maintained of the data produced during the intest phase. All test data must be accounted for prior to rendering an opinion.

6.3 Questions shall be asked in such a manner that responses are not influenced by the manner in which the question is presented.

6.4 Question intervals shall allow for a reasonable recovery or meet the requirements of a scoring algorithm.

6.4.1 Stimulus onset to stimulus onset shall not be less than 20 s.

7. Evaluation Practices

7.1 The examiner shall use evaluation methods for which they have been formally trained and that are appropriate to that testing technique.

7.1.1 Acceptable evaluation methods are those which have known error and accuracy rates established by independent research.

7.2 The examiner shall maintain all records of test data analysis in accordance with ASTM standards.

7.3 The examiner shall not disclose the results of the

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[2] *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 14.02.

examination until the test has been adequately and sufficiently analyzed.

7.4 Examiners shall collect a sufficient amount of physiological data suitable for evaluation in compliance with the format utilized.

7.4.1 All suitable physiological data will be evaluated when formulating an opinion.

8. Posttest Practices

8.1 Following collection of all physiological data, a discussion of the examination shall be conducted, as appropriate.

9. Keywords

9.1 forensic psychophysiology; PDD; PDD examination; polygraph