



B37 Rapid DNA Turnaround for the Analysis of All Victim Sexual Assault Evidence When a Kit Is Collected

Diana K. Faugno, MSN, Palm Desert, CA 92211; Patricia M. Speck, DNSc, Hoover, AL 35226*

Learning Overview: After attending this presentation, attendee's will be able to: (1) define Rapid DNA Service (RADS) and its scope; (2) be able to discuss program costs and budget; and (3) describe the implementation process for the forensic nurse.

Impact on the Forensic Science Community: This presentation will impact the forensic science community by providing attendees with the knowledge to be able to compare this program's success in handling the backlog of sexual assault kit analysis to their own programs. The victims also benefit by knowing their kit is being reviewed in a timely manner.

In May 2011, the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Forensic Services, Jan Bashinski DNA Laboratory launched a pilot project in four counties—Marin, Solano, Napa, Sonoma—to test a portion of all victim sexual assault kits within 30 days. This project, known as the Rapid DNA Service (RADS), was found to be effective and sustainable. RADS is effective because a rapid analysis provides the best circumstances for rapidly solving a case, it prevents future crimes by rapidly removing predators from the community, and counties participating in this program no longer accrue future backlogs. RADS is sustainable because 95% of the time, the turnaround time goal has been successful. With the success of the pilot project, combined with the implementation of the Sexual Assault Victim's DNA Bill of Rights (AB 1517) in 2016, the California Department of Justice has elected to roll out the RADS program to the 46 counties serviced by the Bureau of Forensic Services. As of March 2017, RADS has expanded to five of the state's DNA laboratories and 28 counties. Over 2,000 cases have been processed resulting in over 700 cases with searchable profiles, of which over 300 have hit to a known offender or arrestee within the CODIS (Combined DNA Index System) database. Thirty-five percent of RADS cases result in a searchable CODIS profile, and 44% of the time, those profiles hit to a known individual. The RADS work flow requires additional steps for the Sexual Assault Forensic Nurse (SAFN) to perform during the sexual assault medical forensic examination. Implementation of this process involves initial training for the SAFN and continued communication. A monthly report is sent to the program coordinator with the case numbers listed as well as if there was a hit on any of the swabs FedEx to the crime lab. A forensic nurse from Riverside County, CA, will discuss cases with searchable CODIS profiles developed from RADS samples as well as several barriers for the nursing staff when executing this program.

Further Information, please visit the following websites:

www.fbi.gov/about-us/lab/biometric-analysis/codis/rapid-dna-analysis

www.fbi.gov/about-us/lab/biometric-analysis/codis/codis-and-ndis-fact-sheet

www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/fingerprints_biometrics/ngiswgdam.org/

www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/06/AR2010030602500.html

Sexual Assault Evidence Collection, DNA, Forensic Nurses