

Supplementary Materials

# Incidental Findings in Forensic Investigations: A Narrative Review

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**Document S1:** Information regarding the possibility of incidental findings.

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Surname\_\_\_\_\_ ID Number\_\_\_\_\_  
Forensic Investigation\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that I am participating in a DNA testing procedure as part of the forensic investigation. The purpose of this testing is to gather information that may be used as evidence in a legal case.

I am aware that the DNA testing procedure involves the collection of biological samples, such as blood, saliva, or hair, which will be analyzed to determine my unique DNA profile. I understand that this profile will be compared to other DNA samples collected as part of the investigation to determine any possible matches.

I acknowledge that the results of this DNA testing may have legal consequences and may be used as evidence in a court of law.

I understand that during this investigation, incidental findings may be discovered. They are unintended and unanticipated results such as information related to my ancestry, predisposition to certain diseases, or other unexpected results. I acknowledge that this finding may not be directly related to the purpose of the investigation but may still be obtained as result of the testing process.

Please answer the following question by crossing Yes or No:

☐ I authorize the use of my DNA profile in a de-identified population Biobank. The Biobank will not contain any of my personal information, and the DNA profile cannot be associated with me as the donor.

Yes No

☐ I authorize the use of my DNA profile for de-identified research to improve DNA testing methods.

Yes No

☐ I consent to be entered into a DNA database for future reference and comparison with other sample to solve future crimes or legal cases or identify missing person.

Yes No

☐ I give the authorization to communicate me any eventual incidental findings discovered.

Yes No

o If any incidental findings are discovered, I give the authorization to communicate it to me only in case my health or the health of my relatives is threatened.

Yes   No

**Right to Withdraw:** It is important to note that you have the right to withdraw your consent at any time. If you decide to withdraw your consent, any information that has been collected about you will be destroyed and will not be used in any future investigations or research.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood the information provided above, and that I have had the opportunity to have any additional questions answered by physician or genetics professional. By signing below, I voluntarily agree to participate in this forensic investigation or give the consent to participate on behalf of the patient for whom I am legal guardian.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Document S2:** *Case-report*

**Incidental findings in a paternity test requested by a Prosecutor to identify the biological father of the fetus of a minor girl with severe mental disability.**

Based on the story told by the girl's mother, the investigators had focused their attention on the family environment, as the girl, in the period in which the conception had taken place, had no longer gone to school or to the center for disabled people. The Consultant (one of the authors) of the Prosecutor's Office had therefore collected a buccal swab on all the male subjects of the family. In particular, the girl's father, brother, paternal grandfather, paternal uncle, and cousin were swabbed. Once the male genetic profiles were obtained with the "GlobalFiler PCR Amplification Kit" (Thermo Fisher Scientific), their comparison with those of the minor and her fetus showed that the paternal grandfather was the father of the fetus. At the same time, the comparison of the genetic profile of the paternal grandfather and the father of the minor had led to the definition of an IF, because for 8 of the 21 autosomal STRs and for 1 of the 2 loci located on the Y chromosome, the two subjects did not share any allele. This situation was considered by the Prosecutor as one of the possible motives of the offence.