



Forensics

for Survivors

Healing. Justice.

## Survivor Toxicology Resource Guide

### What is a toxicology kit?

A toxicology kit is used to collect a sample of urine and possibly blood after a sexual assault. A toxicology kit will be obtained if the survivor suspects that drugs or other substances were involved in the assault. Some signs that indicate this could include loss of consciousness, no or limited memory of the incident, or loss of control over their body. A survivor must consent before a doctor, nurse, or sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) can collect the sample for a toxicology kit. Toxicology kits are obtained at the hospital emergency department.

### What will happen to my toxicology kit?

All toxicology kits are sent to the MA State Police Crime Lab (MSPCL) and are tested for any substances that may be in the survivor's system at the time of evidence collection. Any medications or drugs, such as alcohol, recreational or over-the-counter drugs, or prescription medications, taken voluntarily in recent days or weeks may also be found during the testing. Some substances that are used to facilitate a sexual assault can leave the body very quickly and may not show up in the samples, even though someone experienced the symptoms mentioned earlier.

### How can I track the location of a toxicology kit?

A toxicology kit, if indicated, will be collected along with the sexual assault evidence collection kit (SAECK). You can track the location of both your toxicology kit and SAECK through the state's TRACK-KIT® system.

### What information will I need to track my toxicology kit and SAECK in TRACK-KIT®?

You will be given a card at the medical facility that provides login information to access TRACK-KIT®. You will need to log into the survivor portal (using the login on your card) at [ma.track-kit.us](http://ma.track-kit.us) to check the location of your SAECK and toxicology kit. There will only be one login to access TRACK-KIT®, which will allow you to view both kits.

### What if I don't want to report my assault to law enforcement?

All toxicology kits are tested because these substances can deteriorate quickly. The TRACK-KIT® system does not contain any identifying information aside from the kit barcode. If you do not choose to report your assault to law enforcement, you can

obtain the results of the toxicology testing by calling the confidential Access to Forensic Information (AFI) Line toll-free at **866-463-3799**, and providing your toxicology kit barcode number that begins with **MAT-XXXX**. The testing results should be available after 12 weeks. It is your choice if you wish to report your assault to law enforcement at a later point. If you prefer, you can also choose to wait to report until you receive toxicology results.

### **What if I want to report my assault to law enforcement? How do I get my results?**

The test results of toxicology kits will be available to law enforcement officials approximately 12 weeks after testing. To obtain the testing results, you can contact the district attorney's office where your assault occurred or the law enforcement agency of the city/town where your assault occurred. Whichever agency you call, you will ask to speak with the assigned victim witness advocate at the district attorney's office or the investigator or detective assigned to your case.

### **What if a sexual assault took place outside of Massachusetts?**

If your assault happened outside of Massachusetts and the kit was collected in MA, you can contact the local rape crisis center where the incident took place to find out local protocols for accessing kit information. You could also contact the law enforcement department where the incident took place. For assistance and referral support, you can contact the confidential Access to Forensic Information (AFI) Line toll-free at 866-463-3799.

**For more information, please go to the EOPSS FAQ which can be found in your TRACK-KIT® portal or by visiting [mass.gov/saack](https://mass.gov/saack).**