

ALCOHOL MONITORING WITH LIVER FUNCTION TESTS

Alcohol misuse has increasingly become a major public health problem with far reaching consequences not only for the individuals concerned but for their families and for society as a whole. It is estimated that 10% of the population have medical problems, both physiological and psychological, that can be attributed to the underlying abuse of alcohol. Over the years there have been a number of biochemical tests developed that contribute to the diagnosis and treatment of alcohol consumption.

Apart from the toxic effects alcohol has on the body, heavy or prolonged use of alcohol can lead to more serious psychological damage such as depression, aggression dependency and irrational behaviour. These have detrimental effects on an individual's ability to make logical judgments and can influence their role in the community or at the workplace especially if their role is demanding or involves decision making.

These tests are widely used by doctors, the UK courts, and as part of a community care or rehabilitation programme.

LIVER FUNCTION TESTS

It is now possible to assess people who have been drinking heavily or using alcohol regularly (defined as at least 60 grams of alcohol per day) on a routine basis, providing a historical record over a minimum of two or three weeks. The most accurate method of detection is to perform a Liver Function Test (LFT) using a blood sample which can easily be taken by a trained nurse or phlebotomist. The LFT test assesses the variation of proteins in the blood in conjunction with a Carbohydrate Deficient Transferrin (CDT) test that looks at a specific biochemical marker for alcohol consumption.

Other health screening tests can be included at the same time as part of a 'wellness' programme.

THE LFT PROCESS

- Accurate detection of liver function markers that are affected by excess alcohol consumption within 7 days.
- Details provided to make the whole process simple and reliable under chain of custody rules
- The whole process is fully coordinated to provide you with accurate details with the minimum of delays.
- Reporting that is easy to understand and simple to act upon.
- Comprehensive reporting right up to statement of witness available at modest additional cost if required.
- Guidance at every stage.
- Analysis by ISO UKAS approved contract Laboratories.
- Additional markers for general health or specific conditions available as part of a well person screen also available for company health programmes.

A TRUSTED TECHNOLOGY

The whole process is carried out under chain of custody rules and the results are reviewed by our experts and extra guidance is given where necessary.

A TRUSTED TEAM

From alcohol breathalysers to blood alcohol and the latest in alcohol detection systems and prevention, MHS has been at the forefront of diagnostics for twenty years and more. Led by toxicologists and forensic scientists, this family business will guide you through the issues, from policy, testing and right through to support you as an expert witness

Our subcontract Laboratories have been certified to ISO 9001 in accordance with UKAS standards.

