

APPLICATIONS OF RAPID DNA

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Over the past five years Rapid DNA has become a regular feature of forensic science meetings and symposia, with numerous groups involved in the development of instruments presenting progress toward a fully integrated and automated human DNA identification system.

Whilst some of the benefits of increasing the speed of DNA analysis in the laboratory are clear, discussions with various users and stakeholders in the field of human identification highlight a significant range of deployment scenarios and opportunities for capitalizing on rapid DNA testing. Various public and private sector agencies have considerably different requirements for DNA testing. Furthermore, even within broadly similar applications, these scenarios and opportunities vary widely depending on numerous factors including legislation, infrastructure and geography.

Here we present an overview of several potential deployment scenarios of Rapid DNA covering a diverse range of applications including human trafficking and displaced persons, disaster victim identification, rapid intelligence in major crime investigations, as well as traditional law enforcement scenarios where rapid DNA offers significant benefits.

As evidenced by the international contributions to this poster, there is global acceptance that Rapid DNA is the next paradigm shift in human identification. The HID community now needs to work together to prepare for the introduction of Rapid DNA in order to ensure that these potential benefits are fully realized. ☘