

# **PATERNITY TESTING INFORMATION**

**\*\*BRING THE BABY!\*\***

Every human being is born with a unique genetic blueprint or special coded pattern known as DNA (Deoxyribonucleic Acid). A child's genes are inherited from both biological parents. Half of each person's DNA is inherited from his or her biological father. DNA paternity testing is widely accepted as the most conclusive and reliable way to determine familial relationships and is a very scientific procedure. It is considered as unique and accurate as fingerprinting.

**ATTENTION: In order to ensure chain of custody in legal cases, everyone being tested must provide government issued identification:**

- For a teen/adult:
  - Driver's license or Dept of Transportation official ID
  - Military ID
- For an infant/child:
  - Social Security Card
  - Forward (Badger Care) card
  - Birth Certificate

## **ALSO:**

- Everyone being tested will be asked to complete a section of the Client Authorization Form with legal name, address, social security number, etc.
- Everyone being tested will also be asked for fingerprints and their photograph will be taken and secured to the form.

The paternity test is performed by trained and certified Oneida County Child Support Agency staff through buccal (pronounced "bew-keel") cheek swab collection. A buccal swab looks and feels similar to a Q-tip, but is slightly longer. The swab is rubbed against the inside of the cheeks and easily collects surface cells. This is a simple, painless and non-invasive collection technique. The tiny tissue from the cheek that rubs onto the swab contains more than enough cells for the laboratory to perform the paternity test.

The laboratory compares the child's DNA against the DNA of the mother and alleged father. If the alleged father is truly the biological father, the father and child will have a number of matching DNA sequences in their genes. However, if there are no matches at all, the laboratory can say with certainty that the alleged father CANNOT be the biological father of the child in question.

DNA is contained in bodily fluid. All sample types that contain DNA yield the same result. No sample is more "accurate" than another.

Drugs, alcohol or diet will not affect the test.

It takes approximately four to six weeks to complete testing. The results are sent directly to the ordering facility-Oneida County Child Support.

Laboratory Corporation of America is the laboratory used by Oneida County Child Support to perform paternity testing. Testing can only be performed when ordered to do so by Child Support court order or Administrative order. If you are interested in making arrangements for private paternity testing, please do an online search for one of the many laboratories available.