

What Really Works in Alcohol Monitoring

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MADD & NHTSA Statistics


An average drunk driver has driven drunk 80 times before first arrest

50-75% of convicted drunk drivers continue to drive on a suspended license

Almost every 90 seconds, a person is injured in a drunk driving crash

Every day in America, another 28 people die as a result of drunk driving crashes

In 2012, 10,322 people died in drunk driving crashes - one every 51 minutes



Effects of Drugs & Alcohol




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Agenda


- Comparison of Alcohol Monitoring Technology
 - BrAC - Breath detection
 - TAC - Sweat detection
 - EtG - Urine detection

“Start with the assumption that the best way to do something is not the way it's being done right now.”
- Aaron Levie, CEO of Box



Alcohol Detection

BrAC
TAC
ETG



What Are You Looking For?

- Is a drink or two once in a while allowed?
- How soon do you want to know about a drinking event?
- Is differentiating contaminants from consumed alcohol necessary?
- How important is the cost?



Breath Alcohol Monitor

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION
WINDOW OF DETECTION
CONFIRMATION

Thanks to her new breath alcohol analyzer, Cheryl could find out what her kids REALLY had for lunch.

Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)

Consumption

- Absorption Rate:**
 - Increase for 30 min to 2 hrs.
- Elimination Rate:**
 - Average .020% per hour

MEN vs WOMEN
NOT EQUAL WHEN ALCOHOL IS INVOLVED

Time	Men BAC	Women BAC
30 MIN	0.02	0.03
1 HRS	0.04	0.05
2 HRS	0.06	0.08
3 HRS	0.08	0.1
4 HRS	0.1	0.12

Standard mixed drink with 20 sources of alcohol.

VIRTUAL BAP **FOUNDATION FOR ADVANCING ALCOHOL RESPONSIBILITY** [responsibility.org/virtualbap](https://www.responsibility.org/virtualbap)

This illustration is not intended to be used as a scientific BAC measurement, and should not take the place of your own responsible decision about drinking alcohol, or about whether and when it is safe to get to drive.

SMART START <https://www.responsibility.org/end-impaired-driving/solutions/prevention/08-bac-legal-limit/>

BAC vs BrAC

Detection

- After 15-30 min, blood is higher than breath
- Breath monitors alveolar air


Legend: ● Blood alcohol mg/100 ml, ○ Breath alcohol mg/2.1 L

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Breath Alcohol Device

Detection

- Fuel Cell
 - BrAC .000 to .600
 - ± 0.005
 - Breath Volume
 - Temperature
 - Humidity



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Breath Alcohol Device

Detection

- Features
 - Battery
 - Camera
 - Cell modem



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Breath Alcohol Device

Detection

- Programming
 - Up to 10 tests per day
 - Vary test frequency
 - Custom settings
 - Retest
 - Zero Tolerance



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Breath Alcohol Summary

- **Alcohol Consumption Levels**
 - 30 min to 2 hours after consumption
 - Elimination of .020% per hour
- **Window of Detection**
 - From .000 to .600 with $\pm .005$ accuracy
 - Multiple tests per day
- **Confirmation**
 - Repeat tests during event
 - Average fail rate .02, Smart Start Wisconsin is .005





Transdermal Alcohol Monitor

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION
WINDOW OF DETECTION
CONFIRMATION



Transdermal Alcohol Monitoring


- **Fuel Cell**
 - Monitors perspired alcohol,
 - Transdermal Alcohol Concentration (TAC)
- **Worn by user**
 - No camera or facial detection software needed
- **Tests every 30 min**
 - No test windows needed
- **Pair with base to send data**
 - Base unit is not portable
- **Battery operated**
 - Replace 30-60 days

Transdermal Alcohol Monitoring

Other Alcohol Consumption Studies:



- **2014 Predictors of Detection of Alcohol Use Episodes Using a Transdermal Alcohol Sensor**
 - The SCRAM sensor is very good at detecting five or more drinks
- **2019 Processing transdermal alcohol concentration (TAC) data to detect low-level drinking**
 - Reliance upon the AMS criteria for alcohol detection affords a high specificity for detection of heavy drinking but is a poor indicator of abstinence rates.
- **2020 Wearable Transdermal Alcohol Monitors: A Systematic Review of Detection Validity, Relationship Between Transdermal and Breath Alcohol Concentration and Influencing Factors**
 - SCRAM seems unable to detect low to moderate drinking levels using the thresholds and criteria set by the manufacturer.



Transdermal Alcohol Monitoring

Window of Detection

- **Approx. 1-2 Hour Delay After Detectable in BAC**
- **Pairing Required for Data Upload**
 - Not real time detection





Transdermal Alcohol Monitoring

Accuracy & Sensitivity

- Water
- Environmental
- Hygiene Products
- Cold Skin (slows vapor loss)
- Hydration Levels
- Individual Characteristics
 - Sweat rate
 - Skin thickness


NHTSA determined that “a TAC reading of 0.02 g/dl produced a 12.34% false-positive rate with SCRAM devices.”



Transdermal Alcohol Monitoring

Confirmation

- **Algorithm**
 - Confirmed TAC > .02 g/dL
 - May require 3 TAC reading of .02 or higher
 - Different absorption & elimination rate based on peak TAC
 - Avoids contaminants and low BAC events
- **Spiky at Times**
 - Water affects accuracy
 - Misclassify rapid rise in BAC as an external interferent



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TAC Summary

- **Alcohol Consumption**
 - Best for high drinking (5 drinks or more)
 - >0.020 BAC
- **Detection**
 - 1 hr after BAC
 - Sample every 30 min
 - Sends when paired
- **Confirmation**
 - Algorithm
 - Testimony at .02 or .04 depending on vendor

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Transdermal Vs Breath Alcohol Monitoring

Transdermal	Breath
<p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .020 g/dL • Algorithm to Determine BAC • Contaminants Effect Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Also Effected by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water • Cold skin (slows vapor loss) <p>Delayed Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hr after BAC • Sample Every 30 Min <p>Pairing Required for Data Upload</p>	<p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .005 BAC • BrAC Directly Related to BAC • Retest Clears Contaminants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Immediate retest after fail <p>Immediate Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 Min to 2 Hrs Post Drinking • Scheduled Test Windows <p>All-In-One Unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real-time Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ GPS Location of Tests

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EtG

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION LEVELS
WINDOW OF DETECTION
CONFIRMATION



Ethyl Glucuronide (EtG)

- Alcohol Metabolite Found in Urine
- Simple Collection
 - Instant test (POCT) or lab screen
 - Sample can be screened for multiple drugs
- Everyone is Able to Provide
- Lab Confirmation of EtS



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Alcohol Consumption

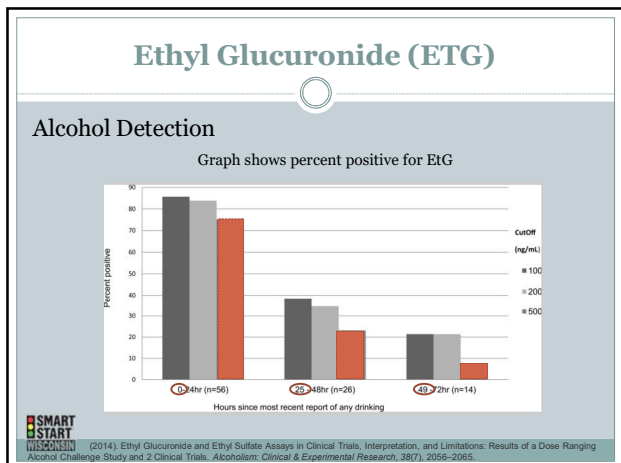
From: **Sensitivity of commercial ethyl glucuronide (ETG) testing in screening for alcohol abstinence**


Alcohol Alcohol. 2007;42(4):317-320. doi:10.1093/alcalc/agm014

Group	Dose Range (g/kg)	BAC Range
High Dose Group	0.66 to 0.85	up to 6.4 drinks = 0.031 to .109 BAC
Medium Dose Group	0.39 to 0.58	up to 3.4 drinks = .032 to .087 BAC
Low Dose Group	0.19 to 0.28	up to 2.4 drinks = .028 to .034 BAC

- Individual test results by actual dosage and actual waiting period.
- 100 ng/ml EtG

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- ### EtG Lowered Sensitivity
- Alcohol Detection
- **Effected by Contaminants**
 - Medications
 - Hand Sanitizers
 - Hygiene products
 - Antiperspirant
 - Banana (within 3.5 hrs)
 - Sauerkraut (within 5 hrs)
 - **Bacterial UTI**
 - False-positive & false-negative results
- 
- SMART START WISCONSIN**

Confirmation with EtS

Alcohol Detection

- **Few Discrepancies between EtG and EtS**
(2014) Ethyl Glucuronide and Ethyl Sulfate Assays in Clinical Trials, Interpretation, and Limitations: Results of a Dose Ranging Alcohol Challenge Study and 2 Clinical Trials
- **EtS provides a slightly greater sensitivity to alcohol**
(2012) The Role of Biomarkers in the Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorders, 2012 Revision


SAMHSA ADVISORY

ALCOHOLISM
CLINICAL & EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH

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EtG Summary

- **Alcohol Consumption**
 - Good for medium to high drinking
- **Detection**
 - Best within 24 hrs
- **Confirmation**
 - EtS



EtG vs Breath Alcohol Monitoring

EtG	Breath
<p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detection varies • EtS needed to confirm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 24-48 hrs to confirm • Contaminants cannot be cleared <p>Minimal Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48 hrs or less <p>Limited Availability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test at facility 	<p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .005 BAC • BrAC directly related to BAC • Repeated test for Confirm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Immediate provided • Contaminants can be cleared <p>Quick Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 min BrAC after drinking <p>Test anywhere, Anytime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real-time reports • GPS Location of tests




Review of Technologies




EtG vs TAC vs BrAC Monitoring

EtG	Transdermal	Breath
<p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detection varies EtS needed to confirm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24-48 hrs to confirm Contaminants cannot be cleared <p>Minimal Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48 hrs or less <p>Limited Availability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test at facility 	<p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> .020 g/dL Algorithm to Determine BAC Contaminants Effect Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also Effected by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Cold skin (slows vapor loss) <p>Delayed Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 hr after BAC Sample Every 30 Min <p>Pairing Required for Data Upload</p>	<p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> .005 BAC BrAC directly related to BAC Repeated test for Confirm Contaminants can be cleared <p>Quick Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 min BrAC after drinking <p>Test anywhere, Anytime</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real-time reports GPS Location of tests



Cost of Alcohol Monitoring Program

EtG



- \$4-5 Per Test, Every Other Day
 - \$18-25 at a drug testing facility
- EtS/Confirmation is Extra (\$20+)

Transdermal

- \$9-12 Per Day + Enrollment


Breath

- \$2.50-\$6.50 Per Day + Enrollment
 - Breath Check \$2.50 Per Day
 - SMART Mobile \$6.50 Per Day
 - Cellular IID \$4.30 Per Day

Comparison

BREATH	TRANSDERMAL	EtG
<p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> .005 BAC BrAC Related to BAC Clear Contaminants <p>Immediate Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1/2 - 2 hour Post Drinking Regular Test Windows <p>All-In-One Unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real-time Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GPS Location of Tests 	<p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> .020 g/dL Algorithm to Determine BAC Effected by Contaminants, Water & Cold Skin <p>Delayed Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 hr after BAC Sample Every 30 Min <p>Pairing Required for Data Upload</p>	<p>Accuracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detection varies EtS needed to confirm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24-48 hrs to confirm Contaminants cannot be cleared <p>Minimal Detection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48 hrs or less <p>Limited Availability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test at facility




Suggested Use For Each Technology

- **Transdermal (TAC)**
 - Phase 1: when heavy drinking is more likely
 - Sanction
- **Breath (BrAC)**
 - Long term or regular sobriety monitoring
 - Phase 1-4
- **Urine (EtG)**
 - Random or in addition to drug panel
 - Last Phase

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What Are You Looking For?



- **Is a drink or two once in a while allowed?**
 - No? Then a Zero Tolerance program is needed.
 - Breath is best technology for this program.
- **How soon do you want to know about a drinking event?**
 - Now? Then Real-time Alerts are necessary.
 - Breath is best technology for this program.
- **Is differentiating contaminants from consumed alcohol necessary?**
 - Yes? Then back to back BAC readings are necessary.
 - Breath is best technology for this program.
- **How important is the cost?**
 - Breath & EtG are lowest cost.
 - EtG require confirmation which can be costly.

Thank you for your time!

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