

Blood evidence may be encountered in homicides, assaults, sexual assaults and property crimes. Biological screening for blood answers three main questions.

- Are there stains present on an item which are visually consistent with blood?
 - *This is typically accomplished by a visual examination of items using the naked eye and stereomicroscopy.*
- Is the stain blood?
 - *The laboratory uses a presumptive chemical test to evaluate potential blood stains. A positive presumptive test result is indicative of, but not confirmatory for, the presence of blood.*
- If the stain is blood, is it human?
 - *Typically, presumptive positive stains will proceed directly to DNA analysis. Occasionally, it is necessary to identify a stain as human or animal. The laboratory uses an immunoassay test card to identify stains that are human (or higher primate) in origin.*

Blood Evidence
