
Overview

This is about collating examination results and interpreting them to develop conclusions.

Results of examinations must be considered objectively and the likelihood of any forensic evidence must be considered against alternative propositions. It involves having due regard for the circumstances of incidents and in the light of results obtained.

Maintaining health and safety, together with the integrity and continuity of forensic materials, is of paramount importance.

Performance

criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 collate results of verified examinations in line with organisational procedures
- P2 confirm examinations and results are in line with requirements of the investigation and forensic strategy
- P3 address queries regarding examinations and results in line with operational procedures
- P4 assess results of examinations against alternative propositions for what may have happened at incidents in line with forensic procedures
- P5 provide opinions regarding alternative propositions based on scientific findings and circumstances of the case in line with organisational procedures
- P6 document your opinions and relevant supporting information in line with organisational requirements
- P7 record reasoned explanations in support of your opinions in line with forensic procedures
- P8 evaluate results of examinations in line with forensic procedures
- P9 consult with relevant people towards informing conclusions
- P10 inform relevant people your conclusions of the review, in line with operational requirements and timescales

Assign conclusions to forensic findings

Knowledge and understanding**Legal and organisational requirements**

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the implications of current law, policies, operating procedures and guidelines relevant to the evaluation and interpretation of forensic materials
- K2 implications of current law, policies and procedures relating to:
 - K2.1 health and safety
 - K2.2 information and data handling
 - K2.3 human rights
 - K2.4 criminal justice system
- K3 your organisation's requirements regarding the verification of findings, and the rationale for and importance of, independent verification
- K4 your level of authority and expertise, and the actions necessary should this be exceeded

Interpretation of findings

You need to know and understand:

- K5 the forensic strategy and examination requirements of investigated incidents
- K6 the importance and ways of establishing the accuracy, validity and reliability of examination methods
- K7 the importance of ensuring that examination data is complete, comprehensive and accurate
- K8 the use and relevance of different types of examinations
- K9 the scientific and forensic principles and practices on which your interpretations are based
- K10 how to process, interpret, combine and evaluate results
- K11 the criteria on which opinions are based, and the importance of objectivity and impartiality when considering and verifying findings
- K12 the importance of considering alternative propositions regarding the circumstances of incidents in terms of the results obtained from examinations

Communication and recording information

You need to know and understand:

- K13 methods which ensure clarity in the presentation of results and supporting information
- K14 how to ensure the accuracy of evaluation, commentary and supporting information, and how to present this

Assign conclusions to forensic findings

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