University of Bristol Tobacco and Alcohol Research Group Standard Operating Procedures

SOP - 13 DEALING WITH A POSITIVE PREGNANCY TEST

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Definitions/Abbreviations		
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure	

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DEALING WITH A POSITIVE PREGNANCY TEST

UoB University of Bristol

1. PURPOSE:

To provide step-by-step instruction for dealing with a positive pregnancy test

2. REFERENCES:

None

3. PERSONNEL REQUIRED AND LEVEL OF EXPERTISE:

Investigator or research team member

4. MATERIALS

Surescreen pregnancy test reading instructions

5. PROCEDURE:

5.1 When:

In studies where pregnancy testing is completed as part of the screening procedure, and when the test shows a positive result.

5.2 How:

Participants should always be aware in advance that a pregnancy test will be conducted (i.e., on the information sheet). University policy for incidental findings is that details of the finding should be passed to the participant's GP, and not passed directly to the participant. If this is stated in the information sheet it should be clearly noted that pregnancy findings are an exclusion to this policy and a positive result will be passed to the participant directly.

Firstly, be sure of the positive result. Refer to the company instructions that are kept with the tests. Double check that the instructions are for the pregnancy test that you are using and not another pregnancy test or drug tests (as a positive result may vary depending on test used). Retest with a new test to confirm the result.

When telling the participant, return to the lab and make sure you are in a quiet environment and will not be interrupted. Tell them gently that the pregnancy test has revealed a positive result. Advise them that they should confirm this result with their doctor. Be patient and understanding and be prepared that this may be a shock.

Give participants as much time as they need in the room. Stay with them. If the participant is a staff member or student of UoB, you can give them details of the relevant UoB counselling service. When they feel ready to leave, give them the opportunity to make a phone call to be picked up or arrange a taxi home.

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6. TROUBLE SHOOTING:

Problem	Solution
Any problems	TARG Laboratory phone: 07957334265
	Prof Marcus Munafò (0117) 954 6841 internal 46841 Marcus.Munafo@bristol.ac.uk
	Dr Angela Attwood (0117) 331 7450 internal 17450 Angela.Attwood@bristol.ac.uk
	Bristol Staff Counselling Service 8 Osbourne Villas Bristol BS2 8BP (0117) 930 0261 staff-counselling@bristol.ac.uk
	Bristol Student Counselling Service 3rd Floor Hampton House St Michael's Hill Cotham Bristol BS6 6AU (0117) 954 6655 internal 46655 student-counselling@bristol.ac.uk www.bris.ac.uk/student-counselling