



# Standard Guide for PDD Examination Standards of Practice<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E2062; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This guide establishes essential and recommended elements in the procedures for the conduct of a psychophysiological detection of deception (PDD) examination.

1.1.1 Other unique PDD applications are addressed separately.

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:<sup>2</sup>

**E1954** Practice for Conduct of Research in Psychophysiological Detection of Deception (Polygraph)

**E2000** Guide for Minimum Basic Education and Training of Individuals Involved in the Detection of Deception (PDD)

**E2031** Practice for Quality Control of Psychophysiological Detection of Deception (Polygraph) Examinations

**E2065** Guide for Requirements for Psychophysiological Detection of Deception (PDD) Examiners

**E2080** Guide for Clinical Psychophysiological Detection of Deception (PDD) Examinations for Sex Offenders

## 3. Location and Test Conditions

3.1 Conditions under which testing occurs shall be free from distractions that would interfere with the ability of the examinee to appropriately focus on the issues being addressed. The examination site should be reasonably free from outside noise and distraction. This is not intended to address examinations conducted for demonstration purposes.

## 4. Preparation

4.1 An examiner shall, prior to the examination, dedicate sufficient time to identify the issues and unique circumstances in any area of testing.

<sup>1</sup> This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E52 on Forensic Psychophysiology and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E52.05 on Psychophysiological Detection of Deception (PDD).

Current edition approved April 1, 2011. Published May 2011. Originally approved in 2000. Last previous edition approved in 2010 as E2062 – 10a. DOI: 10.1520/E2062-11.

<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

4.2 No examination shall be conducted unless the instrument is functioning in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

4.3 Where permitted by law, the conduct of the PDD examination should be recorded by audio or audio/visual means in its entirety.

4.3.1 The recording shall be continuous in nature and any stops or pauses must be fully explained on the recording.

4.3.2 All PDD recordings shall be retained and maintained for a minimum of one year.

4.3.3 All PDD examinations shall be conducted utilizing a separate data channel specifically designed to record covert body movements.

4.4 An examiner should not conduct more than five PDD examinations on a calendar day.

## 5. Pretest Practices

5.1 The examiner shall adhere to the following practices:

5.1.1 Verify the correct identity of the examinee to the degree practicable.

5.1.2 Obtain the consent of the examinee prior to testing.

5.1.3 The examiner shall ensure that the examinee is a fit subject for testing to the extent legally practicable.

5.1.3.1 Mental, physical, and medical conditions of the examinee should be reviewed.

5.1.3.2 At any time during the polygraph examination that it becomes apparent to the examiner that the examinee is not suitable for testing, the examination will be terminated.

5.1.3.3 To protect against the elevated possibility of erroneous polygraph results, examiners shall not conduct polygraph testing of any individual who has undergone intensive accusatory questioning until, in the examiner's judgment, sufficient time has elapsed between such questioning and the polygraph session. Examiners directed by superiors to conduct testing in violation of this standard shall inform their superiors of the strong possibility of either erroneous or inconclusive polygraph test results.

5.2 All examinations shall be conducted in compliance with governing local, state, and federal regulations and laws.

5.3 The examiner shall display objectivity.

5.4 Sufficient time shall be spent to discuss the issues to be tested and to allow the examinee to fully explain his or her position.

5.5 The examiner shall formulate all test questions in compliance with recognized professional practices.

5.6 The examiner shall allow sufficient time to introduce each test question to the examinee in a manner which complies with recognized professional practices.

5.6.1 Sufficient time shall be spent to ensure the examinee recognizes and understands each question.

5.7 Sufficient time shall be spent to ensure that the examinee understands the polygraph process and that cooperation is required.

## 6. Intest Practices

6.1 Examiners shall use techniques and formats in accordance with Practices **E1954** and **E2031** and Guides **E2000**, **E2065**, and **E2080**, as applicable.

6.2 A continuous recording shall be made and maintained of the data produced during the intest phase. All test data must be accounted for prior to rendering an opinion.

6.3 Questions shall be asked in such a manner that responses are not influenced by the manner in which the question is presented.

6.4 Question intervals shall allow for a reasonable recovery or meet the requirements of a scoring algorithm.

6.4.1 Stimulus onset to stimulus onset shall not be less than 20 s.

## 7. Evaluation Practices

7.1 The examiner shall use evaluation methods for which he or she has been formally trained and that are appropriate to that testing technique.

7.1.1 Acceptable evaluation methods are those which have known error and accuracy rates established by independent research.

7.2 The examiner shall maintain all records of test data analysis in accordance with Practices **E1954** and **E2031** and Guides **E2000**, **E2065**, and **E2080**, as applicable.

7.3 The examiner shall not disclose the results of the examination until the test has been adequately and sufficiently analyzed.

7.4 Examiners shall collect a sufficient amount of physiological data suitable for evaluation in compliance with the format utilized.

7.4.1 All suitable physiological data will be evaluated when formulating an opinion.

## 8. Posttest Practices

8.1 Following collection of all physiological data, a discussion of the examination shall be conducted, as appropriate.

## 9. Use of Interpreters

9.1 PDD examiners should assess the need for language translation, including both foreign languages and sign languages, on a case-by-case basis.

9.2 PDD examiners should use interpreters who are fluent in both written and spoken language for which they are interpreting. Interpreters should be fluent and conversant in idiomatic translation of the topical content of the PDD examination.

9.3 PDD examiners should not use interpreters who are relatives or friends of the examinee.

9.4 PDD examiners shall require that interpreters maintain professional boundaries with the examinee.

9.5 Before beginning the examination process, PDD examiners shall ensure that interpreters are familiar with the process of PDD examinations.

9.6 PDD examiners shall require interpreters to provide a written translation of each question prior to the test phase of the examination. It is also recommended that a mirror translation be completed in which the translated test questions are re-translated back to the language of the examiner. This translation shall be prepared prior to the test phase of the examination, and shall be maintained as part of the PDD examination record.

## 10. Keywords

10.1 forensic psychophysiology; interpreter; PDD; PDD examination; polygraph

*ASTM International takes no position respecting the validity of any patent rights asserted in connection with any item mentioned in this standard. Users of this standard are expressly advised that determination of the validity of any such patent rights, and the risk of infringement of such rights, are entirely their own responsibility.*

*This standard is subject to revision at any time by the responsible technical committee and must be reviewed every five years and if not revised, either reapproved or withdrawn. Your comments are invited either for revision of this standard or for additional standards and should be addressed to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee, which you may attend. If you feel that your comments have not received a fair hearing you should make your views known to the ASTM Committee on Standards, at the address shown below.*

*This standard is copyrighted by ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959, United States. Individual reprints (single or multiple copies) of this standard may be obtained by contacting ASTM at the above address or at 610-832-9585 (phone), 610-832-9555 (fax), or service@astm.org (e-mail); or through the ASTM website (www.astm.org). Permission rights to photocopy the standard may also be secured from the ASTM website (www.astm.org/COPYRIGHT/).*