VERSATILE PUNCHING USING E-CORE™ WITH WHATMAN™ FTA™ CARDS FOR EFFICIENT PROCESSING OF FORENSIC DNA DATABASE SAMPLES

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Globally, countries are either starting offender DNA databases or expanding their databases to include individuals arrested for a range of criminal offenses. Potential changes in DNA databasing legislation could substantially increase the number of offender samples that are collected.

The e-Core punch from GE Healthcare is a compact, versatile, electric coring instrument designed for sampling of Whatman™ FTA and FTA Elute matrices. The e-Core punch's simple operation provides comfort and efficiency, integrating smoothly into the laboratory sample throughput. e-Core provides the foundation to forensic laboratories wishing to utilize efficient DNA lab processes that help them address potential case backlogs. This presentation will discuss the studies conducted to provide a comprehensive look at the device's ability to punch the FTA card based DNA samples prior to PCR for forensic HID databasing, whilst detailing the robustness, quality and yield of returned STR profiles. The results will highlight the speed and accuracy of the device while maintaining the comfort of the user, all in a static free environment.
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