

## **Course Information Packet**

General Course Details	
Course Title	Alcohol Pharmacokinetics: Postmortem Considerations
Course Duration	0.5 hour
Initial Launch Date	7-28-24
Course Description	This course explores postmortem alcohol toxicology. It covers the challenges of interpreting postmortem alcohol levels, the importance of proper sample preservation, and key analytical techniques like headspace gas chromatography. The course also discusses the contextual considerations in reporting and interpreting postmortem alcohol results, including regulatory and accreditation requirements where applicable. Additionally, it highlights collaboration with medical examiners and practical implications of toxicology findings through real-world case studies.
Learning Objectives	<ul> <li>Discuss postmortem distribution of ethanol</li> <li>Review postmortem testing techniques and instrumentation</li> <li>Matrix Matters: how to interpret postmortem ethanol concentrations</li> </ul>
Lessons	2
Quizzes	0
Format	Courses on DrugImpairment.com are offered in an asynchronous e-learning format. Each course consists of individual lessons and each lesson contains video-based instruction or a written learning assignment. Lessons are equipped with timers and activity monitoring for completion integrity. Certificates are granted upon completion of all lessons in a course and achieving satisfactory performance on any associated quizzes. Course learning hours are determined by run-time, with a minimum of 50 minutes required per credit hour.

Instructor Information		
Instructor Name	Jennifer Harmon, BS, MPA	



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Jennifer is currently the Crime Laboratory Director for the San Diego County Sheriff's Department's Regional Crime Lab overseeing a staff of nearly 90 in nine forensic disciplines and multiple budgets in excess of \$24M; successfully drafting nearly \$13M in grant award funding for Orange and San Diego Counties. She completed her undergraduate degree, a Bachelor of Science in Biology, option in Physiology, double minor in Chemistry and Political Science from California State University at Long Beach in 2001 and in 2018 obtained a Master's in Public Administration from Brandman University. She began her career in forensics as a volunteer intern with the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Department, Coroner Division, and the Orange County Crime Laboratory. Jennifer has more than 16 years of crime lab management and leadership experience with her most recent prior position as the Orange County Crime Laboratory's Assistant Director over the Forensic Chemistry Bureau. In that position, Jennifer oversaw Toxicology, Forensic Alcohol, Controlled Substances, and Clandestine Laboratory Field Investigation operations. She additionally managed the laboratory's Evidence Control Unit for more than one year. Under Jennifer's leadership, the Orange County Crime Laboratory's Forensic Chemistry Bureau incorporated Lean Six Sigma process improvements, obtained more than \$2.5M in grant funding from state and federal partners, and developed and implemented state-of-the-art technology and forensic methodology. Her work of more than 13 years with ANAB, the forensic laboratories' accreditation body, as a technical assessor in both testing and calibration, along with her facilitation commitments with the County of Orange's servant leadership program helped support these efforts.

**Instructor Biography** 

Jennifer is a technical expert in both postmortem and antemortem toxicology. She has participated in numerous controlled drinking studies and ride-a-longs with several state and local law enforcement agencies. She has also audited the Drug Recognition Evaluation (DRE) Program and observed evaluations with the California Highway Patrol of individuals suspected to being under the influence of drugs. She has testified in nearly 200 cases involving drugs, alcohol, and polydrug use. Jennifer has presented for numerous professional organizations at the local, state, and national level including the California District Attorneys Association, Governors Highway Safety Association, International Association of



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	Chiefs of Police, Indiana University's Borkenstein Drug Course, the National Governors Association, the National Judicial College, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. She is a past president of the California Association of Crime Laboratory Directors, a past president of the California Association of Toxicologists, is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police Drug Evaluation and Classification Program's Technical Advisory Panel and has testified in front of the California State Senate and Assembly Public Safety Committees as well as the U.S. House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Digital Commerce. In 2018, Jennifer was the recipient of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Public Service Award for her work in improving forensic drug testing and screening in California.
ABFT Certified	Yes No Not Applicable
POST Instructor	Yes No Not Applicable
DRE	Yes No Not Applicable
DRE Instructor	Yes No Not Applicable