

# Understanding Your Paternity Test Report

Helping you make sense of your DNA results

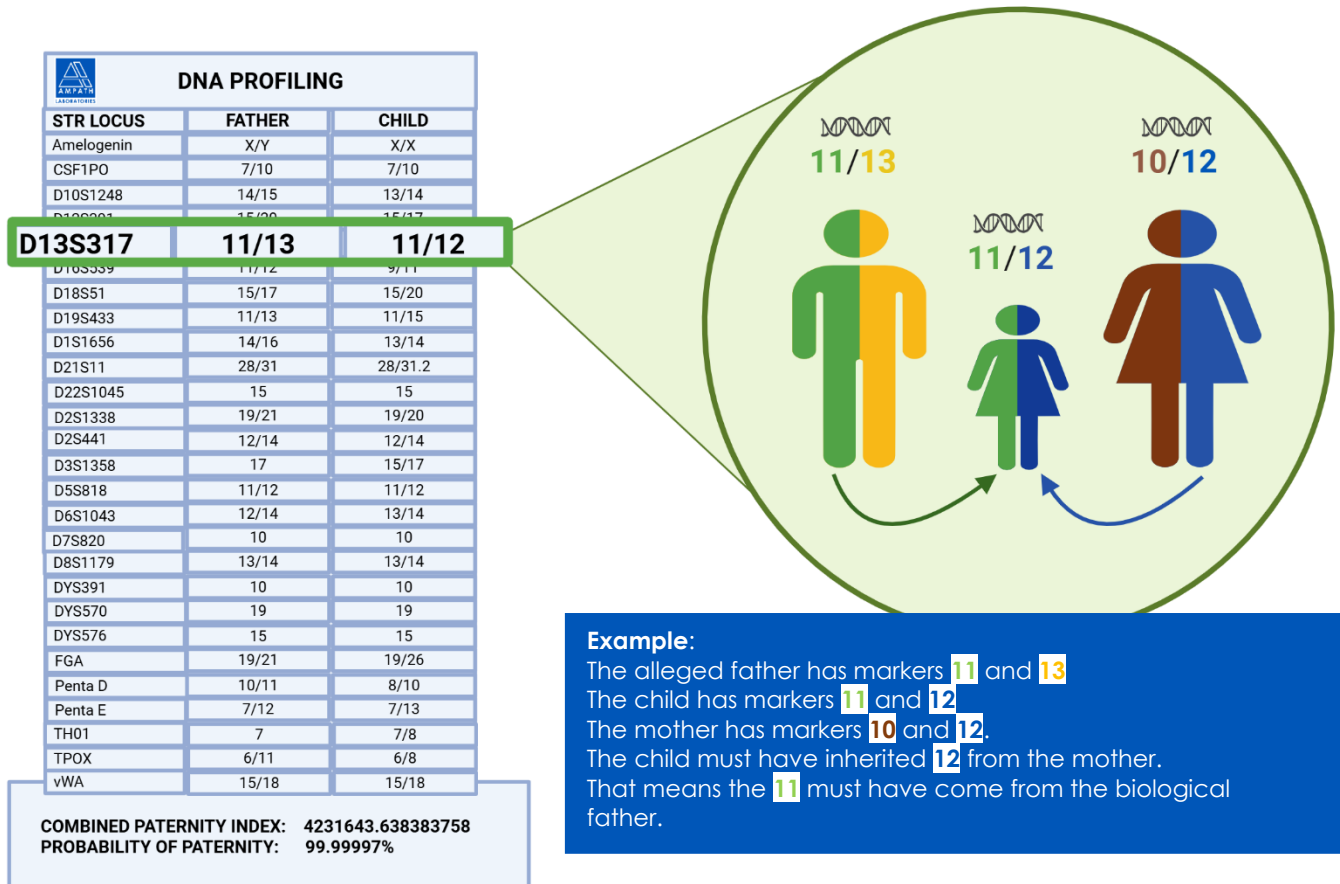


## What is a paternity DNA test?

A paternity test checks if a man is the biological father of a child. Everyone inherits half of their DNA from their mother and half from their father. This test compares the child's DNA with that of the alleged father to see if they match.

## How do the results work?

DNA is made up of markers (like tiny codes) at different spots. At each spot, you have two numbers – one inherited from your mother and one inherited from your father.



This comparison is done at many locations on the DNA. If more than two markers don't match, the man is excluded – meaning he is not the biological father.

If most or all markers match, the test calculates a probability of paternity. A result of 99.8% or higher is considered proof of paternity.

## What is a Y-chromosome test? (Only for male children)

The Y chromosome is passed from father to son. It does not change much over generations. So, all male relatives on the father's side (e.g. brothers, sons, paternal uncles) have the same Y chromosome profile.

If two males have the same Y profile, they are from the same paternal line.

This test cannot prove paternity, but it can show a shared male ancestry.

The report may also mention how common that Y profile is in the general population.

## What about sibling or relationship testing?

Relationship testing is used when we need to find out if people are related (for example, siblings) but we don't have a parent's DNA.

Siblings get different combinations of DNA from their parents. So even full brothers or sisters may not share many markers. But close relatives generally have more markers in common than unrelated people.

The report will give a likelihood ratio, which compares two possibilities. For example:

Are they full siblings?

Or are they half siblings?

A number greater than 1 means the first option (e.g., full siblings) is more likely.

Sometimes, relationship tests are not conclusive. This means DNA alone may not give a definite answer. Other information — like family history, known relatives, and cultural context — may also help.

### **Important to know**

These tests are based on probabilities and comparisons, not guarantees. DNA testing is very accurate, but not all relationships can be proven with certainty. Honest information about family relationships helps make the results more reliable.

### **Disclaimer**

This report was prepared carefully, but if there are errors or unclear results, the laboratory and its staff are not legally responsible unless serious negligence can be proven.