SCRAM®
CONTINUOUS ALCOHOL MONITORING

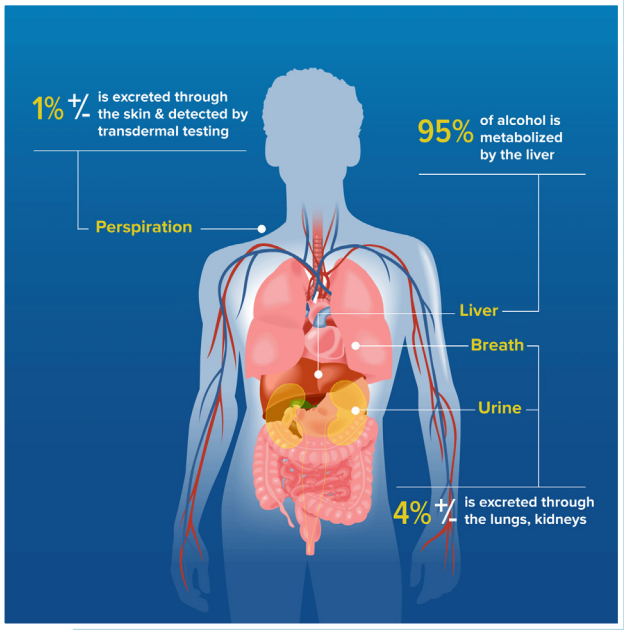
The Facts About SCRAM CAM and Confirming Alcohol Consumption

The science of transdermal alcohol measurement is well established, and SCRAM Continuous Alcohol Monitoring® (SCRAM CAM®) has been extensively peer reviewed—having been the subject of over 30 peer reviewed research papers, evaluations, reviews, or field tests, and continues to be used in ongoing research. SCRAM CAM results have been upheld in court hearings across the country, with over 30 Frye, Daubert, or hybrid rulings. As a result, the SCRAM CAM bracelet and confirmation process are the product of established science and technology and has been accepted by the relevant scientific, professional community, and courts as a valid and accurate way to determine if alcohol has been consumed.

What Happens When Alcohol is Detected?

When a person consumes alcohol, approximately 1% of the alcohol is eliminated through the skin (transdermally), unmetabolized as pure ethanol (alcohol). There is a sufficient quantity of measurable alcohol in the vapor above the skin (insensible perspiration), and this measurement is referred to as Transdermal Alcohol Concentration (TAC). Every 30 minutes, the SCRAM CAM bracelet takes a controlled sample of the wearer's insensible perspiration to test for the presence of alcohol.

In the event that alcohol is detected by the bracelet, all TAC alerts are analyzed, and data is interpreted by a team of trained data analysts according to a strict set of rules. These rules are referred to as the "confirmation criteria," and TAC detections must meet all criteria to be considered "passing" and therefore confirmed as consumed alcohol. If the alert is confirmed, notification is then provided to the supervising agency and the agency is responsible for taking the appropriate action.



SCRAM CAM Participant Agreement

At the time of installation, supervising agencies require participants to sign a Participant Agreement that prohibits them from consuming or using products containing alcohol. Abiding by these simple rules is a practical way to ensure compliance with court orders.

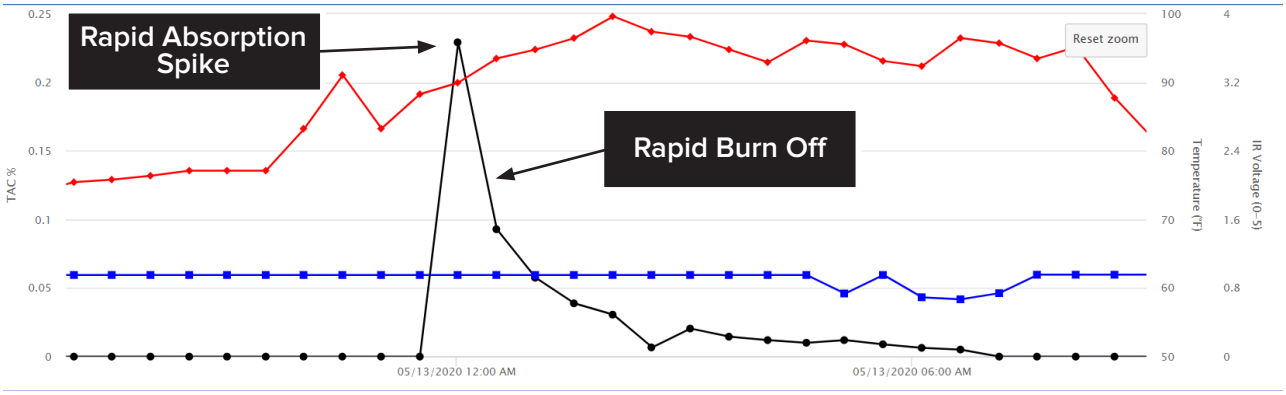
Additionally, a participant who drinks while wearing the SCRAM CAM bracelet may try to "mask" a drinking event by spraying or applying a product with alcohol to the bracelet, then claiming the alert was caused by exposure to a product rather than drinking. Requiring participants to adhere to the rules outlined in the Participant Agreement assists in avoiding these situations.

How the SCRAM CAM System Distinguishes Between Different Sources of Alcohol

Participants monitored may deny alcohol use and raise defenses regarding the validity of alcohol detections. However, most defenses can be addressed by understanding how different sources of alcohol interact with the SCRAM CAM device.

1. Incidental Exposure to Products Containing Alcohol

Examples include household cleaners, hand sanitizer, perfume, hygiene products, and lotions with alcohol



The recommended and ordinary use of household cleaning products, hand sanitizer, perfumes, personal hygiene products, and lotions containing alcohol will not generate an alcohol alert. However, if applied directly to the bracelet or surrounding area, an alert may be generated. Much like spilling a beer directly on the bracelet, this type of external application of alcohol to the bracelet creates a rapid absorption spike much faster than the body can process alcohol and may evaporate and burn off much faster than the body can metabolize alcohol. Therefore, the detection will produce a distinctly different alcohol curve that will not be confirmed as consumption.

2. Alcohol Rich Environments

Examples include bars and restaurants, hair salons, bakeries

SCRAM CAM participants should avoid contact with alcohol, including working in environments that have alcohol present. However, the SCRAM CAM bracelet contains a patented technology that tests for alcohol in the environment. Therefore, if there is alcohol in the environment contributing to the overall detection, the detection will not be confirmed as consumption. The Environmental Contaminant Test is one of the many safeguards in the SCRAM CAM system's confirmation process that assists in distinguishing between environmental contaminants and consumed alcohol that has metabolized in the body.

3. Consumable Products Containing Alcohol

Examples include cold medicine, mouthwash, and kombucha

Whether alcohol comes from cold medicine, mouthwash, kombucha, or other consumable products containing alcohol, because it is alcohol it may be detected by the bracelet. However, it would be difficult to consume these products in large enough quantities to produce a confirmable TAC curve. In fact, in a 2009 peer reviewed study of energy drinks containing alcohol, subjects consumed 6-8 energy drinks over the course of 8 hours and not a single positive alcohol alert was generated.