

Addendum to: A response to EA-4/23 INF:2025 “The Assessment and Accreditation of Opinions and Interpretations using ISO/IEC 17025:2017”

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Disclaimer:

All opinions expressed herein are those of the signatories, and, unless explicitly stated otherwise, should not be construed as representing the policies or positions of any organizations with which the signatories are associated.

Declaration of competing interest:

The signatories declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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EA-4/23; Forensic science; Interpretation; Opinion; ISO/IEC 17025; ISO 21043

1 **Addendum to: A response to EA-4/23 INF:2025 “The Assessment and**
2 **Accreditation of Opinions and Interpretations using ISO/IEC 17025:2017”**

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4 **1 Letter to the Editor**

5 Morrison et al. [1] commented on EA-4/23 INF:2025 *The Assessment and*
6 *Accreditation of Opinions and Interpretations using ISO/IEC 17025:2017*, and raised
7 concerns that it provided inappropriate guidance on how to conduct forensic
8 interpretation and on how to report forensic opinions.

9 Following publication of Morrison et al. [1], the first six signatories of that letter to the
10 editor met with representatives of the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA).
11 The EA representatives clarified that EA-4/23 INF is an informational document, and
12 is not intended to promulgate any requirements or recommendations. As an outcome
13 of the meeting, EA has revised EA-4/23 INF. The revised version was published
14 YYYY-MM-DD. In the revised version, the two forensic-science-specific examples
15 have been deleted, and the following text has been inserted in §1 Introduction:

16 “This document is intended to provide guidance on the expression of opinions and
17 interpretations in fields where no sector-specific standards or normative
18 documents are available. In cases where sector-specific standards or normative
19 documents exist, those should be used as the primary reference.

20 For guidance on opinions and interpretations in forensic science activities see:
21 ISO 21043-4 *Forensic sciences – Part 4: Interpretation* and ISO 21043-5
22 *Forensic sciences – Part 5: Reporting.*”

23 We thank the EA and its representatives for their cooperation and prompt action leading
24 to a favourable resolution of this matter.

26 **2 Reference**

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