

## O.D.O.R. Gluten/Allergen Test Elements Overview

### Purpose

The gluten/allergen detection service dog must be able to demonstrate the ability to discriminate the target odor in a variety of scenarios a handler may encounter as a team. As such, there are four elements that will be tested, making up the overall O.D.O.R. Gluten/Allergen Standard Test, those elements are:

- Controlled Search Element
- Packaged Items Element
- Mealtime Element
- Independent Work Element

There are two options for completing this test: an in home only option and a public testing option. The public testing option would require either the Packaged Item Element or the Mealtime Element be performed in public. If the team passes, the certificate of completion will reflect if the dog was tested at home or in public. If the team passes the “home only” test and later wishes to perform the “public” test, the team need only repeat either the Packaged Item Element or the Mealtime Element test in public (the team must meet the prerequisites for in-public testing).

### Controlled Search Element

The Controlled Search Element requires the dog to identify the target odor(s) when presented with samples placed inside identical containers. This element tests the dog and handler working as a team in close proximity, and provides a means of attempting to control for accidental contamination.

### Packaged Items Element

The Packaged Items Element requires the dog to identify the target odor(s) when presented with prepackaged food and non-food items (personal hygiene, medication, supplement, cosmetic, etc.). This element tests the dog and handler working as a team in close proximity, and demonstrates a real-world scenario of the working dog performing checks for items used or consumed by the handler.

### Mealtime Element

The Mealtime Element requires the dog to identify the target odor(s) when presented with foods and beverages on plates, bowls, and cups. This element tests the dog and handler working as a team in close proximity, and demonstrates a real-world scenario of the working dog performing checks for meals prepared for the handler.

## Independent Work Element

The Independent Work Element may be one of three options selected by the handler: Room Search Element, Containers Search Element, or Double Blind Controls. The purpose of this test element is to verify that the gluten/allergen detection dog is able to work independently from the handler, and is designed to minimize handler bias and the possibility of the handler inadvertently cueing the dog. The handler must select ONE of the three options:

- Room Search Element
- Containers Search Element
- Double Blind Controls

Details of the guidelines and requirements for the Room Search Element and Containers Search Element can be found in the O.D.O.R. Room Search Element Guidelines and O.D.O.R. Containers Search Element Guidelines documents.

If a handler selects the Double Blind Controls option, this will REPLACE the above Controlled Search Element. The containers used for a Double Blind Controlled Search must be opaque so that the handler cannot see the contents of the containers. The containers may be marked on the bottom, identifying which containers contain the target odor and which do not. However, the handler may not look at the marks until after the dog has performed a controlled search and given the appropriate trained indication behavior for the presence or absence of the target odor.

## Prerequisites

If the team elects to do the public testing option, and will be in areas that are not pet friendly or service dog in training friendly, they will need to submit the following prior to being eligible for testing:

- Health Certificate provided by a veterinarian, including proof of vaccination or titers required in the handler's local area.
- Proof of minimum training that the dog is suitable to work in the public. One of the following will be accepted:
  - O.D.O.R. PAT (Public Access Test)
  - C.L.A.S.S. B.A. level or higher (Canine Life and Social Skills, available through Association for Professional Dog Trainers, must be current)
  - PDA Level 2 or higher (Pet Dog Ambassador, available through Pet Professional Guild, must be current)
  - AKC CGC (Canine Good Citizen) or higher (CGCA, CGCU)

- If the person is in need of public access testing or has proof of public access training not listed here, they can email the O.D.O.R. Program Director to be paired with one of our Evaluators for the O.D.O.R. PAT or consideration of public access training not listed above.

### **Example O.D.O.R. Gluten/Allergen Standard Test Scenarios:**

The gluten/allergen detection service dog will be tested in each of the four elements: Controlled Search Element, Packaged Items Element, Mealtime Element, and Independent Work Element. The following are examples of the choices a handler may make for evaluating their dog:

**Scenario 1** (This scenario would be advisable for a handler with an airborne allergen reaction who benefits from knowing when it is safe to enter a room):

- Controlled Search Element
- Packaged Items Element
- Mealtime Element
- Room Search

**Scenario 2** (This scenario is appropriate for most teams):

- Double Blind Controlled Search Element
- Packaged Items Element
- Mealtime Element

**Scenario 3** (This scenario is appropriate for most teams):

- Controlled Search Element
- Packaged Items Element
- Mealtime Element
- Containers Search Element



# O.D.O.R. Gluten/Allergen Standard Test Pre Assessment Form

Handler Name

Dog Name

Date

Dog is trained to alert to the following allergen(s):

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the indication the dog is trained to perform to alert the handler to the presence of each allergen listed above.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe the indication the dog is trained to perform to alert the handler to the absence of an allergen (the "all clear").

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe other tasks that the dog has been trained to do which may be seen during the test. Your dog will not be evaluated on these tasks. We ask about them so that if we see them during the test we do not misinterpret the dog's behavior as being distracted during the testing period.

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