



## Panel Leader

### Training Course Content (1 day)

#### Introduction

The panel leader is a key element for the success of a sensory project. Indeed, the panel leader is responsible for the selection, training, and management of the sensory panel, and for the evaluation and reporting of the data generated.

Becoming an effective panel manager and getting the best out of the panellists require a set of skills and personality traits ranging from leadership to ability to communicate with panellists and analytical thinking. Panel leaders must also ensure that good health, safety, ethical and legal practices are adopted when conducting sensory panels.

The aim of this course is to provide sensory professionals with an insight of the role of the panel leader, the key personal traits and skills to perform the role as well as important health, safety, ethical and legal considerations when conducting sensory panels.

#### 1 – Health, safety, ethical and legal considerations when conducting sensory testing

- Importance of ensuring health, safety, ethical and legal treatment of assessors
- Legislation and professional codes of conduct
- Independent ethical committee review
- Important considerations when recruiting and selecting assessors: informed consent, best practices, health monitoring and compensation.
- Safety of test samples: microbiology, toxicology, allergens
- Safety of assessment procedure: amount of product consumed and method of assessment

#### 2- Good practices

- Safety
- Quality
- Specific considerations for facilities testing food products: safety, hygiene and cleaning
- Documentation and data handling
- Intellectual property



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### 3- Samples

- Sample preparation: materials, equipment and utensils, method
- Sample presentation: size and temperature, vessel, carrier, coding, palate cleanser
- Reference sample
- Sample assessment procedure

### 4- Assessors

- Recruitment: advertisement, direct recruitment, word of mouth/recommendation
- Internal versus external assessors
- Criteria for the selection and screening of naïve and trained sensory panels.
- Training assessors for discrimination, descriptive and hedonic tests
- Motivation
- Good working practices when working as an assessor.
- Monitoring panel performance.

### 5- The panel leader

- Role: from passive facilitator to directive leader
- Skills and attitudes

### 5- Data capture

- Paper
- Computerised systems
- Portable systems and internet
- Qualitative research



## Panel Leader

### Organisation:

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Organiser and main presenter: Audrey L'Yvonnet - Sensory Study Manager at ALS.

Venue: ALS Full Sense Laboratory  
Unit 7 & 8 Aspen Court  
Rotherham, S60 1FB  
South Yorkshire  
United Kingdom

Reservations and directions - An acknowledgement of booking will be sent together with directions to the venue on receipt of the registration form. A VAT invoice will be issued on receipt of payment.

Payment of fees is required by the date of the course.

Fees: **£550.00 + VAT** per person - VAT to be charged at the applicable rate.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided throughout the day. If you have any special dietary requirements please confirm these at the time of booking.

A certificate of attendance will be provided after the session.



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