

Date: April 2006

“SAMHSA-certified” Laboratories
versus
“NIDA-certified” Laboratories

In accordance with Subtitle D of title I of Public Law 102-321, as amended by Public Law 102-352, Section 2(b)(1), a major reorganization occurred within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (**HHS**) on October 1, 1992.

The Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration (**ADAMHA**) ceased to exist and all of its major programs were moved to different agencies. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (**NIDA**) became one of the research institutes within the National Institutes of Health (**NIH**).

The office within **NIDA** that had oversight responsibility for the National Laboratory Certification Program (**NLCP**) was transferred from **NIDA** to a new agency in **HHS**. The new agency is called the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (**SAMHSA**). It has three components: the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, and the Center for Mental Health Services. The office responsible for managing the **NLCP** is the Division of Workplace Programs in the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.

As a result of the reorganization, the drug testing laboratories certified under the **NLCP** are no longer referred to as “**NIDA-certified**” laboratories, but rather as “**SAMHSA-certified**” or “**HHS-certified**” laboratories. Additionally, it is no longer appropriate to call the required 5-drug class test panel as the “**NIDA-5**” panel. The correct term to use is either the “**SAMHSA-5**” or the “**HHS-5**” panel.

If you have additional questions, please call us at 240-276-2600.

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