# Workplace Drug Testing in Urine, Hair, and Oral Fluids

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### Quality Assurance/Quality Control

- Certified by the SAMHSA/DHHS
- Participate in College of American Pathologists (CAP) and New York State Proficiency Programs for urine and blood assays for drugs
- Twelve inspections per year by outside agencies
- Proficiency samples from private clients
- Active Quality Assurance Program
- "Open" and "Blinded" specimens in screening and confirmation assays
- Internal double blind program
- Multiple levels of review for negative and positive results

# Records and Sample Retention Policies

- All analytical records for non-negative (e.g., positives, adulterated, substituted samples) are maintained for a minimum of two years
- Sample bottles in litigation are isolated in the long term freezer and are extended from 1 year storage to indefinite
- Litigation packages are prepared on request and normally shipped within ten days
- SOP's and other laboratory documents are stored indefinitely for discovery in arbitration/litigation

#### Drug and Integrity Tests

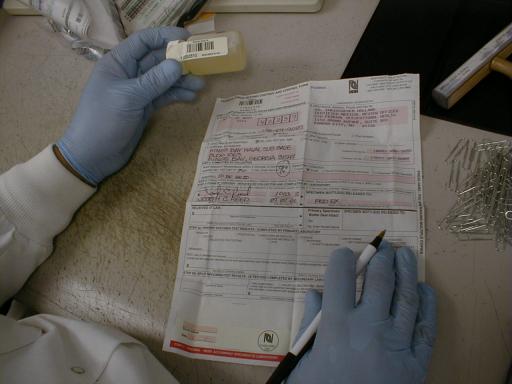
- Drugs
  - Amphetamines
  - Cocaine
  - Opiates
  - Marijuana
  - PCP
  - Others with authorizartion

- Integrity Tests
  - Creatinine
  - pH (acidity)
  - Nitrites
  - Chromium
  - Specific Gravity
- Follow-up/suspicion tests
  - Bleach
  - Soap
  - Stealth (peroxidase)
  - Glutaraldehyde
  - Iodine, fluoride & others



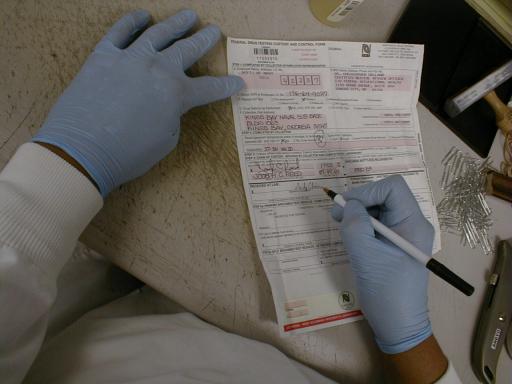


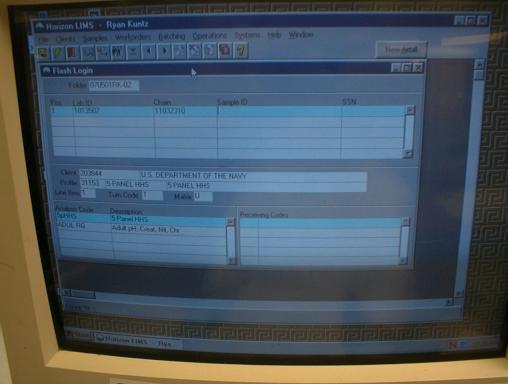




# Examples of Chain of Custody Discrepancies and Cancellations

- Dates missing or inconsistent
- Collector signature/shipment method missing
- Federal collection on non-federal form
- Donor's initials missing
- No donor employer ID or SSN
- Bottle and form ID numbers do not match
- No form with bottle
- Insufficient volume bottle seal is broken/missing













# Initial Screening

- Often called the initial or immunoassay test
- All specimens are subjected to this test. It provides a rapid cost effective system to identify "presumptive positive" specimens
- This process requires 1 mL of urine to complete and will provide results for up to ten tests within 30 seconds
- Adulterants often target this process to change a positive screen to a negative test







## Confirmation Testing

- The first step is to separate the drug from other components of the urine (2-4 hours)
- Completed by a technique known as gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS)
- The GC further separates the remaining urine components
- The MS identifies each drug through a chemical fingerprint which is unique - the identification is conclusive







#### Lab Intervention in Adulteration

- Lab conducts five chemical tests (pH, specific gravity, creatinine, nitrites, and chromium) for each sample in addition to appearance, smell, and color
- NWT identifies approximately 2 samples per thousand which are adulterated or do not qualify as a valid specimen
- Approximately 90% of adulterated specimens have drug identified
- If the adulterant can not be identified, it is reported as unsuitable

### Creatinine & Specific Gravity

- Specific Gravity is only performed when the urine creatinine is in the dilute or substituted categories
- Pure water is the reference standard with a value of 1.000 water does not contain creatinine
- This test is performed using a refractometer which is a standard clinical chemistry test
- Most labs only perform specific gravity when creatinine values are abnormal

### pН

- Measure of the acidity of a urine sample
- pH values ranges from 1-14 with a pH value of 1 as "strong acid" to 14 as a "strong base". Neutral is pH 7
- Normal urine pH values are from 5-7
- Abnormal values are  $\leq 3$  and  $\geq 11$
- Older urine samples turn basic due to ammonia producing bacteria
- The first Urine Luck product contain hydrochloric acid

#### **Nitrites**

- One of the most popular adulterants two years ago and prevented the confirmation testing of marijuana
- Every sample is screened at 500 mcg/ml and confirmed with a second aliquot at 500 mcg/ml
- Nitrite is a normal constituent of urine, especially in urinary tract infections
- Normal urine contains less than 100 mcg/ml
- Samples exceeding 500 mcg/ml are reported as adulterated





#### Chromium

- There are two types:
  - Chromium (+6) is extremely toxic and corrosive
  - Chromium (+3) is the dietary form as chromium picolinate in vitamin supplements and does not interfere with testing nor is it identified in the testing
- NWT established 50,000 ng/ml as the screening limit and 20,000 ng/ml as the confirmation limit
- Normal human limits are less than 100 ng/ml
- Primarily effective against marijuana works within minutes to destroy the presence of marijuana in the sample

#### Chromium - Continued

- Sold as Urine Luck
- It is now in its fourth generation
  - Hydrochloric Acid
    - Detected through pH testing
  - Pyridinium chlorochromate
    - Detected through pyridine testing
  - Sodium Chromate
    - Detected through chromate testing
  - New formulation is composed of two vials containing iodine and hydrogen fluoride

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Do you know what other name brand additives in this magazine have in common?

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Urine Luck"





#### Bleach

- Typically identified through odor at the time samples are aliquoted for the screening test
- Two aliquots are again tested using a dipsticktype test
- Only 1-2 samples are positive per month
- May be one of the few adulterants that can be detected by the collector through its odor
- Bleach turns the strip purple; concentrated bleach will "bleach-out" the color of the strip

### Soap

- As with bleach, it has been used for decades to interfere with screening and confirmation tests
- Usually identified through excessive, long lasting bubbles and a "flowery" smell upon opening of the bottle
- First commercial product was Mary Jane's SuperClean 13 and was sold for \$30.00
- The type of soap is not identified. Normally about a 1/2 teaspoonful is added
- Based on methylene blue with blue color transferring to the chloroform layer. Negative samples are rose-colored.



#### Glutaraldehyde

- Became popular in 1992 as the first commercial adulterant
- Solid originally as UrinAid and later Instant Clean ADD-IT-ive by Clear Choice
- NWT developed the first test and the first to defend adulterant reports of this agent
- It is used as a chemical sterilant and tissue fixative
- The presence of glutaraldehyde is indicative of intentional adulteration
- Screening tests provided "ultra-negative" immunoassay results; screening by Schiff's test and full-scan GC/MS

#### Peroxidase

- Available as Stealth (two small vials one is dark colored peroxidase and the second is hydrogen peroxide)
- Works within minutes to destroy marijuana and is less effective against other drugs
- Must test for this product directly NWT has developed an assay for screening and confirmation
- No national standards unknown amount in circulation

## Capillary Electrophoresis (CE)

- Uses electrophoretic mobility of ions to perform a separation of ions
- Common anions (negative charged) in urine include chlorine, bromine, nitrite, nitrate, sulfate, phosphate and fluoride
- Other ions of interest include hypochlorite, iodine, iodate, lithium, potassium, ammonium, chromium, and sodium
- Separation is through a uncoated capillary 1 meter column using voltage and electrolyte variations and detection by ultraviolet detection



### Adulteration Trends in 2001

	<u>Q1</u>	Q2	Q3	Q4
Substituted	38	40	35	23
Unsuitable	65	51	58	28
Nitrites	40	29	20	9
Chromium	123	83	22	13
Bleach	0	0	0	5
Soap	0	0	0	1
pН	12	11	19	6
Glutaraldehyde 0		0	0	0

## Legal Issues and Arbitration

- Most cases involve adulteration and substitution
- Testified in 17 cases in 2001 and 8 in Q1 2002
- Attorneys try to bring in proposed federal regulations regarding validity testing as they were the standard
- New novel medical conditions and products are used as a defense for an adulterated or substituted sample
- NWT will be ready for the new regulations with alternative testing procedures
- Hair, Oral Fluids, On-Site Testing approval is still two years away. NWT has alternative testing matrices already in testing.

## Hair Testing

- Drugs are primarily incorporated through the blood supply at the root end and are deposited during the hair shaft growth. Other drug incorporation mechanisms are sweat and scalp oils which soak into the hair shaft.
- Shampooing of the hair removes drug residue from the environment on a daily basis.
- Environmental contamination is also removed at the lab prior to testing for screening and confirmation with a methanol wash.

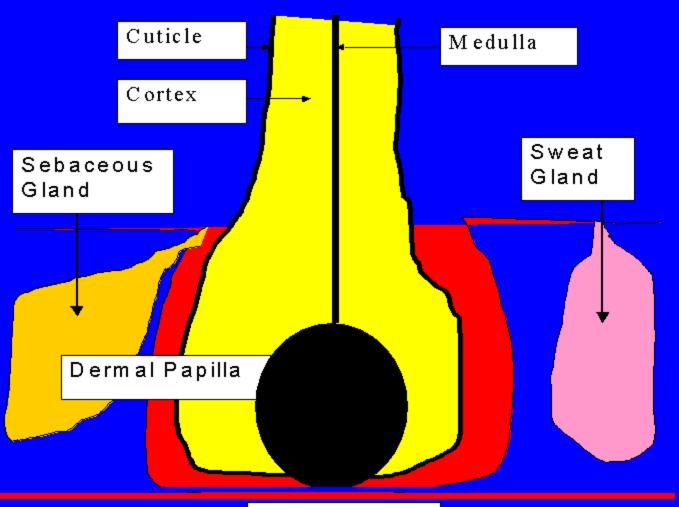
#### Hair Collection Facts

- Workplace testing only involves the first 1.5 inches from the scalp and represents 90 days of exposure
- Normally takes 7-10 days for incorporated drugs to grow above the scalp
- Segmental analysis can provide time frames of drug use
- A full sample requires up to 200 strands of 1.5 inch long hair shorter hair requires more strands

# Hair Cutoffs (pg/mg)

Drug	Screen	Confirmation	
Cannabinoids	1.0	0.1	
Opiates	200	300	
6-AM		300	
Amphetamines*	300	300	
MDA/MDMA		300	
*Amphetamine must be	$\geq$ 50 pg/mg to 1	report methamphetamine	
PCP	300	300	
Cocaine**	500	500	
Benzoyleegonine		50	
Cocaethylene		50	
Norcocaine		50	
**Metabolite must be $\geq 50$ pg/mg present to report cocaine			

## ROOT OF HAIR



Blood Supply

SPECIMEN IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (FROM REQUISIT 1866942
DONOR BEN OR EMPLOYEE ID NO.
INITIALS OF DONOR XAL By those initials, I certify that I conserted to the collection of a hair sample from my body by the collector and that the hair sample was placed in the transfer envelope and sessed in my
PRESENCE. HAIR SAMPLE COLLECTOR: ACC. 2115 200
DATE AND TIME:  I certify that I collected the hair sample enclosed in this envelope, that it is from the body of the above doner. I certify that I collected with the donor's knowledge and consent. I turber certify that the aniomation on the envelope is true and correct.
SOURCE OF SAMPLE: Head Underarm Cheet Other Bottle Seel A
INTEGRITY SEA 151846084 SPECIMEN TO NO





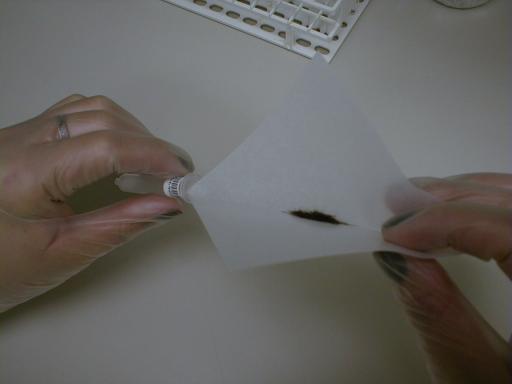








- CUT A MINIMUM OF 1CM OF SAMPLE AS CLOSE TO THE SCALP AS POSSIRI F
- · ALIGN ROOT ENDS AND PLACE IN SLANTED END OF FOIL
- FOLD FOIL TIGHTLY AROUND HAIR
- WRAP ANY REMAINING LENGTH AROUND OUTSIDE OF FOIL
- FOLD FOIL IN HALF, LENGTHWISE
- PLACE FOIL IN ENVELOPE, ROOT END TO THE LEFT
- SEAL THE ENVELOPE WITH TAMPER PROOF SEAL

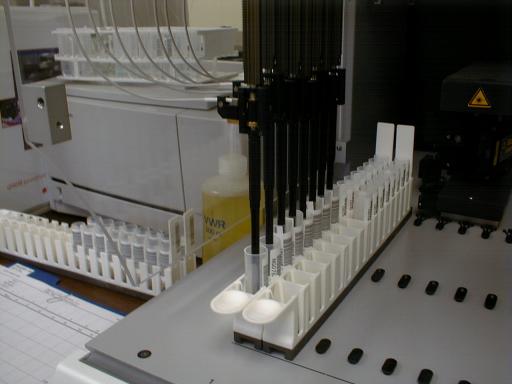






## Hair Screening

- ELISA screening technology is used for hair testing
- Uses 96 well technology with reagents and hair extract added
- Concentration is correlated to the color intensity in the well and is compared to calibrators
- All processes are computer controlled robotics but is much slower and more expensive than urine screening - more sensitive than urine methods





## Hair Confirmation Techniques

- Confirmations for all drugs except marijuana can be completed on standard GC/MS's
- Marijuana must be confirmed by GC/MS/MS due to the low levels in the hair
- Extractions and confirmatory techniques are highly sophisticated to achieve the sensitivity and selectivity required for successful analysis

## Oral Fluid Testing

- No special collection facilities or fees
- Collection can occur anywhere
- Collection device requires only two minutes in the mouth and is witnessed by the collector
- Possibility of adulteration is drastically reduced
- Indicates recent drug usage and correlates with impairment of the donor by looking at parent drug rather than metabolites
- Screening and confirmation processes are similar to hair

