

Testing Codes

Summary

The Army uses testing codes to categorize the purposes for ordering urinalysis testing of Soldiers. When you prepare documentation for urinalysis testing, you will use these codes to identify the purpose of the test. Only one code at a time is used per set of urinalysis documentation.

As a UPL, you must know all of the urinalysis testing codes and use them accurately. Using an incorrect

testing code can limit actions that the Commander can take.

Remember that the urinalysis test is material evidence in a court of law.

Commanders may conduct alcohol testing for the same reasons as they do drug testing.

There are nine testing codes in three groups: Inspection, Commander-Directed, and Other.

Inspection

IR Inspection Random	IU Inspection Unit	IO Inspection Other
<p>Purpose</p> <p>Randomly selecting a percentage of your Unit for urinalysis testing without targeting specific Soldiers.</p> <p>You will use the IR code most often, since you should test 4 percent of your Unit weekly to maximize Smart Testing.</p> <p>Example</p> <p>The Commander orders you to test 10% of the Soldiers in the Unit.</p> <p>NOTE: Your Unit may use different percentages for sampling.</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <p>Testing 100 percent of your Unit, also known as a "Unit Sweep."</p> <p>Commanders should not conduct these types of tests routinely and should not use a Unit Sweep to target any individuals or groups on suspicion alone. The UPL should remain prepared to conduct an IU test with no notice.</p> <p>Example</p> <p>The Commander orders you to test all Soldiers in the Unit or clearly-defined Sub-Unit.</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <p>Testing performed in accordance with a Commander's policy memorandum or Unit SOP.</p> <p>Commanders may also use this code to meet a mandatory annual testing requirement for Soldiers in critical safety or security positions. Commanders should not use IO testing to target any individuals or groups on suspicion alone.</p> <p>Example</p> <p>Soldiers returning from Absent Without Leave (AWOL)</p> <p>Soldiers returning from passes, R&R, or temporary duty.</p> <p>Soldiers who were selected for testing, but were unavailable during a recent random inspection.</p> <p>NOTE: Your Commander's written policy may specify different circumstances for using IO.</p>
<p>Letter of the Law: The Limited Use Policy does not apply to positive results from IR tests on Soldiers already enrolled in ASAP.</p>	<p>Letter of the Law: The Limited Use Policy does not apply to positive results from IU tests on Soldiers already enrolled in ASAP.</p>	<p>Letter of the Law: The Limited Use Policy does not apply to positive results from IO tests on Soldiers already enrolled in ASAP.</p>

Testing Codes

Commander-Directed		
PO Probable Cause	CO Command Direct/ Competence for Duty/ Fitness for Duty	RO Rehabilitation
<p>Purpose</p> <p>Testing when the Commander has sufficient evidence to believe that a Soldier has violated the UCMJ by using a controlled substance.</p> <p>The Commander must receive this information within the time frame that the drug can still normally be found in a person's urine (retention time).</p> <p>Example</p> <p>During a routine inspection, the Commander finds hypodermic needles in a Private's room. The Private has no valid medical reason for possessing the needles. The Commander checks with the SJA before ordering a test.</p> <p>The Probable Cause (PO) code is appropriate because the Commander has reason to believe that the Private has used an illegal substance and that the drug can still be detected in his urine.</p> <p>NOTE: You may encounter other situations for which this code applies.</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <p>Testing when a Soldier's behavior indicates drug or alcohol abuse, but there is insufficient evidence for PO.</p> <p>The appropriate command authority may order this test to ensure the safety of the Soldier and the Unit.</p> <p>Since fitness for duty and probable cause are different types of command direct tests, if the commander tells you to "collect a command direct" on a Soldier; then you should ask the Commander if he/she means probable cause or competence/fitness for duty. It is extremely important to code the test properly.</p> <p>Example</p> <p>Over the past month, a Soldier exhibits tardiness and a decline in personal hygiene. He recently displayed several outbursts of unprovoked aggression towards his fellow Soldiers. Prior to this, the Soldier had an exemplary attendance record and got along well with his fellow Soldiers.</p> <p>In this case, the Command Direct (CO) code is appropriate because the Commander questions the Soldier's competence for duty based on his uncharacteristic behavior.</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <p>Required testing as part of a Soldier's rehabilitation program for drug and alcohol abuse.</p> <p>The rehabilitation team determines the frequency and includes it in the rehabilitation plan.</p> <p>NOTE: Soldiers enrolled in the ASAP rehabilitation program are not exempt from other urinalysis testing. Soldiers who submitted a urine sample to meet program requirements are not exempt from also providing a sample for other purposes, such as a Unit Sweep.</p> <p>Example</p> <p>A Soldier who is enrolled in the ASAP rehabilitation program is participating in testing in order to comply with the requirements of the program.</p> <p>In this case, the UPL uses the Rehabilitation (RO) code, because testing is mandated as part of a Soldier's enrollment and treatment in the ASAP rehabilitation program.</p>
<p>Letter of the Law:</p> <p>Commanders are strongly advised, although not required, to consult with the local SJA prior to ordering a test under PO to determine whether or not they truly have probable cause. If the SJA is not available, the Commander can still proceed; however, Commanders should subsequently seek legal counsel before using the result in any adverse action.</p>	<p>Letter of the Law:</p> <p>Results of tests under the CO code are considered Protected Evidence under the Limited Use Policy. That means the results cannot be used as a basis for disciplinary action or characterization of service. The results be used as a basis for administrative action, including separation.</p>	<p>Letter of the Law:</p> <p>Results of tests under the RO code are considered Protected Evidence under the Limited Use Policy. That means the results cannot be used as a basis for disciplinary action or characterization of service; however, the results may be used as a basis for administrative action, including separation.</p>

Testing Codes

Other		
AO Mishap or Safety Inspection	VO Consent	MO Medical Examination
<p>Purpose Testing when a Soldier is involved in an accident that destroys property or injures personnel.</p> <p>Example The Commander orders a Soldier tested because the Soldier had an accident on the FOB that totaled a Humvee. In this scenario, the Mishap or Safety Inspection (AO) code is appropriate, because there was an accident that destroyed property.</p>	<p>Purpose Testing when a Soldier volunteers to provide a sample. A Command representative, who suspects a Soldier of having unlawfully used drugs, may request that the Soldier consent to urinalysis after advising the Soldier that he or she may decline to provide the specimen. Where practical, the Command representative should obtain the consent in writing, but this is not required.</p> <p>Example A Soldier volunteers to provide a sample, since he has been plagued by rumors of drug use. In this case, the Consent (VO) code is appropriate because the Soldier volunteered to provide a sample.</p>	<p>Purpose Testing on the order of a physician after any examination for a valid medical purpose (for example, emergency treatment, periodic physical examinations, and other MOs as are necessary for diagnostic or treatment purposes in accordance with MRE 312).</p> <p>Example A doctor requests that a Soldier undergo urinalysis testing because the Soldier exhibited signs of drug abuse during a sick call visit. In this scenario, the Medical Examination (MO) code is appropriate because a specimen has been ordered to confirm a doctor's suspicion of substance abuse.</p>
<p>Letter of the Law: In accordance with AR 385-40, a specimen may be collected for drug testing from personnel contributing to any Class A, B or C aviation accident or when deemed appropriate by a Commander or physician. Specimens which are collected in compliance with MRE (for example, inspection by Command policy, search, seizure, or consent) may be used for any lawful purpose. However, specimens may also be collected for mishap investigatory purposes only and may not satisfy the requirements of the MRE for admissibility in a court-martial. If specimens do not satisfy the standards of admissibility, these tests will be protected by the Limited Use Policy.</p>	<p>Letter of the Law: Consent must be totally voluntary. If the Commander were to say, "you either volunteer or I will order you to give a specimen", then it is NOT a voluntary test. If the Soldier asks "What will happen if I don't consent?", then the Soldier may be told that the Commander may order a test anyway. This is still a voluntary test. A refusal to consent by the Soldier does not imply that the Soldier used drugs. The refusal has no bearing on the Soldiers presumed innocence or guilt. It does not give the Commander probable cause.</p>	<p>Letter of the Law: Results of tests under the MO code do NOT qualify as Protected Evidence under the Limited Use Policy. That means the testing results may be used as a basis for disciplinary action and characterization of service.</p>

Testing Codes

Other (continued)

Rotational Drugs	Steroid Testing	Special Tests
<p>Purpose</p> <p>To ensure that specimens are tested for a specific drug not normally part of every test at the FDTL.</p> <p>To order this test, the Commander must complete a memorandum stating the drug for which he or she wants to test. The memorandum must not list Soldiers' names, only their SSNs.</p> <p>Note: The FDTL tests all specimens for THC, cocaine, heroin, and amphetamines. The lab tests a percentage of all specimens for PCP, oxycodone/oxymorphone, or for opiates such as codeine or morphine on a rotational basis.</p> <p>Example</p> <p>A deployed Commander had a rash of oxycodone abuse. The Commander orders a 100 percent Unit test and requests that all samples are tested for oxycodone.</p> <p>The Commander submits a memorandum with each batch of specimens, noting the specific testing request for oxycodone.</p> <p>The UPL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Attaches the memo to the DD Form 2624 Maintains a file copy 	<p>Purpose</p> <p>To test for anabolic steroids and any compound, derivative, or isomer of any such substance.</p> <p>The Commander must complete a memorandum requesting a test for steroids. All steroid testing must be performed on a Probable Cause (PO) test basis. The Soldier will need to provide 60 ml of specimen.</p> <p>Each specimen for steroid testing must be documented on a separate DD Form 2624. Since steroid testing is not done on a regular basis, please contact your DTC or ACSAP for assistance with steroid testing requests.</p> <p>Example</p> <p>The Commander has probable cause to believe a Soldier in his Unit is abusing steroids.</p> <p>The Commander creates a memorandum requesting a steroid test for the Soldier under suspicion. The memorandum cannot state the Soldier's name, only his or her SSN.</p> <p>The UPL:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Attaches the memo to the DD Form 2624 Maintains a file Copy <p>The specimen bottle must be completely full (60 mL minimum). Only one bottle per DD Form 2624 is allowed.</p> <p>The specimen will only be tested for steroids and no other drugs.</p> <p>All specimen requests for steroids must be sent to the Fort Meade laboratory. The Fort Meade lab will then send a portion to the UCLA laboratory for steroid testing. It will take 6 –8 weeks to get a result.</p>	<p>Purpose</p> <p>To test a Soldier for other drugs that the FDTL does not normally test such as Valium, Rohypnol, mushrooms (psilocybin), or other drugs.</p> <p>The Commander must have probable cause. These types of tests require different paperwork depending on the drug in question, so the UPL should contact the DTC or the ACSAP for more information. Laboratory analysis is performed at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) in Rockville, MD.</p> <p>Example</p> <p>Your Commander has Probable Cause that a Soldier is abusing a drug for which the FDTL does not normally test.</p> <p>Contact the ADCO or DTC before collecting a specimen.</p> <p>A memorandum from the Commander stating why he/she needs this test will accompany the specimen. The memorandum cannot state the Soldier's name, only his/her SSN. Maintain file copy of memo in your records.</p> <p>May require a different chain of custody form. The UPL should seek assistance from the ACSAP on the correct form to use.</p> <p>May require special collection, handling, and/or shipping procedures.</p>
<p>Letter of the Law:</p> <p>The provisions of the Limited Use Policy and rules of Protected Evidence apply to special testing for rotational drugs just as they do for other types of test.</p>	<p>Letter of the Law:</p> <p>The Commander must have probable cause to order a steroid test.</p>	<p>Letter of the Law:</p> <p>The Commander must have probable cause to order special tests.</p>