

# DRUG TESTING



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## Why We Drug Test...

**Many patients do not realize that the physician's ability to continue to service the community can be severely limited or stopped entirely if patients misuse or divert their prescription.**

**We want to continue to serve you.  
We want you to be safe.  
We make it a policy to drug test.  
We thank you for your cooperation.**



## Substance Abuse, Misuse, Diversion and Addiction / Pseudoaddiction Issues

- Provides the clinician with an objective test which documents prescription drug misuse and/or illicit drug usage. The patient may be required to write an explanation for any inaccuracies in drug test.
- We will waive confidentiality of prescription and medical records if there is any request from legal authorities for information concerning inappropriate or unlawful use of controlled substances.
- May assist in the verification of patient historical data including: suspicious stories, family reports of abuse, in office written explanation of relapse, etc.
- May confirm behavioral observations including: continued risky behavior, missed appointment(s), intoxicated appearance, pill count discrepancies, early refill requests, and pharmacy calls/concerns.
- May identify intentional dilution, adulteration, substitution or tampering with the specimen.
- Supports referral for treatment to a substance abuse professional.
- Allows the clinician to monitor drug elimination of discontinued illicit or prescription medication.
- Imposes a barrier for patient's intent on diverting opioid medication.
- Identifies the use of illicit substances throughout the treatment process and assists in making the appropriate decisions regarding discontinuation of medication/treatment and referral to the appropriate addiction and/or mental health professional.
- Reduces the risk of therapeutic failure by detecting non-compliant patients.
- Confirms compliance with the agreed upon treatment plan. **Be ready to submit to urine drug test or we may consider a blood test.**

## Medical/Legal Concerns

- Reduces risk of regulatory agency scrutiny and investigation by documenting that the physician is monitoring and evaluating prescribed medications.
- Provides measurements that objectify pharmacotherapeutic regimens for reporting to workers' compensation boards, medical boards, insurance providers, DEA, and other regulatory agencies.
- Assists in complying with DEA's current Interim Policy Statement which requires doctors to minimize the potential for abuse and diversion.
- Assists in complying with The Federation of State Medical Board's "Model Policy for the Use of Controlled Substances for the Treatment of Pain" which suggests in part that the medical records of patients contain "diagnostic, therapeutic and laboratory results" and further suggests extra care and monitoring of patients with a history of substance abuse.

**DISCLAIMER:** INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS SHEET IS GENERAL IN CONTENT AND SHOULD NOT BE SEEN AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL ADVICE.