


TEXAS
Department of Family
and Protective Services

Substance Use in DFPS Cases: Working with Families

7/1/2021


1



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How advocates can explain the drug testing process to the parents?

2



Oral Fluids

It is important that the candidate does not have anything in their mouth (food, drink, gum, etc) 10 minutes prior to collection. Give unopened collection swab to candidate. Instruct candidate to remove plastic wrap from collection swab and begin pooling saliva in their mouth.




Test Device
Premier OralTox

Collection Swab
— Locking Handle
— Indicator Window
— Saturation Indicator Strip
— Sponge


- Donor swabs the inside of the mouth until the saturation indicator strip appears in the indicator window or until 4 minutes have passed.
- Negative results can be read about 2 minutes.
- If a red line appears, it is negative. Any line without regard to intensity, color, or size is a negative result for that drug.

3



Oral Fluids

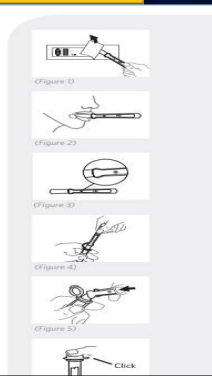
- Oral fluid is best at detecting recent drug use.
- Oral fluid testing requires a small sample that is collected under direct supervision.




4

Oral Fluids

Substance	Detection Period
Amphetamine	12 hours
Methamphetamine	24 hours
Morphine, Heroin	6 hours
Cocaine	24 hours
Marijuana*	2 days
PCP	24-36 hours
Codeine	12 hours






5

Drug Screen

A drug screen is any collected sample that does not have a laboratory confirmation, such as an instant oral swab. Drug screen results are considered preliminary and are not admissible in court.


- Examples.
- False Positives.



6

Drug Test


A drug test is a test that has undergone preliminary screening and a secondary confirmation test to validate the findings. Drug tests are lab-confirmed, admissible in court, and verified by a medical review officer (MRO).




7

Urinalysis

- Donor must void in the bathroom.
- Donor completes Custody and Control Form
- Collector checks Completed.





8

Urinalysis



- Urine provides the middle ground in drug testing, showing a history of drug exposure shorter than hair, but longer than oral fluid.
- A sample of 10 ml provides information up to approximately 2-3 days of drug history for most drugs.



9

Urinalysis: Detection Period



Substance	Detection Period
Amphetamine (Adderall, Vyvanse, Dexedrine) Prescribe for ADHD, Narcolepsy, Obesity	1 to 2 days
Methamphetamine	1 to 2 days
MDMA	1 to 2 days
Cocaine	2 to 4 days
Marijuana	Single Use: 2 to 7 days Prolonged Use: 1 to 2 months
PCP	14 days up to 30 days for prolonged use
Codeine, Morphine, Heroin	2 days
Methadone	3 days
Barbiturates (Seconal, Luminal) Prescribed for Anxiety or Insomnia	Short Acting 2 days Long Acting 1 to 3 weeks
Benzodiazepines (Xanax, Klonopin, Valium, Ativan) Prescribed for Anxiety	Prescription Use: 3 days Prolonged Use: 4 to 6 weeks

10

Hair Strand Drug Test



the hair strand

Blood Vessels: The main path by which biomarkers enter hair

10-14 Days: It takes 10-14 days for drug and alcohol biomarkers to be deposited in the hair root and then emerge past the scalp line.

3 Months: Optimal samples will provide a 3 month window of detection for drug and alcohol (abuse).

The average rate of growth for hair is a half inch per month.

An optimal sample is a 1.5 inch hair sample of about 200 strands, cut close to the scalp (the width of a #2 pencil).

USDTL
United States Drug Testing Laboratories, Inc.

Visit our website at www.USDTL.com

11

Hair Strand Drug Test



Window of detection	90 days*
Drugs detected	Marijuana, Cocaine, PCP, Amphetamine, Methamphetamine, Non-Synthetic Opioids.
Comments	Client's Ethnicity and location of hair may alter window of detection. Does not detect recent use (10-14 days) prior to testing.

12

Alcohol Testing



- The presence of EtG in urine is an indicator that ethanol was ingested and can be detected in urine for **up to 80 hours after ingestion.**

13

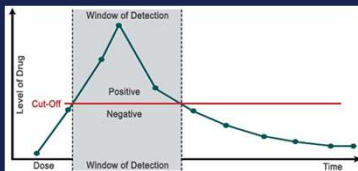
Frequently Asked Questions



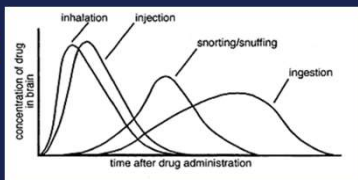
What do different levels mean and what does that tell us about how often/long ago the individual was using?

14

Drug Detection Levels



Amount of Usage
Body Mass Index [BMI]
Concentration
Metabolism



Debunk the myths!



15

Frequently Asked Questions



How can knowledge and understanding of these test make someone a better advocate?

16

CPS Policy Requirements



- Refusal to Test (CPS Policy 1934)
- Prescription Medication (CPS Policy 1940)
- Referral to Treatment (CPS Policy 1970)
- Recovery (CPS Policy 1982)

17

CPS Policy Requirements



Refusal to Test (CPS Policy 1934)

1934 Refusal to Test

- When drug testing is appropriate, but the parent or caregiver refuses to take a drug test, the caseworker documents the refusal in a *Contact Narrative* in IMPACT.
- The caseworker consults with the supervisor if a parent or caregiver refuses to take a drug test or refuses to allow a child who is an alleged perpetrator to be drug tested. The supervisor may recommend legal intervention, if there is sufficient concern for a child's safety in the home.
- For cases under court jurisdiction, the caseworker notifies the judge and attorneys about the client's refusal to test.

18

CPS Policy Requirements



Prescription Medication (CPS Policy 1940)

If the parent or caregiver is prescribed one or more medications, the caseworker does the following:

- Assesses the effects of the prescription medications on the ability of the parent or caregiver to provide supervision and to keep children safe.
- Determines whether the parent or caregiver is taking his or her medication as prescribed.
- Gets the parent or caregiver's signature Consent documents. If the parent or caregiver refuses to sign this form, the caseworker consults with the supervisor about whether to request legal intervention.
- Communicates with the prescribing health care professional after the release of confidential information form is signed, if the caseworker is concerned about prescription misuse.

19

CPS Policy Requirements




Referral to Treatment (CPS Policy 1970)

1971.1 Referral to Outreach, Screening, Assessment, and Referral (OSAR) Center

- Caseworkers use their regional outreach, screening, assessment, and referral (OSAR) center when seeking treatment for a substance use disorder for a client age 13 or older.
- OSAR centers facilitate access to treatment services for substance use disorders, including intervention, treatment, and recovery options, as well as other community resources.

20



CPS Policy Requirements


- Recovery (CPS Policy 1982)

1982.1 Indicators of Progress in Recovery

Indicators of progress in recovery that the caseworker can rely on in considering the next step in the DFPS case, while maintaining child safety, can include the following:

- Attendance at, engagement in, maintenance of, or completion of a treatment program for a substance use disorder.
- Participation or engagement in community-based recovery support or after-care programs (such as recovery support services, Alcoholics Anonymous, or Narcotics Anonymous).
- Achieving and sustaining a period of abstinence from substances.
- Compliance with the DFPS service plan.
- Compliance with the DFPS safety plan, if there is one.

21



CPS Policy Requirements

- Recovery (CPS Policy 1982)

1982.1 Indicators of Progress in Recovery

- Development of a relapse safety plan. See [1982.2 Relapse Safety Plan](#).
- Achievement of parenting goals.
- Establishment of a pattern of negative results on drug tests.
- Consistent attendance at and participation in visits with the child or children.
- Behavioral changes.
- Getting or maintaining employment (if applicable).
- No new reports of criminal activity.
- No new substantiated allegations of abuse or neglect that are related to substance use.
- Administration of prescription medications as prescribed (if applicable).

22



Frequently Asked Questions

How can advocates use this information to encourage parents to abstain, discontinue, or remain in recovery



23



Recovery Support Services

Recovery support services is an evidence-based practice funded through SAMHSA that supports services to increase long-term recovery and recovery quality. Services are provided by peer specialists. Peer specialists help initiate services like counseling, sober housing, transportation and medications. Peers provide support before, during and after treatment.

Who Is Eligible for Recovery Support Services?

People with a history of alcohol or drug problems, including co-occurring mental health disorders, who are in or seeking recovery, along with their family members and significant others.

24




Recovery Support Services

Longview - East Texas Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
 708 Glencrest Ln, Longview, TX 75601
 (903) 753-7633

Website: <https://www.etcada.com/>

25



Frequently Asked Questions

What should I know about the CPS Policy and rules about parental and child/youth testing?

26



CPS Policy Requirement

- 1963.1 Infants Exposed to or Affected by Substances
- 1963.2 Children and Youth Who Are Not in DFPS Conservatorship and Are Not Emancipated
- 1963.3 Children and Youth in DFPS Conservatorship
- 1963.4 Youth in Extended Care or Return to Care


27



Frequently Asked Questions

What the conversations between caseworkers and advocates might look like as we seek best interest for each child?

28



TEXAS
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Reach Out for Help

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