



SAMHSA DRUG TESTING ADVISORY BOARD (DTAB) MEETING JUNE 2-3, 2009

SUMMARY POINTS

The SAMHSA DTAB meeting was held June 2nd and 3rd as an open-to-the-public session presented in web-cast environment. The DTAB session was facilitated by Dr. Donna Bush and Mr. Robert Stephenson of the SAMHSA Division of Workplace Programs. The two day agenda was focused on SAMHSA's plans and progress for implementation of the revisions to the HHS Mandatory Guidelines for Federal Workplace Drug Testing Programs which will be effective in May 2010. Summary highlights of the meeting are presented below.

- **DOT Update:** Review of the recent court decision on the challenge to DOT's rule revision that mandates DOT return to duty and follow-up tests be conducted using direct observation specimen collection procedures. The court determined that DOT-mandated direct observation collection for RTD and FU tests is constitutional. The plaintiffs have the opportunity to request a rehearing, thus the DOT has not made the requirement for direct observation collection of RTD and FU tests mandatory at this time; direct observation collections for DOT RTD and FU tests remains an employer option. The DOT will publish a notice when the provision becomes mandatory.
- **DoD Update:** Review of the military drug testing program. Random testing rates for AF (100%), Army/Navy (200%), Marines (300%), DoD civilians (50-100%). Military program currently includes MDMA and oxycodone testing. Considering expanded prescription drug panels. DoD supports revisions to HHS Guidelines
- **NRC Update:** Review of significant changes to new NRC fitness for duty rule effective in 2009. Also provided summary statistics of NRC program for 2008: 142,200 tests; overall positive rate 0.65%. Contractor positive rate almost 3x licensee employee rate. Random positives 0.23%; pre-access 0.82%. Random testing rate is 50%.
- **SAMSHA Update:** Review of significant changes in HHS Guidelines revisions:
 - Harmonization of HHS specimen collection procedures with DOT
 - Establishes collection site and collector standards for performance and training
 - New laboratory requirements for additional analytes and lower cutoffs
 - Establishes certification program and standards for Instrumented Initial Testing Facilities
 - Establishes standards for MRO training and certification under HHS Guidelines
- **Presentation of Work Plan for Implementation of Revised Guidelines:** Most of the tasks necessary to achieve implementation of the revised Guidelines by May 1, 2010 involve collaborative efforts of SAMHSA Division of Workplace Programs and RTI, its technical consultation contractor and administrator of the NLCP.
- **Laboratory Technical Issues:** Discussion of initial and confirmatory analyses for new analytes (MDMA, MDA, MDEA) and of changes in cut-off levels for initial and confirmatory testing cut-off levels for cocaine and amphetamines and their metabolites. Presentation on expanded confirmatory test technologies that will be permitted under the revised Guidelines focused on LC/MS/MS and other tandem MS methods. Presentation of Special Proficiency Testing (PT) program to challenge and validate laboratories' performance on new analytes and lowered initial and confirmatory cut-offs. Special, targeted PT sets will be initiated in Jan 2010 and continue throughout 2010 to assess and monitor laboratories' capabilities. The application, inspection and certification processes for IITFs were presented in detail along with an implementation plan to achieve certification of eligible IITFs by end of FY or CY 2010.

- Urine Specimen Collection Issues: A presentation by Jim Swart of DOT highlighted DOT's recent initiatives and strategies to improve collection site security, integrity of the collection process, and deterrence of specimen adulteration and substitution. The revised Guidelines will require the Federal agencies to perform inspections/audits of collection sites used for federal employee testing programs.
- Federal CCF 2010: A draft of the revised federal urine specimen custody and control form (CCF 2010) was presented along with explanations of and rationale for the changes. The CCF 2010 will be published in the Federal Register for public comment and is expected to achieve OMB clearance by Jan 2010, so that it will be available for use in Federally-regulated testing NLT May 2010. The changes to the CCF are necessary to provide for reporting of the new analytes, transfer of specimens from IITFs to certified labs for confirmatory testing, and to categorize tests by federal authority (HHS, NRC, DOT (including DOT agency designation)).
- MRO training and standards and other significant program issues in the revised Guidelines continue as a "work in progress" toward implementation, with SAMHSA committed to gathering input and information from the professional industries through working groups, task forces, and participation in further DTAB meetings.

A transcript of the meeting and the Power Point presentation slides used for the agenda items will be posted to the SAMHSA web site in the near future.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT YOUR ACCOUNT MANAGER AT
1-800-732-3784 OR BUSINESS@FIRSTLAB.COM**

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