

Drug Testing Webinar – FAQ

Do the non-DOT tests performed at Sanford use DOT cutoff levels?

Not always. Sanford OccMed encourages companies to use panels that match Department of Transportation (DOT) cutoff levels, but the choice of the panel and the cutoff levels is up to the employer.

Who can I contact with questions about the results of a drug test?

You can email questions to our drug testing team at occmed.drugtesting@sanfordhealth.org. Otherwise, call (844) 753-6367 and select option 1 for results.

How is Marinol treated in drug testing?

Marinol is a legally prescribed, FDA-approved medication. If the donor is positive for THC and has a legitimate prescription for Marinol, the sample will be deemed negative so long as the test result for smoked marijuana is negative as well.

Can employment-related drug screenings be performed at any Sanford clinic with a lab?

No—not all labs can perform drug testing. The facility must be set up to prevent altering of the sample. The lab must also have trained and certified collectors.

What should employers know before adopting in-house oral tests for the pre-employment process?

Oral tests can only be performed for non-federally regulated drug testing. The collector of the oral sample must be trained in both collection and processing. The company substance abuse policy must indicate which drugs will be tested and what oral kits will be used for the test. This testing is done without the supervision of a medical resource officer (MRO), so the company assumes more risk with this process.

If an employee has a positive result from the lab, how does the MRO verify prescription medications from the donor?

The MRO must be provided with acceptable proof that the donor was prescribed and legally dispensed the drug. The MRO can verify this with the pharmacy that dispensed the drug or with the medical provider who prescribed it. Pictures of the medication container can also qualify as sufficient proof if the container indicates the drug, patient and provider names as well as the date the drug was dispensed.

Are companies required to send a chain of custody with individuals when sending them for a random drug screening?

Yes—all drug tests must be accompanied by a chain of custody.

Have you seen any employers remove THC from their drug testing panels?

Yes—several companies have recently removed THC from their drug testing panels.

Why is Fentanyl not on all drug testing panels?

Fentanyl cannot be tested with federally regulated drug testing panels. Non-federally regulated drug tests can include Fentanyl in the panel upon the employer's request. Companies should be aware that panels that test for Fentanyl are much more expensive than panels that do not.