European Guidelines for Workplace Drug Testing in Hair

Alberto Salomone
European Guidelines for Workplace Drug Testing in Hair

Perspective

(S)COPE: establish best practice procedures whilst allowing countries to operate within the requirements of national custom and legislation

Guidelines for European workplace drug and alcohol testing in hair

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MAJOR CHANGES

- Alcohol section was modified, according to the SoHT Consensus
- Cut-offs for methadone and ketamine were added
- The possibility of testing for NPS was mentioned
- Instructions for challenging the results (paragraph 8) were provided
- Appendix B was added

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- Appendix A: Example of a collection instructions
- Appendix B: Recommended cut-offs
European Guidelines for Workplace Drug Testing in Hair

1. General
   • To provide a common framework within which WDT in hair should be performed.
   • To provide guidance in order to provide reliable results for the purpose of WDT.
   • To ensure that the processes undertaken are capable of legal scrutiny.
   • To provide safeguards to protect the specimen donors.
   • To define common quality assurance and quality control criteria
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2. Specimen collection

Contains recommendations to ensure a balance between the privacy of the donor and the need to ensure the proper identification and integrity of the specimen

2.1 Introduction
2.2 Collector Qualifications
2.3 Collection Site
2.4 Chain of Custody Form (CCF)
2.5 Collection Process
3. Laboratory organization

- Laboratories should ideally be accredited to ISO/IEC 17025
- Laboratories should be sufficiently equipped (GC-MS, LC-MS and Tandem MS technologies)
- Adequate sampling, collection and storage should still be performed at a local level to ensure that the results produced by the regional laboratories are accurate and valid
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Contains recommendations about: minimum amount of hair used in the analysis, washing procedure, sample pretreatment, validated extraction protocol, screening and confirmation analyses

4.1 Sample receipt
4.2 Sample decontamination and extraction
4.3 Sample Analysis
5. Analytical methods validation criteria

Screening test
Since the majority of the samples tested for WDT are negative and hence will only be screened, high quality screening tests are a must for WDT

Confirmation test
National or European guidelines for mass spectrometric identification and quantification of drugs must be taken into account
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## 6. Quality assurance and quality control

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<td>6.2.3</td>
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7.3.8 Benzodiazepines/z-drugs
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- The residue of the original sample, or the B sample when available, are re-tested.
- Same laboratory or by a different laboratory accredited and working according to these guidelines.
- The donor can attend the new analyses or be represented.
- The final report: no drug found, or found at a level that is either consistent or inconsistent with the first one.
- The final interpretation of the results is done by a Medical Review Officer, together with a toxicologist.
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<th>Substance</th>
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Thank you for your attention