

# Drug Testing FAQ

Topic	Question	Response
<b>Fixed Site</b>	Will there be a change in drug testing times, so that drug testing occurs outside of 8 a.m.-5 p.m. working hours so that parents don't have to miss work to provide samples?	Per the contract, the hours of operation shall vary from week to week, within a time range of 9 a.m.- 8 p.m., based on site-specific testing volume.
<b>Test Panel</b>	Is there anything that tests for mushrooms or salts?	These substances are not in our current drug testing panels, however specific drugs can be added to existing panels upon request. Pricing beyond standard panel testing is provided at the time of the request.
<b>Test Types</b>	Is HHS 'giving up' on Sweat Patch Testing?	Iowa HHS is shifting from routine use of sweat patch testing to using urine (UA) and oral fluid as the primary drug testing methods in child welfare cases. Sweat patches will remain available, but use will require supervisor approval and be reserved for where frequent, observed testing is not feasible.
	Why are Urine and Oral Fluid the Primary Testing Methods?	Urine and oral fluid testing are widely used and recommended by federal agencies including SAMHSA, ASAM, and the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW). These methods ensure consistency with evidence-based practices and support collaborative work with judicial and treatment partners.
	Does the Oral Swab test for alcohol?	No, the Oral Fluid test does not test for alcohol. The UA 9 + alcohol is the only test that does.
<b>MRO</b>	How does the Medical Review Officer process work?	The lab sends the sample directly to Cynergy

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		<p>for non-negative (positive) tests only. This excludes the Sweat Patch test. Cynergy assigns an MRO who will reach out to the client.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRO makes two (2) attempts in two (2) days to contact the client.</li> <li>• Contact made with client: MRO will speak with the client, asking questions regarding the non-negative result and any medications they are prescribed.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MRO reaches out to the pharmacy to verify medication and the last time the prescription was filled.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• No contact made with client: results are released on the third day.</li> <li>• MRO report includes an Overall Verified Result with their findings. The finalized report does not include a list of medications. The lab report is not changed.</li> </ul>
<b>MRO</b>	If a client misses the MRO call but has a valid prescription and wants a review, is that possible?	HHS can request an MRO review through CIJDC.
<b>Test Samples</b>	Does CIJDC track the samples when sent to the lab?	Yes, CIJDC has tracking numbers on each sample sent to the lab and can check the website.