COMMON DRUGS OF ABUSE

The nation's leading drug tester
Employees who abuse drugs or alcohol are 10 times more likely to miss work, nearly 4 times as likely to be involved in on-the-job accidents and 5 times more likely to file a workers’ compensation claim. They are also responsible for 40% of all industrial fatalities, 33% less productivity and generate healthcare costs that are three times as high as other co-workers. (American Council for Drug Education)
With drug abuse on the rise, the chances are your business is at risk.

Quest Diagnostics understands the financial, legal and moral impact that employee substance abuse can have on your organization, from accidents and increased absence, to lower productivity and the rise in frequency of workers’ compensation claims.

As a result, we are committed to providing solutions that help you keep substance abuse out of your workplace. That’s why, each year, Quest Diagnostics performs more than 8 million drug tests. This makes us the leading provider of drug testing services in the nation.

Because Quest Diagnostics is committed to supporting the well-being and welfare of your business, we’ve developed this informative pamphlet on common drugs of abuse.

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AMPHETAMINES

Uppers
Speed
Black Beauties
Meth
Whites
Jelly Beans
Dexies
Crank
White Cross
Benny
Crystal

More than 70% of substance abusers hold jobs.

(American Council of Drug Education)
What to Look For
Tablets of varying colors, possible chain smoking

Physical Symptoms
Long periods without rest or sleep, loss of appetite
anxiety, irritability, rapid speech, tremors, mood elevation

Substances/Time Detectable
Methamphetamine
Urine: 1 to 3 days
Hair: up to 90 days (depending on hair length)
Oral Fluid: 24 to 36 hours

Amphetamine
Urine: 1 to 3 days
Hair: up to 90 days (depending on hair length)
Oral Fluid: 24 to 36 hours

Dangers
Disorientation, severe depression, paranoia, possible
hallucinations, increase in blood pressure, fatigue
COCAINE

Coke
Nose Candy
Crack
Snow
White Candy
C
Flake
Freebase
Toot
Blow
Rock
What to Look For
Glassine envelopes, razors, small spoons, bitter white crystalline powder, granular rocks

Physical Symptoms
Short-lived euphoria changing to depression, irritability, nervousness, tightness of muscles

Substances/Time Detectable
Benzoylcgonine
Urine: 1 to 3 days
Hair: up to 90 days (depending on hair length)
Oral Fluid: 24 to 36 hours

Dangers
Shallow breathing, fever, anxiety, tremors, possible death from convulsions or respiratory arrest
MARIJUANA

Dope
Pot
Reefer
Joint
Smoke
Weed

Americans consume 60% of the world's production of illegal drugs. In fact, 23 million individuals use marijuana at least four times a week and 6 million regularly use cocaine.

(American Council for Drug Education)
Marijuana

What to Look For
Plastic baggies, rolling paper, “roach” clips, odor of burnt rope

Physical Symptoms
Altered perception, dilated pupils, lack of concentration and coordination, craving for sweets, increased appetite, laughter

Substances/Time Detectable
11-Nor-delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol-9-carboxylic acid
Urine: occasional use, 1 to 3 days
Urine: habitual/chronic use, up to 30 days
Hair: up to 90 days (depending on hair length)

Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol
Hair: up to 90 days (depending on hair length)
Oral Fluid: less than 24 hours

Dangers
Psychological dependence, increased heart rate, impaired short-term memory, anxiety, lung damage, possible psychosis with chronic use
OPIATES

Heroin
Smack
Horse
Junk
China White

Morphine
M, Miss Emma

Codeine
School Boy

Hydrocodone
Vicodin

Hydromorphone
Dilaudid

Oxycodone
Percocet
Percodan
Oxycotin

Oxymorphone
Mumorphan
What to Look For
Glassine envelopes, needles and syringes, caps or spoons, tourniquets, needle marks on arms

Physical Symptoms
Insensitivity to pain, euphoria, sedation, nausea, vomiting, itchiness, watery eyes, running nose

Substances/Time Detectable
Codeine, Morphine
Urine: 1 to 3 days
Hair: up to 90 days (depending on hair length)
Oral Fluid: 24 to 36 hours

Hydrocodone, Hydromorphone, Oxycodone
Oxymorphone, 6-monoacetylmorphine
Urine: 1 to 3 days
Oral Fluid: 24 to 36 hours

Dangers
Lethargy, weight loss, hepatitis, slow and shallow breathing, possible death
PHENCYCLIDINE

Angel Dust
Devil Stick
PCP
Dummy Dust
Wack

Drug use in the workplace costs employers approximately **$81 billion** annually in lost productivity.

(The U.S. Department of Labor)
Phencyclidine

What to Look For
Liquid capsules, white or brown powder on paper stamps, sugar cubes, cigarettes, joints, injection paraphernalia

Physical Symptoms
Increased pulse and heart rate, blood pressure and temperature, possible mood and perception alteration, paranoia, panic, anxiety, nausea, tremors, suicidal urge

Substances/Time Detectable
Phencyclidine
Urine: occasional use, 1 to 5 days
Urine: habitual/chronic use, up to 30 days
Hair: up to 90 days (depending on hair length)
Oral Fluid: 24 to 36 hours

Dangers
Unpredictable behavior, flashbacks, possible emotional instability and psychosis, hallucinations
MDMA

Ecstasy
Adam
XTC
X
Hug drug
Beans
Love drug
Lover’s speed
What to Look For
White odorless crystalline powder, tablets in various colors and stamped with various patterns

Physical Symptoms
Euphoria, empathetic and unusually warm towards people, touch and sight senses often heightened

Substances/Time Detectable
3-4 methylene dioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)
3-4 methylene dioxyamphetamine (MDA)
Urine: 2 to 4 days
Hair: up to 90 days (depending on hair length)
Oral Fluid: 24 to 36 hours

Dangers
Tachycardia, hypertension, hyperthermia, mydriasis, diaphoresis, stimulant, entactogenic effects, visual hallucinations
BARBITURATES

Downers
Dolls
Reds
Tuinal
Rainbows
Yellows
Blues
Goofballs
M&M's
Red Devils
What to Look For
Capsules of varying colors, longer periods of rest or sleep, dizziness, cold and clammy skin

Physical Symptoms
Depression, decreased alertness and muscle control, intoxication and slurred speech, drowsiness

Substances/Time Detectable
Secobarbital, Butalbital, Pentobarbital, Amobarbital
Phenobarbital
Urine: all except Phenobarbital, 1 to 3 days (short acting)
Urine: Phenobarbital, 1 to 3 weeks

Dangers
Rigidity and painful muscle contraction, emotional instability, possible overdose and death, especially when mixed with alcohol
BENZODIAZEPINES

Downers

Tranqs
What to Look For
Pills and injection paraphernalia

Physical Symptoms
Slurred speech, disorientation, drunken behavior without odor of alcohol

Substances/Time Detectable
Common Benzodiazepines and/or specific metabolites:
Oxazepam, Nordiazepam, Temazepam (Restoril), Flurazepam (Dalmane), Alprazolam (Xanax), Lorazepam (Ativan), Clorazepate (Tranxene), Diazepam (Valium), Halazepam (Paxipam), Medazepam (Nobrium), Prazepam (Centrax), Flunitrazepam, Clonazepam (Klonopin), Midazolam (Versed)

Urine: varies from 1 to 14 days (depending on specific Benzodiazepine)

Dangers
Shallow respiration, cold and clammy skin, dilated pupils, weak and rapid pulse, coma, possible death
METHADONE

Done
Dolophine
Methadose
Dolls

55% of the costs of substance abuse are borne by both employers and society at large.

(Center for Substance Abuse Research, University of Maryland)
What to Look For
White crystalline powder, tablets, liquid (injectable)

Physical Symptoms
Euphoria, drowsiness, respiratory depression, constricted pupils, nausea

Substances/Time Detectable
Methadone and metabolite
Urine: 1 to 3 days

Dangers
Slow and/or shallow breathing, clammy skin, convulsions, coma, possible death
The percentage of the U.S. population using illegal drugs increased from 6.3% in 1999 and 2000 to 7.1% in 2001; this translates to 15.9 million Americans. (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration – SAMHSA)
Methaqualone

What to Look For
Tablets

Physical Symptoms
Slow heart rate and breathing, lowered blood pressure, sleepiness, feelings of well-being, loss of coordination, laziness, impaired perception, confusion, later hangover

Substances/Time Detectable
Methaqualone
Urine: 1 to 7 days

Dangers
Anxiety, insomnia
PROPOXYPHENE

In the workplace, substance abusers increase the risk of accidents, lower productivity, compromise product quality, increase the workload of others, raise insurance costs and reduce profits.

(American Council for Drug Education)
Propoxyphene

What to Look For
Tablets, capsules

Physical Symptoms
Dizziness, drowsiness, headache, euphoria, sysphoria, asthenia

Substances/Time Detectable
Norpropoxyphene
Urine: 1 to 3 days

Dangers
Skin rash and other allergic reactions occur occasionally and may be accompanied by drug fever and mucosal lesions, stupor or coma, convulsions, respiratory depression.
GHB

Liquid Ecstasy
Liquid-X
Everclear
Soap
Easy lay
Goops
Georgia home boy
What to Look For
White, odorless powder, tablet or capsule

Physical Symptoms
Relaxes or sedates the body and slows breathing and heart rate

Substances/Time Detectable
Gamma hydroxybutyrate
Urine: up to 72 hours

Dangers
Bradycardia, respiratory depression, hallucinations, amnesia
ROHYPNOL

Rorphies
Roorfies
Roach
Rope
Circles
Mexican valium

More than 60% of adults know someone who has come to work under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

(U.S. Department of Labor)
What to Look For
Odorless, tasteless, white tablet

Physical Symptoms
The drug produces sedative effects, including amnesia, muscle relaxation and the slowing of psychomotor performance

Substances/Time Detectable
Flunitrazepam metabolite (7-Aminoflunitrazepam)
Urine: 1 to 3 days

Dangers
Respiratory depression, hypotension, disorientation, dizziness, visual disturbances, anterograde amnesia
KETAMINE

Special K
Lady Kay
Vitamin K
Jet
K
Keets
Super C
Cat valium
K-hole
What to Look For
Liquid or white powder

Physical Symptoms
It is a dissociative drug that produces effects similar to PCP; large doses put users into a dreamlike, hallucinogenic state

Substances/Time Detectable
Ketamine metabolite (dehydronorketamine)
Urine: 1 to 2 days

Dangers
Tachycardia, hypertension, nystagmus, respiratory depression, visual hallucinations, cataleptic state
LSD

Acid
L
Blotter
Trips
Cid
Tabs
Microdots
What to Look For
Colorless, odorless tablets or capsules (microdots), liquid solution on gelatin (window panes), liquid solution diluted and impregnated on blotting paper (blotter)

Physical Symptoms
Mood-altering effects, flashbacks, severe depression

Substances/Time Detectable
Lysergic acid diethylamide
Urine: 8 hours

Dangers
Tachycardia, hypertension, hyperthermia, mydriasis, lacrimation, visual hallucinations, synesthesias ataxia, tremors
ANABOLIC STEROIDS

Testosterone and its
synthetic analogs
listed as controlled substances.
Androstendols,
Androstendiones,
their 19-nor versions,
Dehydroepiandrosterone,
Designer anabolic steroids
Anabolic Steroids

What to Look For
Oil based injectable IM solutions (ampoules, vials, syringes, bottles), tablets or lozenges for oral administration, sprays, skin lotions

Physical Symptoms
Yellow tint skin color, acne, gynecomastia, gain in weight, accumulation of fluids, psychological disorders such as aggressiveness

In females: marked masculinization, deeper voice, male-pattern hair growth

Substances/Time Detectable
Multiple metabolites, some parent steroids. Testosterone to epitestosterone ratio (T/E) for detection of endogenous steroids abuse

Urine: if drug taken orally, up to 3 weeks
Urine: if drug injected, 3 months up to 1 year

Dangers
Liver dysfunction, cardiovascular disease, hypertension, infertility
For more information, on how Quest Diagnostics can help achieve your drug testing goals, visit us online at www.questdiagnostics.com, contact your Quest Diagnostics representative or call our customer service department at 800.877.7484.

Your partner for effective and reliable drug testing

For further general information on common drugs of abuse please refer to the following:

  List of Drugs: http://www.drugabuse.gov/drugpages

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