

# Drug Screen

Urine drug testing detects the presence of certain illegal drugs and prescription medications. Urine drug screening detects recent drug use in the previous 24 to 72 hours, but detection times can vary depending on the type of drug that was used.

## Why does someone need a drug screen?

Urine testing is suitable for a variety of purposes including pre-employment screening or to detect a potential substance abuse problem. If you have suspicions that a friend or family member may have a drug problem, you may consider asking them to be tested. You may wish to talk to your family healthcare provider prior to testing to advise you on how to follow up if the test result is positive for drug use.

## What drugs does the screen detect?

The urine screen tests for the following drugs:

- Amphetamines
- Cannabinoids/Marijuana
- Phencyclidine ("PCP")
- Barbiturates
- Cocaine
- Benzodiazepines
- Opiates

## What are some signs or symptoms of drug use?

A person exhibiting some of these symptoms may suggest drug use:

- Agitation
- Changes in blood pressure
- Slow or slurred speech
- Depression
- Drowsiness
- Seizures
- Enlarged or small pupils
- Difficulty breathing
- Nausea

## What should I do if the results are positive or negative?

It is always recommended you meet with a healthcare provider to determine what your laboratory test results mean to you. Your healthcare provider will review all of your test results and, combined with your health history, will be able to provide an accurate course of action.

**If your results were positive:** It is important to understand a positive drug screen may require follow-up confirmatory testing. Homeopathic medications, prescription drugs and some over-the-counter medication may produce a false positive screen by cross-reacting with a specific drug class. Your healthcare provider can provide next-step guidance for a positive drug screen.

**If your results were negative:** A negative test result does not necessarily mean the person did not take a drug at some point. The drug may be present but below the established threshold, the drug may have already been metabolized, or the test method does not detect the particular drug in the provided urine sample.

## What other resources are available to learn more about my health and laboratory tests?

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov)
- Lab Tests Online: [labtestsonline.org](http://labtestsonline.org)
- WebMD: [webmd.com](http://webmd.com)

*DLO Direct offers direct access to laboratory testing for informational purposes. A DLO Direct lab test result is not a medical diagnosis and is not intended as medical advice. Only a healthcare provider can interpret lab results and diagnose a medical condition or disease.*

*Because tests have not been ordered by a healthcare provider, third party entities, including Medicare and Medicaid, will not reimburse for these tests.*



**[DLODirect.com](http://DLODirect.com) • 800.891.2917**