



Navy Drug Screening Laboratory Jacksonville

Screening News

December 2009

Volume 1, Number 4

In This Issue

- CO's Desk
- In Focus: Confirmation Department
- Discrepancy of the Month
- Drug Facts
- Ask the Expert

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CO's Desk

Our success as a Command is determined by our ability to exceed your expectations, not just once but every time. That is why each NDSL JAX team member is tasked to constantly search for new ways to improve our support to you. As a result of these efforts, we recently rolled out a new customer outreach program designed not only to increase customer awareness of our operation but, more importantly, to cultivate relationships. The program currently involves inviting Jacksonville area UPCs into our laboratory for a briefing and a tour. This provides them with an opportunity to view the drug screening process, ask questions and interact with our staff. As a result, not only is accurate information communicated about the program, but we continue to strengthen our relationship with those we serve. After only one month, several commands have sent representatives to participate with many more scheduled in the near future.

If you are interested in participating in our outreach program and receiving a tour of our laboratory, please contact Bobbie Wiggins at 904-542-7755 or DSN 942-7755 for more information.

On behalf of the entire NDSL JAX family, best wishes for a joyous and peaceful holiday season.

E. R. Hoffman
CDR MSC USN

In Focus- Confirmation Department: "Where positives are confirmed!"



Confirmation Technician loading samples onto the gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer system

The Confirmation Department analyzes samples that have been identified as presumptively positive by the Initial Testing Department. The drug is extracted from the urine, derivatized and concentrated into auto-sampler vial for Gas Chromatographic-Mass Spectrometric (GC-MS) analysis.

The GC-MS analysis not only identifies the drug but also determines how much of the drug is present in the sample. The GC-MS system is a very sensitive instrument, capable of detecting very low concentrations of drug and drug metabolite, and is considered the “gold standard” in the drug testing industry.

Did you know:

Ledgers and/or rosters used in the collection process should NOT be submitted to our laboratory.

Discrepancy of the Month

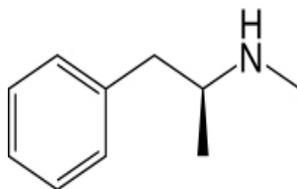
FA= FORM-UIC OR BASE/AREA CODE DISCREPANT/DIFFERS FROM BOTTLE

This discrepancy is applied when the UIC listed in block 4 of the DD Form 2624 does not match the command name that is listed in block 1, or when the UIC does not match the UIC that is listed on the bottle label. If another command is conducting and/or submitting the urinalysis collection for you, your UIC should be listed in block 4, along with your command name placed in double slashes next to the name of the command submitting the samples. This will make us aware that another command is conducting the urinalysis for you and that the UIC is correct. We frequently receive DD Form 2624s that have no entry in Block 1. This is no longer a discrepancy that is documented for the command. However, without an entry in that block, we have no way to verify the accuracy of the UIC. We make every attempt possible to ensure the accuracy of the command to which we release testing results, therefore, leaving this block blank could slow down the time that it takes for your command to receive its results. Although a telephone number is not required with the command name, providing one would allow us to contact you if we have any questions regarding your sample submission.

Did you know:

Transmission of HIV can be one of the consequences of poor judgment caused by Meth abuse ⁽³⁾.

Drug Facts



d-Methamphetamine

Description: Dextrorotatory-methamphetamine (*d*-methamphetamine) is an illicit drug that is commonly referred to as “Meth”. *D*-methamphetamine is a class II schedule drug, which means it has a high potential for abuse and is only available through a prescription ⁽¹⁾. Methamphetamine has another isoform, levorotary-methamphetamine (*l*-methamphetamine), which is an over-the-counter drug used in inhalers for nasal decongestion such as Vicks® vapor inhaler ⁽²⁾. *D*-methamphetamine is readily made in illegal laboratories from ephedrine/pseudoephedrine; however, the process is very dangerous due to the required handling of flammable and corrosive chemicals. *D*-methamphetamine comes in many forms and can be smoked, snorted, orally ingested, or injected. *D*-methamphetamine and related drugs were widely used during World War II, by both sides, to increase performance and endurance ⁽²⁾.

Common Names: Speed, Meth, Ice, Crystal Meth, Beannies, Crank ⁽³⁾.

Did you know:

Meth abuse can cause severe dental decay commonly known as "meth mouth."

Effects: *D*-Methamphetamine is a potent central nervous system stimulant which triggers a rapid increase in the neurotransmitter, dopamine⁽⁴⁾. The increase in dopamine in the brain is due to both the neuronal release and decrease in the reuptake of dopamine molecule. This increase of dopamine is believed to be responsible for *d*-methamphetamine's actions⁽⁵⁾. *D*-methamphetamine causes an increase in attention, wakefulness, respiration, and heart rate. Its short-term effects also include a decrease in appetite and fatigue. In the long-term, *D*-methamphetamine causes severe neurological side-effects including, addiction, paranoia, hallucinations, and memory loss. In addition, aggressive and violent behavior, and mood disorder are caused by long-term use of *D*-methamphetamine. *L*-methamphetamine does not possess any significant central nervous activity or addictive properties.

Trends: Trafficking data indicate that most methamphetamine available in the U.S. drug markets is either smuggled from Mexico or domestically produce in America⁽⁶⁾. In 2008, 2006 Kilograms and 6335 Kilograms were seized from the U.S.-Mexico border and within United States, respectively. Over 2,584 clandestine laboratories were seized in the United States in 2008.

According to the 2008 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 12.6 million Americans aged 12 and older reported having used *d*-methamphetamine at least once during their lifetimes⁽⁷⁾. In 2008, the number of first time users among persons aged 12 or older was 95,000. This is an approximately 66% decreased from 2004 where new users numbered 314,000.

Sources

1. U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Drug Information: Methamphetamine
2. Moore KA: Principles of Forensic Toxicology; 2nd Edition, Washington, DC: AACC Press, 2002, pages 277-315.
3. Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), Methamphetamine Street Terms.
4. Kish SJ: Pharmacologic mechanisms of crystal meth. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*. 178 (13); pages 1679-1682, 2008.
5. National Institute on Drug Abuse, Research Report Series: Methamphetamine Abuse and Addiction, 2006.
6. National Drug Intelligence Center, National Drug Threat Assessment, 2009.
7. National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 2008.
8. National Institute on Drug Abuse, Methamphetamine Infocfacts, 2009.

Ask the Expert

1. While I was on vacation, my assistant UPC conducted a unit sweep of the command. After reviewing the paperwork, I noticed that he used the wrong UIC in block 4. We have not received our results. What do we do now?

Answer: Chances are that your samples were received and tested, but the results were released to another command due to the wrong UIC being submitted.

Your first step would be to call us and provide us with identifying information, so that the we can accurately determine that your samples were received and tested. Once it is confirmed that your sample results were incorrectly assigned to another

Did you know:

Contrary to popular belief, NDSL JAX tests all testable urine samples submitted to our laboratory.

command, we will do one of two things: If it is within 10 business days of the results report we can pull back the results to correct the UIC and re-release them to your command; After 10 business days, we will provide a written, official notice of these results on command letterhead.

2. Do you have a website?

Answer: Yes. Please access our website at:

<http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/jaxdruglab/Pages/default.aspx>

Our website contains valuable and helpful information such as FAQs, visitor information, contact information, and an archive of our newsletter. While visiting our website, please take a moment to access our External Customer Satisfaction Survey and provide us with your feedback.

3. Can Vick's Inhaler cause a positive test result for methamphetamine?

No. Vick's Inhaler contains *l*-methamphetamine; illicit drug material always contains *d*-methamphetamine, the isoform for which we test. Our GC-MS procedure differentiates between the *l*- and *d*- isoforms of methamphetamine.

4. Will over-the-counter (OTC) cold medications cause a confirmed positive urine drug test for amphetamines?

Answer: No. The use of OTC cold medications will not result in a confirmed positive urinalysis for *d*-amphetamine or *d*-methamphetamine.
