



# Navy Drug Screening Laboratory Jacksonville

## Screening News

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### *CO's Desk*

The Navy Drug Screening Laboratory Jacksonville (NDSL) takes its mission to “provide scientifically valid and legally defensible test results” very seriously. We understand that drug-use compromises mission readiness and that it has serious implications for fleet effectiveness and safety.

Here at NDSL, attention-to-detail is essential for us to accurately process the hundreds of thousands of specimens that we receive each year. Attention-to-detail means that we are focused on getting it right all day, every day, because Service members’ careers and lives are on the line. It is imperative that we pay close and painstaking attention while processing each specimen, inputting the information which pairs the individual to the results, and in reviewing the data that we receive.

We work diligently to guarantee that our customers are receiving the most accurate drug results possible to ensure the most outstanding product we can offer. After all, the only difference between satisfactory delivery and exceptional delivery is attention-to-detail. Therefore, attention-to-detail is not just a part of our job, it is our culture.

*C. J. LeBron*  
*CAPT MSC USN*

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### In Focus: Screening

The initial testing of all specimens received at NDSL JAX starts at the Screening Division, where approximately 99% of the specimens screen negative for all the drugs in the DoD Drug Abuse Testing Program.

The Screening Division has five automated immunoassay instruments that occupy most of the laboratory space in the Division. These high throughput instruments support the rapid and efficient screening of 4,000 to 5,000 urine specimens daily. The high volume of urine samples tested by these versatile instruments comes with a high maintenance demand. The responsibility of the proper instrument function and maintenance is placed on a highly-trained and capable crew composed of three Lead Physical Science Technicians and a Supervisor.

The Screening Division’s responsibilities encompass many areas. They ensure the instruments are operating under optimal conditions, from keeping the conveyor belts

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clean (the conveyor belts transport the racks with urine aliquots) to cleaning and replacing nozzles that dispense the reagents and the cells where the reaction takes place. They also maintain reagent stocks, prepare reagent mixes, and load the reagents in the instruments. Furthermore, the Screening personnel perform the first level of data review by verifying that every batch is run after a valid calibration and all quality control solutions perform as expected.

The processing of around 40 to 50 batches daily with minimum errors and forensically correct documentation are testimony of the Screening Division's commitment to the Command's mission.

Did you know?

Information about the laboratory, including fact sheets and past newsletters, may be found at our website:  
<http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/jaxdruglab/Pages/default.aspx>.



**FIGURE 1. SCREENING DIVISION**

**From left to right: Mr. Rodney McNeil (Lead, Physical Science Technician), Mr. Phillip Murray (Lead, Physical Science Technician), Mr. Jerry McFarlin (Supervisor), Mr. Ramoncito Cruz (Lead, Physical Science Technician)**

Did you know?

Correspondence templates for technical reviews; summary reports; documentation packages; and DD Form 2624s can be found at our website:  
<http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/jaxdruglab/Pages/default.aspx>.

## 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 submitting unit that is listed in Block 1, when the UIC does not match the UIC that is listed on the bottle label, or when the UIC is listed as all zeros on the DD Form 2624. 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 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 your command and that the UIC is correct.

We frequently receive DD Form 2624s that have no entries in Block 1. This is no longer a discrepancy that is documented against the submitting command; however, without an entry in that block, we do not have a method for verifying the accuracy of the UIC. We make every effort possible to ensure the accuracy of the command that we release

testing results to, 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 be very helpful and allow us to contact you if we have any questions regarding your sample submission.

In December 2012, 2,201 samples submitted had the FA discrepancy code applied to them. The majority of them were because the DD Form 2624 was submitted with all zeros in Block 4. If your form prints out with all zeros in Block 4 or Block 4 is blank, it is perfectly acceptable to write in the correct UIC. Ensure you initial and date your entry. Another point to keep in mind is that because this is a form discrepancy, if your form lists 12 specimens, then all 12 specimens receive the discrepancy.

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## Drug Facts: *d*-Amphetamines

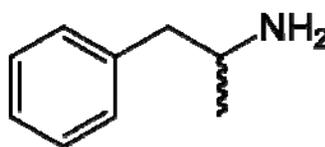


FIGURE 2. D-AMPHETAMINES CHEMICAL STRUCTURE

### Did you know?

The most comprehensive information on nutritional supplements for military members can be found at the website: <http://hprc-online.org>.

**Description:** Dextrorotatory-amphetamine (*d*-amphetamine) is a drug that is commonly prescribed to treat attention deficit disorder (ADD), attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), narcolepsy, and it can be used as an appetite suppressant. Through the Controlled Substances Act, *d*-amphetamine is a Schedule II drug, which means it has a high potential for abuse and thus, is only available through prescription<sup>(1)</sup>. The abuse or misuse of *d*-amphetamine may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence. Amphetamine has another isoform, levorotary-amphetamine (*l*-amphetamine), which has some physiologic activity. *D*-amphetamine is commonly prescribed as mixed amphetamine salts or as the pro-drug lisdexamfetamine. *D*-amphetamine can also be ingested through the illicit use of products available from other countries.

**Common Names:** Adderall®, Bensedrine®, Dexedrine®, Didrex®, Vyvanse®

**Effects:** *D*-amphetamine is a potent central nervous system stimulant which triggers a rapid increase in the neurotransmitter dopamine. The *d*-amphetamine acts on the dopamine receptors of the brain to elicit the calming effects of the drug. *D*-amphetamine can cause an increase in attention, wakefulness, respiration, and heart rate. Its short-term effects can also include a decrease in appetite and fatigue. In the long-term, *d*-amphetamine can cause severe neurological side-effects including, addiction, paranoia, hallucinations, and memory loss. In addition, aggressive and violent behavior, and mood disorder can be caused by long-term use of *d*-amphetamine<sup>(2)</sup>.

**Trends:** Trafficking data indicates that most amphetamine available in the U.S. drug markets is prescribed, and then the medication is illegally sold to others<sup>(3)</sup>.

Did you know?  
Information regarding natural medicines and alternative therapies, to include energy drinks and supplements, can be found at the website:  
<http://naturaldatabase.therapeuticresearch.com/home.aspx?s=ND&cs=dod>.

### References:

1. U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Drug Information: Amphetamine
2. National Institute on Drug Abuse, Research Report Series: Amphetamine Abuse and Addiction, 2006
3. U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, Office of Diversion Control, National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS): Special Report: ADD/ADHD Stimulants in NFLIS 2007-2011.

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## Ask the Expert

### **1. If I take over-the-counter workout supplements (e.g., Jack3D or C4 Extreme), will I come up positive for *d*-amphetamine on a DoD urine drug test?**

Answer: No. Only if the ingredient “*d*-amphetamines” are in the supplements. However, for more information, see OPERATION SUPPLEMENT SAFETY (OPSS), MARADMINS 562/12, 10/09/2012.

### **2. If I take over-the-counter cold medications (e.g., containing phenylephrine or pseudoephedrine), will I come up positive for *d*-amphetamine on a DoD urine drug test?**

Answer: No. While over-the-counter cold medications often times contain sympathomimetic amines which are similar to amphetamines, they will not cause a confirmed positive result for *d*-amphetamine.

### **3. Has testing for benzodiazepines started and are all of my specimens being tested for this class of drugs?**

Answer: Yes and No. Testing for benzodiazepines began in November 2012. Unless specifically requested, only 10% of all specimens are tested for this class of drugs. As such, general requests for “all drugs” testing will not include benzodiazepines.