

Urine Drug Monitoring: Payor Perspective

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Why Test Drugs?

- Emergency Rooms
- Substance Abuse Treatment Programs
- Employers
- Pain Clinics
- Other

Why Do Physicians need to monitor for drugs?

- Pain relievers account for the largest portion of misuse of prescription drugs...75% of misuse
- Challenge for physicians is to maintain legitimate access to these drugs while restricting inappropriate diversion and abuse
- Diversion of prescription drugs to misuse

Effective monitoring programs

- Prescription monitoring programs
- Physician and consumer education
- Urine Drug monitoring programs

Drug Testing is a Tool for Prevention and Treatment

- Random drug testing in schools
- Random drug testing in the military
- Random drug testing in the workplace
- Random drug testing in pain clinics for selected patients
- Random drug testing in physician offices for selected patients

Who Pays?

- School Departments
- Military
- Medicaid...depends on the State
- Other insurers...in Massachusetts, Blue Cross, Harvard Pilgrim, Neighborhood Health Plan

What information is necessary?

- Licensed clinics
- Licensed physicians
- Substance abuse treatment centers
- Hospitals and Emergency Rooms
- Prior authorization sometimes necessary

The Future

- Not all payers will automatically pay for urine drug testing in physician offices or pain clinics, but they are changing with pressure and most will reimburse with prior authorization or other good arguments.....