



American Drug Testing

Drug-Free Workplace Programs

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DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE ADVISOR

AN ONGOING SERIES TO PROTECT YOUR COMPANY BY HELPING TO KEEP DRUGS OUT OF YOUR WORKPLACE.

Medical Consequences of Cocaine Abuse

Cardiovascular Effects

- Heart rhythm disturbances
- Heart attacks

Respiratory Effects

- Chest pain
- Respiratory failure



Neurological Effects

- Strokes
- Seizures and headaches

Gastrointestinal Complications

- Abdominal pain
- Nausea

The Drug-Free Workplace Advisor



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President

The Drug-Free Workplace Advisor is a resource of American Drug Testing, the Lowcountry's premier drug-free workplace administrator, and testing company. Let us help you maintain a drug-free workplace. Contact us at (843)747-4111.

Amphetamines Use in Workplace Continues to Grow

LYNDHURST, N.J., – The use of amphetamines among general workforce employees continued to grow in 2004, according to the semi-annual Drug Testing Index®.

Amphetamines use, which grew rapidly between 2000 and 2003, continued to grow in 2004. Among general U.S. workforce employees, the incidence of positive drug tests attributed to amphetamines rose by approximately 6% in 2004 from 2003.

During 2003 amphetamines positivity was 0.49%. Between 2000 and 2003, year-over-year growth rates for amphetamines positivity had been 16%, 17% and 44%, respectively.

Among Federally-mandated, safety-sensitive workers, the incidence of positive drug tests attributed to amphetamines also grew by 6%, reaching 0.31% of all drug tests that look for the use of amphetamines among these workers. During 2003, amphetamines positivity was 0.29%.

“The use of amphetamines

among workers continued to grow in 2004,” said Barry Sample, Ph.D., Director of Science and Technology for the Employer Solutions division of Quest Diagnostics. Overall, the



drug positivity rate for U.S. workers remained unchanged at 4.5% from 2003.

The Drug Testing Index examines positivity rates among three major testing populations: Federally-mandated, safety-sensitive workers; the general workforce; and the combined U.S. workforce. Federally-mandated, safety-sensitive workers include pilots, bus and truck drivers and workers in nuclear power plants, for whom routine drug testing is mandated by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Since 1988, government, employers and the health-

care industry have relied on the Drug Testing Index to make important fact-based decisions about employees' drug use and its impact in the workplace.

Methamphetamine, the most commonly abused type of amphetamine, is a potent synthetic psychostimulant drug that is used by individuals to increase alertness, relieve fatigue, feel stronger and more decisive. Consequences of methamphetamine use include addiction, psychotic behavior and brain damage, and chronic use can cause violent behavior, anxiety, confusion, insomnia, auditory hallucinations, mood disturbances, delusions and paranoia.

Withdrawal symptoms include depression, anxiety, fatigue, paranoia, and intense cravings. In an effort to address the social ramifications associated with methamphetamine, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) aggressively targets those who traffic in and produce methamphetamine.

Source: Quest Diagnostics