

KUMC POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Policy on Drug Screening

Originated	May 2013
Reviewed	
Effective	June 2013

Policy

Students in the Schools of Nursing, Medicine and Health Professions may be required to undergo urine drug screening prior to participating in clinical observations and rotations. This Policy also is applicable to visiting and international students who participate in clinical activities through the University. A confirmed positive test may preclude participation in certain clinical rotations and placement at certain facilities. A student with a confirmed positive test may be referred to the appropriate student assistance program for evaluation, depending on the School. *See* the School of Medicine's Policies on the Use of Alcohol and Other Psychoactive Substances, the School of Nursing's Impaired Student Assistance Program or the Health Professions Impaired Student's Assistance Program for additional information. Students will receive instructions from their school of study on how and when to complete the pre-clinical drug screening. Students may be required to complete drug testing at multiple points in their academic career depending on clinical placement and affiliated facility requirements.

Rationale

Health care providers are entrusted with the health, safety, and welfare of patients; have access to confidential and sensitive information; and operate in settings that require the exercise of good judgment and ethical behavior. Additionally, clinical facilities are increasingly requiring drug screening of any individuals, including students, who provide services and care within their facilities, both for safety reasons and to remain in compliance with Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations ("JCAHO") standards. Thus, assessment of a student's suitability to function in a clinical setting is imperative to promote integrity in health care services. Clinical observations and rotations are an essential element in certain degree programs' curricula. A student with a positive drug screen may be barred from certain clinical facilities and thus may be unable to fulfill degree program requirements. Identification of such students prior to clinical rotations will enable appropriate assessment and follow-up.

Procedure

The University of Kansas (Kansas City, Wichita and Salina campuses) utilize Validity Screening Solutions ("Validity") for all drug screens. All students will be required to complete an 11 panel drug screening at the discretion of the school or clinical organization. The 11-panel includes Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Cocaine, Methaqualone, Methadone, Opiates, Oxycodone, Phencyclidine (PCP), THC, Propoxyphene (PPX).

Validity provides a written instruction sheet with a username and password for KU students. The instructions are given to students who require a drug screen. The student will follow

instructions to access the Validity website and self-schedule the drug screen within 14 days of being provided the access instructions. Students are responsible for the cost of the drug screen which is collected on-line when the student schedules testing. Collection of the specimen is done at both LabCorp and Quest. Both LabCorp and Quest are available nationwide and SAMSHA certified.

Handling of Test Results

All positive tests are referred to a Medical Review Officer utilized by LabCorp or Quest depending on the site the student utilized for testing. The MRO speaks with the student to ascertain any medications the student may be taking that could either interfere with or cause a positive test. This review is NOT communicated to the University (for example, a student legitimately on Adderall would initially test positive, but review by the MRO with the student and his/her prescriber would confirm the legitimacy of the prescription and such a test would be reported to the University as negative). If additional processing is required following an initial positive test result, both LabCorp and Quest conduct GCMS processing.

Authorized representatives of KU may access final test results which are stored in the Validity database indefinitely. Those final results contain only the final determination that the test was either negative or positive. Test results are confidential and are subject to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (“FERPA”) regulations.

All urine drug screens requested by a student for provision to an outside program that are not part of normal clinical observation or rotation activities will be ordered through Validity. In that case, results will be released directly to the student for submission to the outside program.

Positive Screening Results

Any student who has a positive drug screen will be referred to the appropriate committee depending on the student’s school of study (as above).

The Vice Chancellor of Students will be a member of each committee in the case of a positive drug screening to ensure alignment between programs.

Any results released to the Dean of a student’s program or to an appropriate Committee evaluating the student through a student assistance program are also confidential and subject to FERPA regulations. The primary institution contact for all Validity contracts is the KUMC FERPA steward.