

DANOS AE1 Test for substance use

This unit is about testing individuals to see if they have been using substances, such as alcohol and controlled drugs. It covers both testing to identify what substances and in what quantities individuals have been using substances and also testing to check that individuals have been correctly using medication which has been prescribed for them.

Name of applicant:

I confirm that I am the line manager / supervisor for the above named.

I have assessed the applicant's competence in relation to each of the numbered items listed overleaf and have placed my initials against each numbered item to indicate my satisfaction that the applicant has demonstrated the competence to which it refers (see notes below).

My assessment of the applicant's competence in this unit is based on the following (see notes below):

Name:

Signed:

Date:

Notes

You should 'sign off' the applicant's competence in relation to each of the items listed below only where you have *clear evidence* that they have demonstrated the appropriate knowledge or skills in *real life* settings. Your assessment should be based on one or more of the following: observation of the applicant's practice, your supervision of the applicant, evidence provided by an appropriate third party (such as clients / colleagues / previous supervisor/line manager). Note - completion of a training course does NOT itself provide evidence of competence in a particular area.

In some cases the applicant will not have the opportunity within their existing position to demonstrate all of the required competences. Where this is the case arrangements will need to be made for their competence to be assessed in an alternative setting (such as on placement), or, where applicable, for it to be confirmed by a supervisor / line manager from a previous post.

Prepare to test for substance use

To perform to the standard you must ensure that:

1. you accurately identify those individuals to be tested for substance misuse
2. you schedule tests in accordance with requirements
3. you confirm that the environment in which the tests are to be carried out, and the procedures to be used comply with health, safety and security policies
4. you make arrangements for tests to be witnessed, where required
5. you confirm that those involved in carrying out tests are competent and fully understand their roles and the procedures to be followed
6. you confirm the availability of all necessary equipment for testing

Take samples for testing

To perform to the standard you must ensure that:

1. you confirm that individuals being tested understand the purpose of the tests, their rights, and any consequences of not submitting to the testing procedures
2. you obtain any necessary consent for testing procedures from individuals, or from their carers or guardians where required
3. you explain clearly and precisely to individuals what they have to do to provide their samples
4. you provide opportunities for individuals to describe their substance use and explain possible false positives before they are tested
5. you take samples according to clinical and organisational policies and procedures
6. you ensure that the samples are authentic and have not been contaminated
7. you promptly refer to relevant people if you suspect that samples are not authentic or have been contaminated
8. you test samples, or refer them for testing, in accordance with clinical and organisational policies and procedures
9. you follow supplier's/manufacture's instructions for use of equipment, where appropriate
10. you dispose of samples safely, in accordance with clinical and organisational policies and procedures

Communicate and record the results of testing

To perform to the standard you must ensure that:

1. you communicate the outcomes of the tests to individuals, and their carers or guardians where required, and ensure they understand the consequences
2. you respect individuals' rights and the required standards of confidentiality
3. you keep full and accurate records of tests and make reports in accordance with your organisation's policy and procedures.

Knowledge and Understanding

To perform competently in this unit, you need to know and understand:

Legislation, policy and good practice

1. the legal requirements relating to testing for substance misuse

FDAP Drug & Alcohol Professional Certification
Workplace Assessment

2. health, safety and security policies and how to ensure the testing environment and procedures meets these
3. whom to refer to if you suspect that samples are not authentic or have been contaminated

Communication and interpersonal relationships

1. the principles and processes of effective communication and how to apply them

Information handling

1. the principles and standards of confidentiality and how to apply them
2. the importance of keeping full and accurate records and how to do so

Substance misuse

1. the purpose of testing and the consequences of non-compliance for individuals
2. the importance of accurately identifying those individuals to be tested for substance use and how to do so
3. the competences required of those involved in testing for substance use
4. clinical and organisational procedures for testing for substance use
5. when testing needs to be witnessed and how to make appropriate arrangements
6. the importance of obtaining consent for substance testing, how to do so and when carer and/or guardians need to be involved
7. the possible causes of false readings in the types of tests carried out
8. the equipment required for testing for substance use and how to use this in accordance with supplier's/manufacture's instructions
9. how to dispose of samples safely

Values

1. individuals' rights when being tested for substance use