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## GENERAL NOTICE

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### NOTICE 563 OF 2008

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

#### SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS ACT 84 OF 1996

### CALL FOR COMMENTS ON DEVICES TO BE USED FOR DRUG TESTING AND THE PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED

I, Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor, Minister of Education, hereby, in terms of section 8A of the South African Schools Act, 1996 (Act No. 84 of 1996), identify the devices to be used for drug testing and the procedure to be followed in using them, as set out in the Schedule.

All interested persons and organisations are invited to comment on the devices in writing and to direct their comments to:

The Director-General, Private Bag X895, Pretoria, 0001, for attention: Adv. MEC Erasmus, tel. 012 312 5928 and email [erasmus.m@doe.gov.za](mailto:erasmus.m@doe.gov.za), or Adv. S Masela, tel. 012 312 5980, email [masela.s@doe.gov.za](mailto:masela.s@doe.gov.za) and fax 012 312 5902.

Kindly provide the name, address, telephone and fax number and email address of the person or organisation submitting the comments.

The comments should reach the Department by 30 May 2008.



GRACE NALEDI MANDISA PANDOR, MP  
MINISTER OF EDUCATION

DATE: 29-04-2008

## SCHEDULE

### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Section 8A(11) of the South African Schools Act, 84 of 1996, as amended by the Education Laws Amendment Act, 31 of 2007, provides that “The Minister must -

- (a) identify the device with which the test contemplated in subsection (8) is to be done and the procedure to be followed; and
- (b) publish the name of this device, and any other relevant information about it, in the Gazette.”

1.2 The Minister has identified six devices.

1.3 A school must use only one of these devices.

1.4 The Minister may, by publication in the Gazette, make changes to the list of devices identified.

2. The list of devices identified is the following:

- (1) DRUG DETECTIVE WIPE DETECTION SYSTEM FOR SURFACES
- (2) ONE STEP HOME COCAINE TEST STRIP
- (3) MULTI-DRUG TEST
- (4) QUICKTOX DRUG SCREEN DIPCARD TEST
- (5) MONITECT DRUG SCREEN CASSETTE TEST
- (6) TOXCUP DRUG SCREEN CUP TEST

3. Other relevant information to be considered before a drug testing device may be used is contained in ANNEXURE A.

### 4. GENERAL INFORMATION ON DEVICE

- (1) The device must comply with acceptable scientific standards and practices.
- (2) The testing kit must be opened in the presence of the learner who is about to be tested.
- (3) A learner who is about to be tested must first be asked whether he or she has taken any medicine.
- (4) The test must be conducted –
  - (a) in the presence of a witness of the same gender as the learner; and
  - (b) out of sight of any other person.
- (5) The person conducting the test must wear latex gloves.
- (6) The information contained in the package insert must be read before the test is conducted.

- (7) The test must be conducted as prescribed in the package insert.
- (8) The package insert of each device indicates how the result of that test is to be interpreted.

## 5. **INFORMATION ABOUT EACH DEVICE**

### 5.1 **DRUG DETECTIVE WIPE DETECTION SYSTEM FOR SURFACES**

- (1) Drug Detective –
  - (a) is a single-use disposable test for which no urine sample is required;
  - (b) is a rapid screening test for the qualitative detection of a wide variety of drugs;
  - (c) allows for the testing of –
    - (i) solid surfaces such as a hand, the inside of a lined pocket, a table top, a computer keyboard or a cellphone keypad;
    - (ii) plant material or fragments of tablets;
    - (iii) liquids; and
    - (iv) powders or resins; and
  - (d) is used by a variety of authorities, including the police, to detect drug abuse.
- (2) The kit is capable of detecting many variations of different classes of drugs of abuse, including the following:
  - (a) Amphetamines (AMP);
  - (b) cocaine (COC) and crack;
  - (c) marijuana or cannabis (THC);
  - (d) methamphetamine (MET);
  - (e) opiates (OPI) (morphine and heroin and codeine); and
  - (f) methadone (MTD).
- (3) Summary of procedure
  - (a) When a surface is to be tested for drug residue, it is wiped with a little sponge.
  - (b) When plant material or tablet fragments are tested, they are placed inside the collection tube.
  - (c) When a liquid is tested, it is collected with the sponge and deposited in the collection tube.
  - (d) When a powder is tested, it is scraped up with a small spatula and deposited in a buffer tube.
  - (e) In all four cases, at the end of the procedure, drops of a prepared liquid are applied to the test device;
  - (f) There is a waiting period of 10 minutes, after which the result can be read.
- (4) Other relevant information
  - (a) The kit, in its foil pouch, must be stored at room temperature (that is, above -2°C and below 35°C), must not be frozen, and must not be exposed to sunlight.

- (b) The test result, which is available within 10 minutes, is only a qualitative, preliminary analytical result.
- (b) A secondary analytical method such as gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GCMS) can be used to obtain a confirmed result.

## 5.2 ONE STEP HOME COCAINE TEST STRIP

- (1) One Step Home Cocaine Test Strip is used for the qualitative detection of the cocaine metabolite in human urine.
- (2) The test strip should remain in the sealed pouch until use.
- (3) Summary of procedure
  - (a) Collect the urine specimen in a clean and dry container.
  - (b) Remove the test strip from the sealed pouch and use it immediately.
  - (c) Hold the test strip vertically – that is, with the arrows pointing towards the urine specimen.
  - (d) Immerse the test strip in the urine specimen for 10 seconds.
  - (e) Do not immerse the test strip beyond the maximum line ("MAX").
  - (f) Place the test strip on a non-absorbent flat surface and start the timer.
  - (g) Wait for the red line or lines to appear.
  - (h) Read the result after five minutes.
- (4) Other relevant information
  - (a) The test provides only qualitative, preliminary results.
  - (b) A secondary test must be used to obtain confirmed results.
  - (c) It is possible for other, interfering, substances – such as bleach or alum – in the urine specimen to produce erroneous results.
  - (d) The test does not distinguish between drugs of abuse and certain medications.
  - (e) A procedural control is included in the test.

## 5.3 MULTI-DRUG TEST

- (1) Multi-Drug is a rapid, one-step screening test for the simultaneous, qualitative detection of multiple drugs and drug metabolites in human urine.
- (2) Owing to the speed and sensitivity of this test, it is the most widely accepted method of testing urine for multiple drugs of abuse.
- (3) This test device is a lateral-flow chromatographic assay for the qualitative detection of many variations of classes of drugs of abuse, including the following:
  - (a) Amphetamine (AMP);
  - (b) barbiturates (BAR);
  - (c) methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA);
  - (d) propoxyphene;
  - (e) methadone (MTD);
  - (f) methamphetamine (MET);

- (g) oxycodone (OXY);
  - (h) benzodiazepine (BZO);
  - (i) morphine;
  - (j) opiates;
  - (k) phencyclidine or angel dust (PCP);
  - (l) buprenorphine;
  - (m) cocaine (COC);
  - (n) marijuana or cannabis (THC); and
  - (o) tricyclic antidepressants.
- (4) Summary of procedure
- (a) Leave the test device and control pouch outside the refrigerator for 10 minutes to reach room temperature before testing.
  - (b) Remove the test device from the sealed pouch.
  - (c) Place the test device on a clean and level surface.
  - (d) Hold the dropper vertically and transfer three full drops of urine to each specimen container of the test device.
  - (e) Start the timer.
  - (f) Avoid trapping air bubbles in the specimen container.
  - (g) Wait for the coloured line or lines to appear.
  - (h) Read the results after five minutes.
- (5) Other relevant information
- (a) Multi-Drug provides only qualitative, preliminary analytical results.
  - (b) A secondary analytical method must be used to obtain confirmed results.
  - (c) GCMS is the preferred confirmatory method.
  - (d) Technical or procedural errors, as well as interfering substances – which may include bleach or alum – in the urine specimen may produce erroneous results.
  - (e) The test does not distinguish between drugs of abuse and certain medications.

#### 5.4 QUICKTOX DRUG SCREEN DIPCARD TEST

- (1) This is a one-step qualitative assay, with easy interpretation of results within five minutes.
- (2) The test can accurately detect the following drugs of abuse:
  - (a) Amphetamine (AMP);
  - (b) barbiturates (BAR);
  - (c) benzodiazepines (BZO);
  - (d) cocaine (COC) and crack;
  - (e) marijuana or cannabis (THC);
  - (f) methamphetamine (MET);
  - (g) methadone (MTD);
  - (h) opiates (morphine and heroin and codeine) (OPI);
  - (i) oxycodone (OXY); and
  - (j) phenylcyclidine or angel dust (PCP).