

# Medication Compliance – Unexpected Results Flow Chart

Unexpected Urine Drug Test Result

\*Unexpected positive

\*Unexpected negative

Result by tandem mass spectrometry

Result by immunoassay screening test

Dilute urine (relatively low creatinine)?

Significant action or change in management planned?

Yes

No

Recollect, retest with a more concentrated specimen (e.g. first morning void)

Testing complete (true, confirmed positive result)

Yes

No

Testing complete

Call ALI to Add Confirmation Testing  
PLEASE NOTE: urine samples are discarded 7 days after initial testing is performed

Testing complete

## \*Resolving Unexpected Test Results

### Presence of Unexpected Drug (Unexpected Positive Result)

- Unexpected drug was taken (illicit or provided by other prescriber)
- Unusual patient pharmacokinetics (slow or fast metabolizer)
- Drug added to urine after collection
- Drug detected is a metabolite
- Drug detected is a pharmaceutical impurity
- Test limitations/errors
- Specimen mix-up (intentional or accidental)

### Absence of Expected Drug (Unexpected Negative Result)

- Expected drug not taken recently
- Patient is a fast metabolizer
- Substituted or dilute urine
- Drug metabolites not detected
- Poor cross-reactivity for drugs analytes of interest
- Test not designed to detect analyte(s) of interest
- Test limitations/errors
- Specimen mix-up (intentional or accidental)