

## **Protocol for responding to positive and negative drug screening/testing results**

### Positive Urine Drug Screen Results:

1. The physician will be notified of all patients whose urine drug screen reveals a positive result for a non-prescribed controlled substance.
2. The person administering the drug screen will prepare the “Unexpected Drug Screen” form (attached to this protocol) and present it, along with the urine drug screen results, to the physician with the patient’s medical record prior to the patient being seen by the physician.
3. The physician will counsel the patient regarding the positive drug screen result to determine whether:
  - a. The patient has an explanation for the positive urine drug screen result;
  - b. The patient exhibits signs and symptoms of substance abuse that require referral to an addiction medicine specialist;
  - c. The urine sample should be sent for quantitative confirmation testing to validate the results of the urine drug screen; AND
  - d. The patient desires to self medicate to control his/her pain instead of controlling pain through controlled substance prescription medications;  
OR
  - e. The patient should be discharged from the practice.
4. The physician will document the discussion with the patient on the “Unexpected Drug Screen” form, sign the form, and include the form in the patient’s medical record.

### Negative Urine Drug Screen Results

1. The physician will be notified of all patients whose urine drug screen reveals a negative result for a prescribed controlled substance UNLESS the date of the urine drug screen is 3 or more days after the scheduled exhaustion of the patient’s controlled substance prescription.
2. The person administering the drug screen will prepare the “Unexpected Drug Screen” form (attached to this protocol) and present it, along with the urine drug screen results, to the physician with the patient’s medical record prior to the patient being seen by the physician.
3. The physician will counsel the patient regarding the negative drug screen result to determine whether:
  - a. The patient has an explanation for the negative urine drug screen result;
  - b. The urine sample should be sent for quantitative confirmation testing to validate the results of the urine drug screen;
  - c. The patient may be diverting or not safeguarding his/her controlled substance prescriptions contrary to the obligations in the Controlled Substance Agreement; AND
  - d. The patient should be discharged from the practice.
4. The physician will document the discussion with the patient on the “Unexpected Drug Screen” form, sign the form, and include the form in the patient’s medical record.