Medical Review Officer (MRO) Certifying Entities & MRO Manual Revisions & Work Group Update

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DTAB
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MRO Overview

- **Medical Review Officer (MRO)**
  - Licensed physician who has either a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) or Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.) degree
  - Has knowledge regarding the pharmacology and toxicology of illicit drugs,
  - Has completed the training necessary to serve as an MRO, and
  - Has satisfactorily passed an examination administered by a nationally recognized entity that certifies MROs or subspecialty board for physicians performing a review of Federal employee drug tests results, which has been approved by the Secretary

- **Mandatory Guidelines for Federal Workplace Drug Testing Programs**
  - Subpart M – Medical Review Officer (MRO), Section 13.1
MRO Overview

- MRO Certifying Entities and Subspecialty Boards
  - Nationally recognized
  - Must submit their qualifications and a sample MRO examination
  - Annually reviewed objectively and approved by the HHS Secretary
MRO Entity Approval Update

- Approved MRO entities was published in the Federal Register on March 11, 2014.
  - Approved for training and certification through examination: AAMRO and MROCC
  - Listed entities that offer training as a prerequisite for certification: ASAM and ACOEM
Interested MRO entities seeking approval from the HHS Secretary in 2014 must have their information submitted to SAMHSA by July 21, 2014.

Once SAMHSA has reviewed the requests, SAMHSA will forward its recommendation to the HHS Secretary.

The recommendations will be published in the Federal Register after HHS Secretary approval.
MRO Workgroup

- **Mission**
  - To aid SAMHSA in determining the steps in the MRO verification process in regard to program objectives, developing specific workplace definitions, and reviewing the standards and practices.
  - To advise SAMHSA in drafting guidance for the consistent interpretation of donor drug test results. The objective will be to make a more comprehensive MRO manual that will deal with all illicit drug use, newly added synthetic opiates, and oral fluid drug test results.
MRO Workgroup (cont’d)

- Status
  - MRO Manual Reorganization and Revision
  - MRO Work Group Teleconference Monday, June 30th, 2 – 3pm
    - Getting everyone on the MRO Work Group back together.
    - Provide a general update; direction we are moving.
    - Time frame for MRO Manual completion.
    - Regularly scheduled teleconferences to go over MRO Manual review issues and individual assignments.
    - Address any WG questions.
Key References

- October 1, 2010
  - Mandatory Guidelines for Federal Workplace Drug Testing Programs, Subpart M Medical Review Officer (MRO), Section 13.1

- HHS MRO Manual

- March 11, 2014
  - HHS Approval of Entities That Certify Medical Review Officers (MROs)
  - Federal Register / Vol. 79, No. 47 / Tuesday, March 11, 2014 / Notices
  - List of Approved HHS MRO Training and Certification Entities