

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

MRO Entity Approval Update (Cont'd)

- 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
 - <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-10118.pdf>
- HHS MRO Manual
 - http://workplace.samhsa.gov/DrugTesting/pdf/MRO_Manual_2010_100908.pdf
- 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
 - <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-03-11/pdf/2014-05283.pdf>