



Medical Review Officer (MRO) Certifying Entities

CAPT Jennifer Fan, Pharm.D., J.D.



DTAB
June 12, 2015



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

- Latest HHS-approved MRO entities (May 26, 2015):
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-26/pdf/2015-12559.pdf>
- Approved for training and certification through examination
 - American Association of Medical Review Officers (AAMRO)
 - Medical Review Officer Certification Council (MROCC)

MRO Entity Approval Update (Cont'd)

5

- Interested MRO entities seeking approval from the HHS Secretary must have their information submitted to SAMHSA by July 31, 2015
- 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

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 (May 2014)
 - <http://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/mro-manual.pdf>
- HHS MRO Case Studies (2010)
 - http://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/workplace/MRO_CaseStudies2010.pdf
- List of Approved HHS MRO Training and Certification Entities
 - <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-26/pdf/2015-12559.pdf>