
Preface

Drug testing of individuals is considered the most objective means of determining drug use. Many people are currently tested through workplace programs and within the justice system (probation and parole), hospital emergency rooms, physician offices, and rehabilitation programs. Traditionally, urine, the specimen of choice for testing for illicit and licit drugs, has been analyzed with laboratory-based instruments. With expansion of the drug testing market there is increased interest not only in the use of other biological specimens for testing, but also in noninstrument-based screening tests that may be conducted at the collection site. Advantages of such testing include a rapid turnaround time for initial screening of presumptive results, lower program cost, no requirement for expensive instrumentation, and minimal training needed to conduct the tests. However, since the overall objective of drug testing is to detect drug use, these noninstrument-based or on-site testing devices must be validated.

The objective of *On-Site Drug Testing* is to provide a comprehensive discussion of the on-site devices currently marketed, their validation studies, and the use of the devices in a variety of settings. Each chapter is written by an investigator familiar with the subject and, where possible, authors are independent and have no connection with the company whose product they are discussing. Experts in the field have been utilized to discuss the use of these devices in society.

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