

## **DRUG SCREENING PROCESS**

Drug classes are detected by Enzyme immunoassay (EMIT) or Gas Chromatography (GC) and are reported a “positive” or “none detected.” The amphetamine class is automatically tested for amphetamine and methamphetamine to ensure that only potentially abused substances will be reported as positive, eliminating any over-the-counter indications. Confirmation is by an alternate detection method (GC/MS).

## **INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS**

Positive and negative results are defined rather than absolute. A positive sample contains the indicated drug at or above the detection level for that drug. A negative sample either contains no drug or a drug below the detection level.

A positive result for drug means that the individual provided the drug at some point in time prior to the collection. There are general time frames in which an individual might be expected to produce a positive sample following ingestion. The time frames are listed below:

<b><u>Drug</u></b>	<b><u>Time Frame</u></b>
Amphetamine	1-2 days
Cocaine	2-4 days
Marijuana	2-20 days or longer
Opiates	2 days
Phencyclidine (PCP)	14-30 days

There are certain parameters that a positive result cannot resolve, which would include the following:

- The amount of drug ingested
- The exact time ingested
- The mode of ingestion (smoking, snorting, IV, etc.)
- The frequency of ingestion
- The purity of drug ingested
- Whether ingestion was deliberate, accidental, unknowing or legitimate