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April 2009

## ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUGS – RANDOM TESTING

Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) random testing for alcohol and other drugs commenced in April 2009.

CASA has appointed a separate commercial organisation to do their testing.

Alcohol will be tested using a breath sample, and the procedure is similar to that at present used by the police on the roads.

Other drugs ( amphetamines, cannabis, cocaine and opiates) will be tested by means of a sample of saliva.

The staff of AVIATION MEDICINE have been trained by CASA in drug testing procedures, but at present are not involved in their random field testing. However we can provide the following services.

### 1. MEDICAL REVIEW OFFICER.

If you are required to have a Drug and Alcohol Management Plan (DAMP) you need to appoint a **Medical Review Officer** (MRO.)

The MRO acts in the following situations.

- A drug test returns a positive result: the MRO determines if there is a legitimate medical reason for this, or some innocuous cause. If so, the positive test is then cancelled by the MRO.
- A person fails or refuses to provide a body sample for drug or alcohol testing: the MRO determines if there is a legitimate medical reason for this.
- To decide if a person needs to enter a drug and alcohol intervention programme.
- To decide if a person is fit to return to previous duties after undergoing such a programme.

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**AVIATION MEDICAL CONSULTANCY - MEDICO-LEGAL – INDEPENDENT MEDICAL ASSESSMENT –  
OH&S – MEDICAL REVIEW OFFICER**

**Website: [www.aviationmedicinesa.com.au](http://www.aviationmedicinesa.com.au)**

Dr. Reece Jennings has been trained by CASA and accredited as a Medical Review Officer and is happy to accept appointment in that role.

Dr. Jennings, in association with medical colleagues who specialise in the treatment of drug and alcohol related diseases, is able to organise comprehensive assessments and treatment plans for any person who requires them.

Such a step would only be undertaken after the closest consultation with the organisation that employs the person involved.

## **2. Advice regarding safety aspects of medication.**

Advice can be provided regarding the safety effects of prescribed or over-the-counter medication. (See also our web site [www.aviationmedicinesa.com.au](http://www.aviationmedicinesa.com.au) ).

## **3. General independent overview of CASA's random drug testing programme, and particularly –**

- Overseeing the correctness of legal chain of custody procedures
- Collaborating with employers to arrange drug and alcohol treatment plans for any person who clearly needs such intervention.
- Directly contacting employees who return positive tests to enable scrupulously fair evaluation and eventual reporting of the result.
- Providing an alternative testing laboratory where there is a dispute regarding the result reported by the CASA contractor.

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## **OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED BY AVIATION MEDICINE SA**

### **1. On site visits for alcohol and/or other drug testing.**

This involves a breath test for alcohol PLUS if required, collection of a urine sample under specially controlled circumstances. (Aviation Medicine does not use oral testing as it is expensive and no South Australian laboratories are at present undertaking the necessary analyses.)

### **2. Persons may come to our rooms for the above tests.**

### **3. Blood tests for drugs can also be done, if specially requested.**

**Our Services are Private and Confidential and we have a secure controlled chain of custody from the point of collection, to the laboratory and then back to our rooms.**

Our fees are set out over the page.

## AVIATION MEDICINE SA – FEES FOR DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING SERVICES

No.	Testing service	Fee	Remarks
1	Breath Alcohol Test (on site or in rooms)	\$30-00	One person. <b>After hours fee \$100-00</b>
2	Breath Alcohol Test (on site or in rooms)	\$25-00	Two to Five persons. <b>After hours fee \$80-00</b>
3	Breath Alcohol Test (on site or in rooms)	\$20-00	Six or more persons. <b>After hours fee \$60-00</b>
4	Urine Drug Test	\$100-00	Each person on site or in rooms. Includes collection, immunoassay and written report. <b>After hours all inclusive fee \$300-00 per person.</b>
5	Urine Drug Test Where Gas Chromatography/Mass spectrograph is required	\$160-00	Each person, on site or in rooms. Includes collection, assays and written report. <b>After hours fee of \$300-00</b>
6	Blood test for alcohol	\$100-00	Each person: includes collection, assay and written report. <b>After hours fee \$300-00</b>
7	Blood test for alcohol and other drugs	\$150-00	(as above)
8	Medical Review Officer – negative specimen review	\$5-00	Each
9	Medical Review Officer – handling non-negative specimens	\$70-00	Each
10	Medical Review Officer – split specimen processing	\$240-00	Each. Includes Gas & Mass Spec. analysis.
11	Medical Review officer – Examination and report on person who refuses or is unable to provide a specimen	\$250-00	Includes report
12	Substance abuse professional service.		Should be discussed with doctor as treatment <b>may</b> attract Medicare benefits.
13	On site urine test for drugs with immediate results: verbal report in five minutes and a written report within forty five minutes.	\$120-00	Each. (Note from June 2009 these tests include inbuilt checking for adulteration, dilution and contamination.) Drugs tested are amphetamines, methamphetamine (“ecstasy” MDMA) cocaine; cannabis, benzodiazepine and opiates.

Medical practitioner attendance on site in hours: \$120-00 per hour inc. GST.

Travelling to site: .75c per km.