



## NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

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### Position/Policy Statement

#### Oral Fluid Drug Testing in the Workplace

The National Safety Council supports the collection and testing of oral fluid (saliva) specimens as an acceptable method for workplace drug testing programs. A careful evaluation of the science and evidence has proven that oral fluid testing provides the needed sensitivity and accuracy for inclusion in workplace drug testing programs. Oral fluid and urine test results are comparable in detecting drugs of abuse. In addition, testing and laboratory best practice standards and drug cutoff levels have been identified and established for the testing and analysis of oral fluid specimens.

Private sector employers not covered by federally mandated workplace drug testing requirements can consider use of oral fluid testing as part of a workplace drug testing program that meets or exceeds Federal standards.

Further, employer drug testing policies should clearly state which drugs and type of test – oral fluid or urine - are included in drug testing protocols, cutoff levels and consequences to employees of test results determined to be positive and of an employee's refusal of testing. Split sampling, specimen validity testing, confirmatory testing and the use of Medical Review Officers are fundamental to a fair and complete workplace testing program.

*This position statement reflects the opinions of the National Safety Council but not necessarily those of each member organization.*

Adopted by the National Safety Council, November, 2015