Buprenorphine
» April – Urine Testing for Transdermal Buprenorphine
» Sept/Oct – Expanded Access to Buprenorphine

Codeine
» Jan/Feb – Borrowed and Authorized, Use of Codeine (IL)

Department of Transportation (DOT)
» Jan/Feb – 2015 Random Testing Rates
» Jan/Feb – Drug/Alcohol Clearinghouse Rule Expected in Sept. 2015
» Jan/Feb – Pipeline Rule Modified per DOT’s Part 40 Procedures
» April – Procedures Now Allow Electronic CCFs
» August – Updated Employer Guidelines
» August – Public Interest Exclusion #2 - Elizabeth Pope/Eastgate Lab
» Dec – Reminder About Electronic CCFs

Disability Discrimination
» Jan/Feb – Drug-Test Related Disqualification is Not an ADA Concern (LA)
» May – Donor Loses Discrimination Claim Over Shy Bladder (OH)
» Aug – Driver Says His Addiction Prevented Him From Seeking Help (Alberta, CA)
» Sept/Oct – Drug Tests Are Not Medical Exams Under ADA (PA)
» Nov – Fired For Positive Drug Test, Not Disability (GA)
» Dec – Fired For Positive Drug Test, Not Disability (AL)

Drug Abuse Trends
» Jan/Feb – Heroin Deaths Up for Third Consecutive Year
» May – One in 12 Workers on Drugs
» Sept/Oct – More Americans Used Marijuana in 2014

Drug Testing/Testing Trends
» Jan/Feb – Bill Would Require MRO Review of Obstetric Drug Tests (NY)
» Jan/Feb – Little Evidence that Drug Testing Helps Manage Patients on Pain Medicines
» March – Two Thirds of Employers Have Drug/Alcohol Testing Programs
» April – Pediatrics Group Opposes School Drug Testing
» June – Positive Drug Test Rate Increased in 2013 and 2014
» June – Matching Urine to Donor by Tracer Capsules
» Aug – Insurers Limit Drug Testing by Programs Treating Opioid Addiction
» Aug – Video Game League Announces Random Drug Testing
» Aug – Shakespeare’s Pipes Test Positive for Marijuana and cocaine

» Aug – State Law Lets the Employer Select Treatment After a Positive Test (MN)
» Sept/Oct – Employees Can Have a Union Rep Present During Drug Test (CA, NY)
» Nov – Drug Testing of Construction Workers (Australia)
» Nov – Drug Testing of Workers’ Comp Patients (ND)
» Nov – Millennium Penalized for Alleged Overbilling of Clinical Drug Tests
» Nov – Rising Costs of Drug Testing in Workers’ Comp
» Dec – College Can Drug Test Entire Student Body

Drugs, Driving and Other Impairment
» Jan/Feb – Drugs Linked to Fatal Crash in Oklahoma
» March – How to Determine if Drug Use is Safe? (Coast Guard)
» March – Drugged Driving on the Rise
» March – Driving Study Finds Risk from Being Young and Male, Not from Using Marijuana
» June – Driver Crashes Bus After Allegedly Submitting Chicken Soup for Drug Test
» Sept/Oct – Recent Marijuana Use is Associated with Motor Vehicle Fatalities
» Dec – Unsuccessful Challenge to Driving Under the Influence of Marijuana (OH)

Electronic Custody and Control Forms (CCF)
» April – Procedures Now Allow Electronic CCFs
» Dec – Reminder About Electronic CCFs

Hair Testing
» Jan/Feb – Donor Sues Collector for Bad Haircut (OH)
» June – Moving Towards Hair Testing
» Aug – DTAB Supports Hair Testing
» Aug – Amended Law Allows Hair Tests (LA)
» Aug – Oxycodone Metabolite May Go Undetected in Hair
» Aug – Court (Again) Rejects Racial Bias Claim Against Hair Tests (MA)
» Sept/Oct – Congress Tries to Fast-Track Hair Testing
» Nov – Hair Testing Bill Likely to Go to White House
» Nov – Cannabinoids Enter Hair by External Mechanisms
» Nov – Handling Marijuana Gets THC in Hair
» Dec – Highway Bill Authorizes Motor Carrier Hair Testing

Laboratories
» April – Three New Guidance Documents (NLCP)

Marijuana
» Jan/Feb – Judge to Rule on Whether Marijuana Belongs in Schedule I (CA)
» March – Marijuana-Using Employee Gets a Marinol Prescription
» March – Employer Must Pay for Injured Worker’s Medical Marijuana (NM)
» April – Bill Would Move Marijuana to Schedule II (Congress)
» April – Marijuana Remains Unacceptable for Federal Drug Tests (SAMHSA)
» April – ACOEM/AOHN Guidance on Marijuana in the Workplace
April – Federal Judge Declines to Rule on Rescheduling of Marijuana
May – Reporting of Marijuana-Positives Due to Use Per State Law
June – Marijuana Remains Off-Limits for Federal Workers
June – Colorado Supreme Court Upholds Firing for Medical Marijuana (CO)
June – False-Positive Marijuana Test Result in a Disabled Young Girl
July – Limited Evidence that Marijuana is an Effective Medicine
July – Extreme Passive Exposure to Marijuana Can Cause Positive Oral Fluid Test Results
July – Workers’ Comp Covers Medical Marijuana (NM)
Nov – Handling Marijuana Gets THC in Hair
Dec – FMCSA Should Consider Testing for Synthetic Marijuana (NTSB)
Dec – Employer Can Fire Medical Marijuana User (WA)
Dec – Versed Use Does Not Explain Marijuana-Positive Test Result (LA)

Medical Review Officers
Jan/Feb – Borrowed and Authorized, Use of Codeine (IL)
March – Reporting a Changed Result
May – Reporting of Marijuana-Positives Due to Use Per State Law
May – MRO Prevails in Split Decision
June – Verification Using the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
Sept/Oct – Is Medical Marijuana an Acceptable Explanation for a Non-Dot Test?
Sept/Oct – About One-Fifth of ASAM Members Are MRO-Certified
Nov – Old Prescriptions
Nov – Primary Result Valid Despite Failure to Test Split (IL)
Dec – Advanced Practitioners as MROs in Iowa
Dec – Versed Use Does Not Explain Marijuana-Positive Test Result (LA)

National Safety Council
July – National Safety Council Urges Workplace Prescription Opioid Policies

National Laboratory of Certification Program (NLCP)
April – Three New Guidance Documents (NLCP)

Opioids
Jan/Feb – Little Evidence that Opioids Work for Chronic Pain
Jan/Feb – High Rates of Opioid Use by Disability Recipients
Jan/Feb – Physician Dispensing Associated with Increased Opioid Use
March – Trend Toward Stronger Opioids
April – Failure to Respond to Drug Tests Showing Opioid Non-Compliance
April – Almost One-Fourth of Opioids Prescribed for Chronic Pain Are Misused
April – Urine Testing for Transdermal Buprenorphine
May – ER Doctors Prescribing Fewer Opioids
July – SAMHSA Webinar on Workplace Prescription Opioid Misuse
July – National Safety Council Urges Workplace Prescription Opioid Policies
Aug – Washington State Updates Its Opioid Guidelines
Sept/Oct – Expanded Access to Buprenorphine

Oral Fluid Testing
Sept/Oct – Poppy Seeds and Opiate-Positive Oral Fluid Tests
Dec – Positive Oral Fluid Tests From Vicks®

Poppy Seeds
Sept/Oct – Poppy Seeds and Opiate-Positive Oral Fluid Tests

Prescriptions
April – Almost One-Fourth of Opioids Prescribed for Chronic Pain Are Misused
June – Verification Using the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
July – SAMHSA Webinar on Workplace Prescription Opioid Misuse
July – National Safety Council Urges Workplace Prescription Opioid Policies
Nov – Old Prescriptions

Random Testing
Jan/Feb – 2015 Random Testing Rates
July – Emotional Distress from Random Drug Test (CA)

Reasonable Suspicion
Sept/Oct – Employee’s Alcohol-Related Absence Was Reasonable Suspicion (IN)

State Drug Testing Laws
July – Drug Testing Regulations Apply Only to Urine (CT)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
May – HHS Proposes Oral Fluid Testing and Hydrocodone and Oxycodone Tests
June – Moving Towards Hair Testing
July – ACOEM Comments on Oral Fluids and Expanded Opioids
July – SAMHSA Webinar on Workplace Prescription Opioid Misuse

Versed
Dec – Versed Use Does Not Explain Marijuana-Positive Test Result (LA)

Vicks® VapoInhaler™
Dec – Positive Oral Fluid Tests From Vicks®

Workers’ Compensation
Jan/Feb – Positive Post-Accident Test Establishes Intoxication (LA)
March – Drug Test Results Not Protected by HIPAA (LA)
March – Employer Must Pay for Injured Worker’s Medical Marijuana (NM)
July – Workers’ Comp Covers Medical Marijuana (NM)
Nov – Drug Testing of Workers’ Comp Patients (ND)
Nov – Rising Costs of Drug Testing in Workers’ Comp

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