

D.O.T. UPDATE...



The US Department of Transportation's [Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration](http://www.federalmotorcarrier.gov) (FMCSA), has launched a site offering the latest information on the Federal Motor Carrier Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP). This screening tool helps employers make more informed decisions when hiring commercial drivers. Records are available 24 hours a day via Web request ...**Check it out** www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov

OSHA INFO...



A previous OSHA report stated that 32 percent of work-related injuries occur in goods-producing industries and 68 percent in services industries. Although services industries outnumber manufacturing, it appears they are also far from being free of accidents or safer than manufacturing as was once presumed. For OSHA guidance regarding workplace injuries visit their website...www.osha.gov

CHOICE OF WORKERS COMP PHYSICIAN REALLY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE...



At Suncoast & Trinity Urgent Care & Occupational Health Centers communication is exercised by knowledgeable providers. Our goal is to provide quality medical care; expedite the safe return of injured patients to productivity and to avoid ineffective or unnecessary medical procedures, tests or therapies. With this philosophy, patients do well and employers experience dramatic savings.

There is a reason Suncoast Urgent Care & Occupational Health is so quickly becoming the provider of choice for so many Employers, Municipalities, PEO's & Insurance Carriers.

OPEN 7-DAYS A WEEK
Suncoast Urgent Care & Occupational Health
www.suncoastucc.com

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COUNTIES SERVED
Pasco, Hernando, N/W Hillsborough, N. Pinellas and S. Citrus

"It is often the last key on the ring which opens the door"

DID YOU KNOW?

Drug Abusing Employees

- **Drug** abusing employees have 300 percent higher medical costs and benefits which consequently increases health insurance rates. ([US Chamber of Commerce](#))
- **Illicit** drug users are five times more likely to file a workers' compensation claim. ([US Department of Justice](#))
- **Studies** show that a substance abuser will function at about 67 percent of their capacity! ([National Institute on Drug Addiction](#))
Employees using drugs are three times more likely to be late for work and 2.5 times more likely to have absences of eight or more days. Substance abusers have an average absentee rate of 30 to 35 days per year! ([US Chamber of Commerce](#))

eScreen

Drug Test Results Uploaded to Your Desktop In 15 Minutes



eScreen's eCCF is the original and most utilized

paperless drug testing solution in the industry.

eScreen's drug test technology is now available at Suncoast Urgent Care & Occupational Health

For more information Contact
727-372-3888 or 317-201-0423 (Cell)



A RACE TO OUTLAW K2 'SPICE' DRUG ...

Nearly a dozen states and several cities are banning or debating bans on K2 — a packet of herbs coated with a synthetic chemical that mimics a marijuana high when it's smoked — amid fears that its use is spreading among young people.

K2, also Known as "Spice," is sold online, in convenience stores and herbal or spiritual shops. It is usually marketed as incense. The herbs, which sell for as much as \$35 an ounce, have emerged as a popular, legal alternative to marijuana among teenagers and college students.

The primary driver of K2 use appear to be by cannabis enthusiasts who are either on probation or otherwise subject to urinary drug screening tests that detect THC but not (yet) the JWH compounds. *Source: USA Today*

Trinity/Suncoast UCC & Occ-Health will keep you apprised and advise as soon as a detection method becomes available for this substance

MY EMPLOYEE'S DRUG TEST RESULT CAME BACK NEGATIVE, BUT "DILUTE"... ...NOW WHAT?

A 'diluted' specimen is when an individual has either intentionally ingested high

levels of liquid or added a liquid to the collected specimen in order to decrease the concentration of the specimen. If a specimen is sufficiently diluted, it makes it difficult for the lab to identify any drugs that might be present.

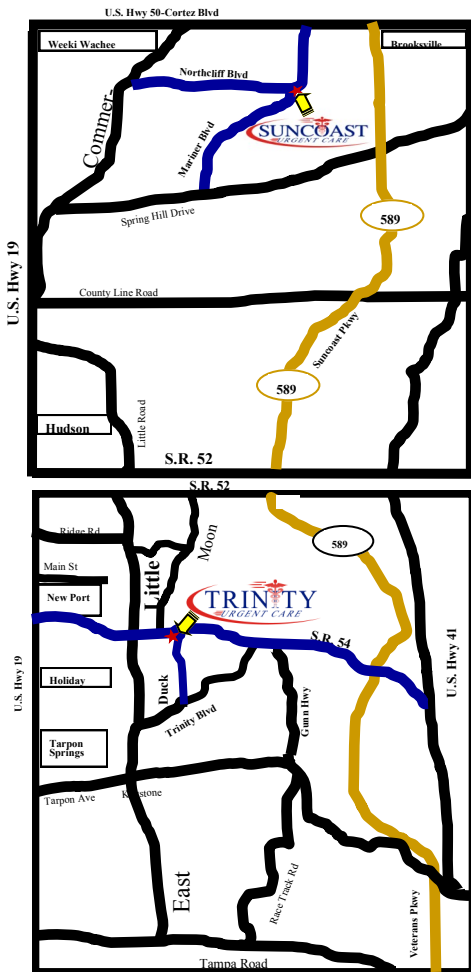
If your company doesn't already address "Diluted Specimens" within your written Drug Test Policy, you should consider doing so. The most important thing is to always be consistent when addressing a diluted specimen.

Trinity/Suncoast UCC & Occ Health's consultants are available to review your current policy and advise or even update your current Drug Free Workplace policy

FOR INFORMATION CALL:
727-372-3888 OR 317-201-0423 (Cell)

THE SAFETY CORNER Safety Violation Discipline

If you want to use discipline and write-ups when somebody does something stupid, and they march in four other employees who say "we do it that way all the time, and the supervisor knows about it", then it's probably not going to be worth the paper it's written on. Make sure you document the violation of your safety policy and discipline people, up to and including termination."
... Just be consistent.



DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

The following services and programs are available to your Company or Organization

HEALTH & SAFETY

- WORKERS COMP
- INJURY TREATMENT
- EXPOSURE MONITORING
- OSHA SURVEILLANCE
- FIRST RESPONDER/CPR/ FIRST AID TRAINING

MEDICAL EVALUATIONS

- EMPLOYMENT/DOT EXAMS
- DRUG TESTING (DOT, FLD/FW)
- BREATH ALCOHOL TESTING
- SURVEILLANCE EXAMS
- RESP CLERANCE EXAMS
- AUDIO/VISION TESTING
- Ability To Work Exams
- PHYSICAL/OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY REFERRAL

THE SAFETY CORNER (CONTINUED)

DRUG TESTING & RETURN TO WORK PROGRAMS

Consider doing a required drug test, usually done at the time of employee's initial medical treatment. If the employee wants to delay initial medical treatment, insist the drug test still be obtained the same day as the accident. In Florida the workers' comp claim may be either denied or benefits reduced if employees are found to be under the influence of illicit drugs or alcohol.

Dudley Mays is a Consultant with Suncoast Urgent Care & Occupational Health

LIGHT DUTY PROGRAMS WORK...

A quick way to increase your work comp premiums is to refuse to allow light duty work. Money an insurance company pays to an employee in TTD benefits is calculated into your premiums for years to come.

However, a light duty system that permits employees to perform his/her job but be exempt from unpleasant tasks, encourages prolonged "injury." So, Choose light duty work accordingly. But, do try to keep them productive and at work.

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