

Expert Panel on Drug and Alcohol Screening

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The Expert Panel has been established by AHPRA to provide ongoing expert advice on the biological assessment, testing and monitoring of applicants and registrants with drug and/or alcohol misuse, including impairment.

2. Functions

The functions of the Expert Panel are to:

- 2.1 review and provide advice on the drug and alcohol screening protocol, including the schedule of drugs, cut-off limits and testing methodologies
- 2.2 provide advice on the testing methodology and cut-off for drugs not included in the schedule of drugs to be tested when required
- 2.3 provide advice on atypical screening results on referral, and
- 2.4 annually review available intelligence regarding current and emerging patterns of drug and alcohol use within society and recommend any required changes to the schedule of drugs for testing, the testing methodology and cut-offs.

3. Membership

The Expert Panel will be constituted through direct invitation by:

- a medical practitioner with expertise in the diagnosis and treatment of persons with drug and/or alcohol misuse, including impairment
- a health practitioner with expertise in clinical pharmacology and toxicology, and
- a person with expertise in forensic analytical techniques used in the detection and quantification of drugs and alcohol in biological samples including urine, hair, breath, blood and saliva.

4. Facilitator

The National Director, Compliance will facilitate meetings of the Expert Panel.

5. Meetings

The Expert Panel will meet at a minimum annually and as required.

6. Decision Making

Outcomes will be by consensus. Voting will not be necessary as the Expert Panel is an advisory body.

7. Meeting Fees

Meeting fees will be payable equivalent to a Board member as per the Schedule of fees for Board, Committee and Panel Members

8. Conflict of Interest

Members of the Expert Panel are required to declare any potential or actual conflicts of interest at the commencement of each meeting.

9. Support

The Expert Panel secretariat and support will be provided by the Regulatory Operations Directorate.

Approved By	Executive Director, Regulatory Operations
Approved Date	November 2014
To be Reviewed	November 2016