



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

March 18, 2021

TO: All Prisons Staff

FROM: Rob Herzog, Assistant Secretary [Signature on file]
Prisons Division

SUBJECT: Drug/Alcohol Testing of Transgender, Intersex and Gender Non-Conforming Individuals

This memorandum is to serve as a reminder of current requirements for the use of oral fluid testing in place of urinalysis testing, when appropriate by DOC policies [420.380 Drug/Alcohol Testing](#) and [490.700 Transgender, Intersex, and/or Gender Non-Conforming Housing and Supervision](#).

Per these DOC agency policies, oral fluid (mouth swab) testing will be conducted when:

- a. An individual is receiving treatment for kidney dialysis, or
- b. An individual is transgender, intersex and/or gender non-conforming, and there is no preferred gender employee to conduct the urine collection process.

Specifically, DOC Policy 490.700 *Transgender, Intersex, and/or Gender Non-Conforming Housing and Supervision*, Section VIII. Drug Testing indicates the individual's preference of the gender of the employee conducting the drug testing is noted on DOC 02-420 Preferences Request, and that **“If unable to accommodate identified gender preferences, a mouth swab test will be conducted”**.

If during the drug testing process an individual requests a staff member of a different gender to conduct the testing process, the staff is to call the Shift Commander to determine whether DOC 02-420 Preferences Request has been completed and indicates a preference of the gender of the staff conducting the test. As noted above, if unable to accommodate the preference, an oral fluid (mouth swab) will be conducted in place of a urinalysis test.

Page 2
March 18, 2021

Oral fluid testing is confirmed via the agency's contracted lab. Local facility drug testing coordinators will ensure oral fluid testing supplies and lab forms are readily accessible to employees in the event an oral fluid drug/alcohol test is necessary.

cc: Mike Obenland, Deputy Director Command A
Jeneva Cotton, Deputy Director Command B
Tomas Fithian, Deputy Director Command C
Beth Schubach, PREA Coordinator
Charlotte Headley, Chief of Security Management
Billie Peterson, Policy Program Manager