

Drug abuse testing may seem fairly straightforward. And in the vast majority of cases it is. But there are problems and controversies, which can complicate the process and make it difficult to determine if a donor is abusing drugs.

If you are a parent who suspects your child is using drugs and you want to test your child consider the following:

- Tests done by professionals, such as your doctor, or a local testing facility are more likely to be accurate
- Any test sample provided un-observed and can be tampered with
- Anytime the person receiving the test knows in advance they will be tested can do things to alter the results
- False positives and false negatives do occur
- A home drug test kit might include a caveat that you must send in any positive sample for confirmation
- Many home drug test kits are limited in the number of substances they test for

It is important not to jump to conclusions one way or the other, but drug testing can help you in your overall determination of what you are up against. Consider talking to a professional such as your doctor and or attending a PAL group where others may share their experiences.