



Safer Drug Testing In The Pandemic

How to maintain social distancing and control drug screening costs

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, requirements for regular drug testing haven't gone away. Across industries, organisations face the challenge of how to ensure hygiene and social distancing during drug testing to protect staff, while keeping a watchful eye on costs.

The Government advises that precautions need to be taken to lower the risks of COVID-19 transmission. Guidelines are subject to regular review but at the time of writing include:

- Trying to keep a 2m distance from other people
- Minimising the amount of time you spend in close contact
- Avoiding being face-to-face with people from outside your household
- If possible, wearing a face covering when in an enclosed space where social distancing isn't possible

When it comes to drug testing, Intelligent Fingerprinting offers a solution to these challenges, as well as the potential for significant cost savings

Why fingerprint testing?

Unlike traditional drug testing methods – such as oral fluid tests that work by collecting an individual's saliva, or urine tests which involve handling of messy samples – the fingerprint method directly addresses social distancing concerns, enabling hygienic testing to be carried out while social distancing, and while wearing a face mask if required. Our fingerprint sweat drug test is quick and easy, ensuring that:

- Users can self-administer their own fingerprint sample collection, keeping at least 2m away from the tester
- Sample collection takes seconds, with results in 10 minutes, removing the need for prolonged proximity during testing
- Fingerprint collection is non-invasive and hygienic – with no requirement for oral swabs or urine sample collection, removing the need for close face-to-face contact or handling of biohazardous body fluids
- There's no need to collect an oral swab from the mouth, so the person being tested can wear a face mask throughout testing
- No special preparations are needed before testing. Organisations can run the testing themselves in a safe location, removing the need for external service providers to come on-site to carry out testing, and significantly reducing drug screening costs as a result.



One organisation that has already recognised the benefits of fingerprint drug tests as a way to maintain testing, despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, is Change Grow Live, the UK's leading provider of drug and alcohol treatment services.

"We were determined to evolve our approach in order to maintain service provision while also working to reduce the spread of Coronavirus. Adopting Intelligent Fingerprinting's non-invasive drug testing system is helping us to achieve this...The fact that the fingerprint-based testing method doesn't produce any biohazardous waste – in contrast to traditional urine or saliva-based tests – was also a critical consideration for us in making this multi-region procurement decision."

Martin Folan, Head of Change Portfolio at Change Grow Live.



How socially distanced drug testing works

Fingerprint-based testing is really simple, easy to operate and hygienic to use. The test supervisor and the person being tested can remain socially distant at all times.

All the user has to do is take the fingerprint drug screening cartridge from its sealed-foil wrapper, press all ten fingerprints in succession onto the sample pad, and then slide the tamper-evident locking cover across to protect the sample from any interference. The user then steps away to allow the tester to collect the cartridge and insert it into Intelligent Fingerprinting's DSR-Plus mobile reader. Results are available in 10 minutes.

Safer drug testing for your business

Ensuring safe and hygienic drug testing is proving to be a complex challenge for firms, particularly as Government recommendations include trying to keep a 2m distance from other people, minimising the amount of time you spend in close contact, and – if possible – wearing a face covering when in an enclosed space. Fingerprint testing not only helps solve all these challenges, but also makes it easier for companies to bring drug testing in-house, with potential for significant cost savings compared with using a third-party service.

To find out how Intelligent Fingerprinting can enable you to carry out hygienic, socially distant drug testing that's also faster and more dignified than other approaches, call us now on +44 (0)1223 941941 or visit www.intelligentfingerprinting.com