

Multi Drug Test

Q: I have to have a medical for a new job soon and I believe that the examiner carries out an on-the-spot drugs test on a urine sample. Will they be able to detect that I often smoke hash and have taken ecstasy?

A: Recreational drugs can damage your health, compromise safe practices in any environment and are illegal. So it's not surprising that employers will take an interest in your drug history, particularly when the safety of other people is involved.

It is possible to detect many drugs, including cannabis and ecstasy, in samples of urine and blood. The rate at which your body will destroy any drug is extremely variable, whether it is a prescribed drug or an illegal substance.

Q: How long does ecstasy, cocaine and cannabis stays in your system for? I smoke cannabis socially (about one joint a week). I have taken cocaine recently but only use half a gram per month, and I last took ecstasy on New Years Eve, and only take 'e' about one pill every three months.

A: Some drugs can leave detectable traces in the body for several weeks. Your use is not particularly high so maybe you will be able to give up without too much difficulty. If you need help, your own doctor should be able to give advice about what is available locally.

