CLINICAL ASPECTS
(Approximately 10% of the exam items are within this competency area)

COMPETENCY STATEMENT
The MRO must be familiar with clinical issues related to drug and alcohol use and testing, including medical explanations for positive or indeterminate tests and medical qualifications for performance safety sensitive tasks. Knowledge in these clinical areas will enable the MRO to:
- recognize clinical evidence of drug use and impairment.
- evaluate alternative medical explanations for laboratory drug test results (including positive, substituted, adulterated and invalid specimens).
- evaluate the inability to produce urine specimens.
- recognize and appropriately respond to conditions which may render an individual unfit and/or unqualified for duty, including: (1) unauthorized drug use, (2) authorized prescription or over-the-counter drug use, (3) drug/alcohol addiction, and (4) illness.

TOPICS ON EXAMINATION
- Alternative medical explanations
- Clinical assessment of drug use, abuse and impairment
- Determination of fitness for duty
- Inadequate urine volume

REFERENCES
- Peterson KW, American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Drug and Alcohol Testing Medical Review Officer Course Syllabus and Resource Manual, updated annually. Sections on clinical aspects.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED REFERENCES & ONLINE RESOURCES
- MRO List Server (moderated by Dr. Karl Auerbach) – to subscribe, send an email to Karl_Auerbach@urmc.rochester.edu with the subject "SUBSCRIBE MRO"
- SAMHSA’s Direct Division of Workplace Programs/CSAP link: [http://www.samhsa.gov/workplace/](http://www.samhsa.gov/workplace/)
- GPO Gate – Free source of Federal Register documents: [www.gpo.gov/fdsys](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys)