COLLECTIONS AND PROCEDURES
(Approximately 15% of the exam items are within this competency area)

COMPETENCY STATEMENT
Although the MRO does not routinely collect specimens, he or she must thoroughly understand collection procedures and chain of custody issues, as well as correctable and fatal flaws. Knowledge in the area of collections and procedures will enable the MRO to:

1. describe and apply appropriate procedures for urine and alternative specimen collections, including unwitnessed, witnessed, split specimen and insufficient quantity collections, hair testing, saliva testing, blood testing, etc.
2. describe and apply appropriate procedures for the use of custody and control forms.
3. identify and address procedural errors.
4. describe and apply appropriate procedures for alcohol testing.
5. serve as a consultant to BATs, STTs and employers on alcohol testing procedures.

TOPICS ON EXAMINATION
• Collection procedures for urine specimens
• Observed and unobserved collections
• Custody and control forms and COC
• Split specimen procedures
• Specimen rejection
• Types of testing (applicant, periodic, random, for-cause, etc)
• Alcohol testing (BAT issues)

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 collections and procedures.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED REFERENCES & ON LINE RESOURCES
• Swotinsky RB, ed. MRO Update. American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (newsletter).
• 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/
- GPO Gate – Free source of Federal Register documents: www.gpo.gov/fdsys