

Information for Rail Transport Operators

This testing is in addition to the drug and alcohol testing you undertake as part of your DAMP

Under the *Rail Safety National Law* (RSNL) a rail safety worker (RSW) must not carry out or attempt to carry out rail safety work while there is alcohol in his or her blood, or a prescribed drug in his or her oral fluid or blood (s. 128). The meaning of 'prescribed drug' is set out in s. 128.

To manage the risk to safety of RSWs undertaking rail safety work whilst under the influence of drugs or alcohol, rail transport operators (RTOs) are required to have a Drug and Alcohol Management Program (DAMP) in place which includes a testing regime (reg. 28 of the RSNL National Regulations).

To complement this and to ensure compliance with the RSNL, the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) has implemented its drug and alcohol testing program in line with the provisions contained in Part 3 Division 9 of the RSNL.

There are three primary objectives of the program:

1. To improve safety by reducing risks associated with RSWs undertaking work while under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol (i.e. by being a deterrent)
2. To monitor compliance with the Law
3. To monitor the effectiveness of an RTO's DAMP.

The program will consist of post-incident testing of RSWs in response to Category A incidents and programmed ('non incident related') testing of RSWs. Programmed testing includes intelligence-led risk-based testing and random testing.

ONRSR has appointed Medvet Science Pty Ltd (Medvet) to undertake testing on its behalf. Medvet testers will arrive unannounced on site to conduct drug and alcohol testing of RSWs, are appointed by the Regulator as authorised persons and will carry identity cards, which will be produced upon request.

Important information for RSWs

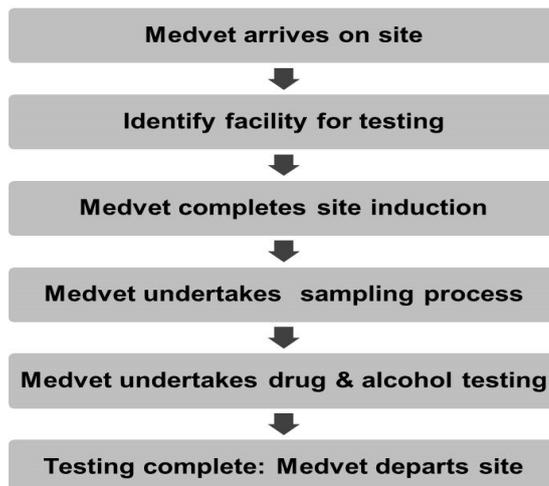
A RSW must not carry out or attempt to carry out rail safety work while there is alcohol in his or her blood, or a prescribed drug in his or her oral fluid or blood. Offences in relation to the program include:

- > presence of alcohol in the RSW's blood or a prescribed drug in the RSW's oral fluid or blood

- > if a RSW is under the influence of alcohol/drugs
- > if a RSW refuses a test
- > if a RSW does not follow the direction of an authorised person (Medvet tester).

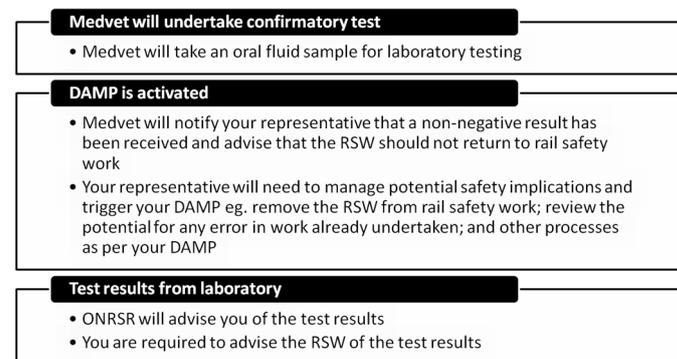
Maximum penalty for these offences is \$10,000.

Drug and alcohol testing process

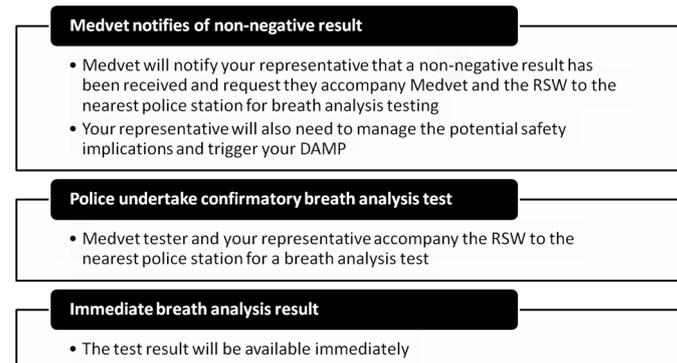


What happens if a non-negative test result is received from a screening test?

- > Confirmatory drug testing



- > Confirmatory alcohol testing



For more information about the ONRSR drug and alcohol testing program call (08) 8406 1500.