

Testing for Drugs of Abuse in Children and Adolescents: Addendum—Testing in Schools and at Home

PEDIATRICS (March 2007) Vol. 119 No. 3: 627-630 (doi:10.1542/peds.2006-3688)

Committee on Substance Abuse and Council on School Health

The American Academy of Pediatrics continues to believe that adolescents should not be drug tested without their knowledge and consent. Recent US Supreme Court decisions and market forces have resulted in recommendations for drug testing of adolescents at school and products for parents to use to test adolescents at home. The American Academy of Pediatrics has strong reservations about testing adolescents at school or at home and believes that more research is needed on both safety and efficacy before school-based testing programs are implemented. The American Academy of Pediatrics also believes that more adolescent-specific substance abuse treatment resources are needed to ensure that testing leads to early rehabilitation rather than to punitive measures only.

Key Words: adolescence • substance-related disorders • substance abuse detection

Abbreviations: AAP—American Academy of Pediatrics