

PHARMCHEM

SWEAT-BASED DRUG TESTING

TO: PharmChek® Sweat Patch Customers

FROM: Kerri Wagner, Chief Revenue Officer, PharmChem, Inc.

SUBJECT: Sweat Patch Tamperers, Adulterations, and Allergic reactions

1. A PharmChek® Sweat Patch is considered tampered and/or adulterated if any material, component, ingredient, or substance has been **added to** or **subtracted from** the patch. The patch is also considered tampered and/or adulterated if the patch has been **removed** from the client's body at any time during the wear-period by anyone other than the supervising authority.
2. PharmChem strongly encourages our customers to take digital photos, both at application and prior to removal, and to draft internal policy to effectively manage clients who have **“failed to comply with sweat patch drug testing”** or those clients who have shown a **“deliberate pattern of non-compliance”** by tampering, adulterating, and/or removing the sweat patch from their body.
3. **KNOWN TAMPER**- A patch that is *confirmed* to be adulterated or removed from the client's body, which is based on the *client's own admission, evidence, or other agency-substantiated means*.
4. Laboratory results from a **KNOWN TAMPER** could be judicially challenged due to chain of custody; therefore, PharmChem *does not recommend* a known tamper be submitted for analysis.
5. PharmChem recommends that agencies follow an established sanctioning grid and notify the client that subsequent attempts to tamper, adulterate, or remove the patch will be sanctioned swiftly and certainly as “failure to comply”, or “deliberate pattern of non-compliance”.
6. **SUSPECTED TAMPER**- A patch which *appears* to the certified observer to be *altered in some manner*, although not positively substantiated as a KNOWN TAMPER, due to a lack of *client's admission, lack of evidence*.
7. The Certified Observer must record specific details about the **SUSPECTED TAMPER** on the Chain of Custody form, ensure the client initials in the required areas, and signs the Chain of Custody form. The specimen (including completed Chain of Custody form) should be submitted to the laboratory for analysis.
8. The Certified Observer may send photos of a suspected tamper to *customersupport@pharmchem.com*. (Photos at patch application and prior to patch removal, along with patch application and removal dates, Certified Observer's concerns, and historical information, [relative to prior patch wear] are required). Subject to the information given, Customer Support may provide input and feedback for the monitoring agency's consideration in determining tampered patches.
9. ****Note:** Final determination on a tampered patch rests solely with the Certified Observer and/or monitoring agency removing the patch.

What Does a Tampered or Adulterated Patch Look Like?



#1 Application

SAME CLIENT—SAME PATCH

#2 Removal

Masking tape has been added to the patch. Patch is higher on the arm at removal v. application. PharmChem identifier is absent from the overlay film. Another layer of film has been added to the existing patch.



#3 Tampered Patch Removed & replaced. 'PharmChem identifier' is upside down at removal.



#4 Tampered Patch Plastic card added to the patch, between the pad and the skin.



#5 Tampered- Removed & Replaced Pad is dry and "crisp". Had client worn the patch for at least 24 hours, an adequate amount sweat would be retained, and the pad would not be "crisp."



#6 Adulterated Patch-40% Peroxide A patch injected with commercial-grade 30-40% peroxide will disintegrate the cellulose pad under the film.

What Does a Tampered or Adulterated Patch Look Like?



#7 Tampered Patch- Removal Applied vertically. At removal, observer noted horizontal positioning.



#8 Adulterated Patch- Peroxide Pad injected with 30% peroxide and disintegrated.



#9 Sunburned under Patch Observer suspected tamper. Client admitted to removing the patch (received a sunburn while patch was off).



#10 Tampered Patch Pad is detached from release liner. Surgical tape added. [Neither the monitoring agency, nor the client may add to or detract from the construct of the Sweat Patch].



#11 & #12 Adulterated Patch Client denied positive patch result. Subsequent environmental testing revealed the patch was injected with a substance known as “Galaxolide,” which is a liquid used by cologne manufacturers to create a woody-musky scent. [Client injected the pad with cologne in an attempt to mask a positive patch result and tried claim that he was “allergic” to the patch].

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#13 Adhesive Breakdown from Tanning Bed

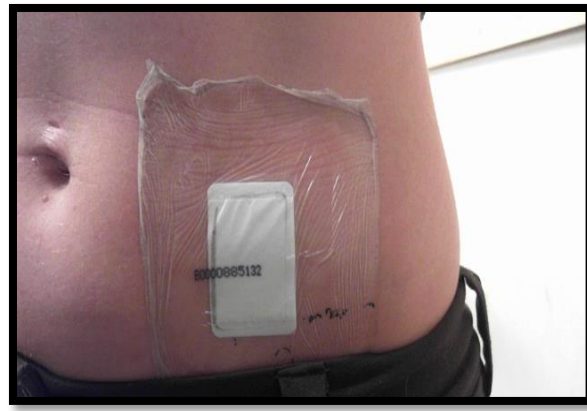
UV rays can increase surgical adhesive breakdown, which can decrease wear-time. Clients should avoid tanning beds while wearing the Sweat Patch.



#14 Adulterated Patch Significant break-down of the film. The pad is nearly disintegrated. The skin under the film is red, and appears to be blistered. Trained observer notes an "odor of vinegar" at removal.



#15 Tampered Patch Client tore a hole in the film.



#16 Removed Film is not translucent, wear-line striations are visible. Pad is dry at removal.



#17 Tape Added to Patch

Neither the monitoring agency, nor the client may add to or detract from the construct of the Sweat Patch at any time.



#18 Tape Added to Patch

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#19 Adulterated Patch The reaction covers both the area under the cellulose pad, as well as the adhesive. This is not consistent with a true allergic reaction. This patch has been adulterated with a caustic substance. PharmChem does not recommend sending known adulterated patches to the lab for analysis. Instead, the client should be sanctioned accordingly.



#20 Actual Allergic Reaction A true allergic reaction will clearly be delineated by affected and non-affected patterns. The reaction occurs within hours, and presents only *where the adhesive was affixed to the skin, and not under the area covered by the cellulose pad*. Client's proven to be allergic to surgical wound care adhesives should be monitored using an alternative drug testing methodology.



#21 Confirmed Allergic Reaction (before removal) Client complained of redness and itching. The redness is visible through the film. Client also disclosed a pattern of allergies to band aids, and other surgical wound care products throughout his life.



#22 Confirmed Allergic Reaction (after removal) Upon removal of the patch (Photo #21), the "true" allergic reaction is further apparent. The skin exposed to the adhesive has reacted, while the area protected by the cellulose pad is free of blemish or redness.