

Frequently Asked Questions

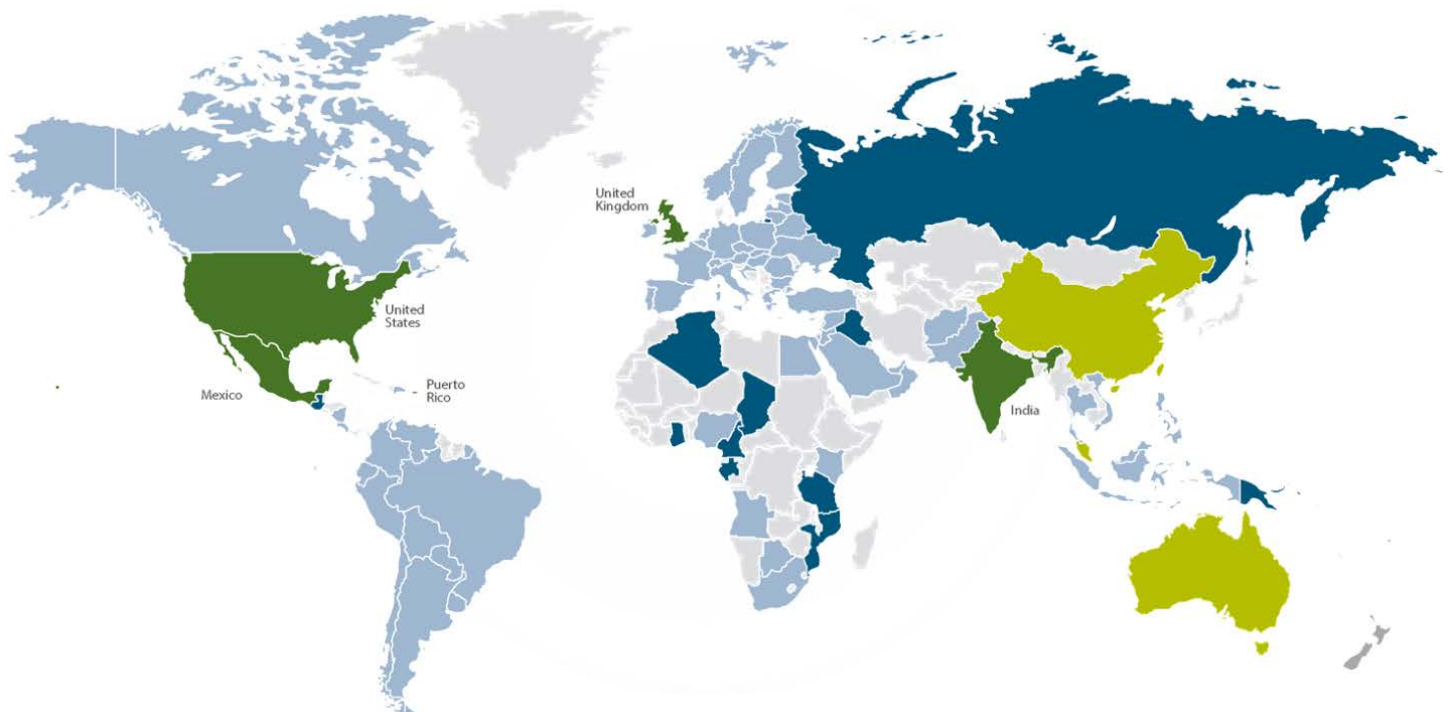
International Drug Testing





Q: Why drug test internationally?

A: Employee drug use can put employers at an elevated risk of accidents, increased absenteeism, lower productivity, and higher insurance costs. Drug testing can help to mitigate these risks by filtering out drug users from an employer's workforce, as well as deterring drug use within it. For companies with decentralized locations throughout the world, screening for potential drug users on the work site is critical for maintaining a drug-free workplace. Utilizing drug testing services internationally is necessary, because [drug use is prevalent worldwide](#).

Q: In how many countries does Quest Diagnostics conduct drug test collections?

A: We provide drug testing collection services in more than 80 countries across the world and operate facilities in the United States, India, and Mexico while partnering with a laboratory in Australia to provide urine, oral fluid, and hair drug test collections.



-  Quest Diagnostics-owned laboratory
-  Contracted Alliance Lab with collection capabilities
-  Contracted collection and drug testing capabilities
-  Drug testing capabilities

Q: What are some of the most common barriers when testing for drugs of abuse in a country outside of the United States?

A: Most common barriers are related to differences in language and customs, a challenge which need to be handled carefully as to not disrupt the specimen testing process from the time of collection. We overcome language barriers with the help of expert translators. Our team is well-versed in the many intricacies of various customs including mandatory release paperwork for the shipment of drug testing materials to a site, as well as shipping of specimens for lab-based drug testing. Additional challenges may include observed holidays, drug testing laws in foreign countries, lack of urgency which can impact turnaround times, embargoed and sanctioned countries, currency exchanges, and taxes, duties, and fees.

Q: What role does Quest play in helping clients overcome these obstacles?

A: From simple to complex, we're there when you need us to help navigate the challenges of international drug testing. We train subcontractors who conduct collections abroad, ship supplies to remote regions, locate and broker relationships with clinics and designated collection sites, and establish lines of communication, regardless of time of day or geographical location.

Q: What type of drug testing is most frequently used abroad?

A: Laboratory-based urine is the most prevalent test type used throughout the world, closely followed by oral fluid testing.

Q: Why choose Quest Diagnostics for urine drug testing?

A: Quest Diagnostics offers reliable employee drug screening, an extensive international collection site network, and personal service and support. Every Quest Diagnostics drug testing laboratory participates in rigorous laboratory proficiency testing to maintain the highest levels of Six Sigma® quality. We have established a reputation as an international leader in workplace drug testing. We can help you select the best drug test type and timing to optimize your drug testing program's success.

Q: Why is urine testing the most frequently used method for drug testing?

A: While all drug test specimen types – urine, oral fluid, and hair – have their advantages, urine drug testing is by far the most flexible and customizable. With hundreds of different combinations of illicit and other commonly abused drugs and cutoff levels, there's a urine drug test panel for almost any testing reason.

Q: What are the most important criteria to consider when drug testing internationally?

A:

- *In which countries are your facilities located?*
- *Where are your employees located/where do your employees work?*
- *In which country/countries are you testing?*
- *For which drugs will you test?*
- *What is your company's primary reason for drug testing?*
- *What job functions will be drug tested?*
- *Do you have a global drug testing policy in place?*
- *Who will perform your drug testing collections?*
- *Do you need to order and ship drug test kits and supplies overseas?*
- *Are you testing U.S. citizens and/or foreign nationals?*
- *Do you need a centralized drug testing program for multiple locations?*
- *Do you know which specimen type you will use in your testing program?*
- *What is your estimated hiring timeline for an overseas applicant?*
- *How quickly do you need final drug test results?*

Q: What training is required for a collector to perform drug tests overseas for Quest?

A: Our international collectors are trained using our [online collection training modules](#). Upon completion of this required training, one of our international specialists reviews the training and all steps involved in a proper specimen collection by conference call and/or screen share session to ensure thorough understanding of our collection processes and procedures.

Q: Does a collector's location affect how and when they may be able to receive instructional training from Quest?

A: No. Between the use of online training tools and our always-available international specialists, we are able to cover multiple time-zones outside of the "regular" 9-5 workday in the United States.

Q: Where can I find information about drug use trends around the world?

A: The United Nations' Office on Drugs and Crime provides a robust look at drug use trends throughout the world. This report encompasses a wide variety of variables, from drug trafficking patterns, to the most used illicit substances. [The World Drug Report](#) provides insight into the complexity of drug use and its impacts around the globe.

Q: How can I get started drug testing internationally?

A: Consult with an international drug testing specialist about best practices for implementing a drug testing program abroad by emailing esinternationalrequest@QuestDiagnostics.com. For more information, visit EmployerSolutions.com/international.