

# Illinois State Police Toxicology Screening Information for Drug Facilitated Sexual Assaults: Patient Information Sheet

## NATURE, EFFECTS AND ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

- Drugs used to facilitate sexual assault are colorless, tasteless and odorless substances that can easily be slipped into beverages undetected.
- These drugs are strong relaxants, the effects of which can be felt as soon as 15 minutes after administration. These effects include blackouts, coma, impaired judgment and loss of coordination.
- These drugs may cause memory loss of the events following ingestion.
- Some of the drugs used may remain in the system for as little as 6-8 hours, so it is imperative to have a urine sample collected as soon as possible. However, other drugs may remain in the system longer; therefore, urine samples may be collected any time after the assault.
- Alcohol can intensify the effects of these drugs.
- Alcohol consumption alone can cause similar effects as drugs.

## PATIENT CONSIDERATIONS/TIME CONSTRAINTS

- You have the right to be tested for the presence of drugs in your system used to facilitate sexual assault and the right to refuse such a test.
- If you voluntarily decide to be tested for the presence of drugs in your system, such a test will disclose the following substances, whether ingested voluntarily or involuntarily: controlled substances (including prescription medications and illegal drugs), over the counter medications, and alcohol.
- If you think you might want to be tested for the presence of drugs used to facilitate a sexual assault, you should give a urine sample as soon as possible. If you are uncertain about whether to be tested, medical personnel will explain to you that a sample can be taken now and you can make the decision to have your urine sample tested now or not test the sample now and have it held.
- If you choose to have your sample tested, select Option A on the Consent to Toxicology Form. Your urine sample will be collected and released to law enforcement. Testing will be conducted at a forensic laboratory. Sign under Option A on the form. A witness (preferably medical personnel) must also sign the form.
- If you choose to have your sample collected and held, select Option B on the Consent to Toxicology form. Your urine sample will be collected and released to law enforcement. No testing will be conducted. Law enforcement will hold your urine sample for a minimum of 5 years or until your 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday, if you are under the age of 18. Initial under Option B on the form.