

What is an invalid drug test? An invalid drug test is the outcome of a drug test for a urine sample that contains an endogenous substance at abnormal concentrations, has abnormal physical characteristics, contains an unknown interfering substance (aka immunoassay interference), or an unknown contaminant that prevents the laboratory from obtaining a suitable valid result on the test.

What should you do if you receive an invalid drug test result? The Medical Review Officer (MRO) must question the donor of the specimen to find out whether the donor can give a credible reason why the sample could not be properly tested by the lab. For example, certain health and food supplements, prescription medications, or medical illnesses. In most cases no such explanation is provided, and the MRO will recommend a new test be ordered right away. Many times, they will also recommend that new test be directly observed to eliminate the possibility that some substance is being added to the specimen that may have led to the invalid laboratory report.