OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE DEFINITIONS

Pre-employment Physical - An examination performed by an occupational medical provider to determine if an individual is fit to perform his or her duties based on the company’s protocols. This examination can include and is not limited to: a urine drug screen, breath alcohol screening, audiogram, pulmonary function test, back and hernia assessment, blood work, etc.

Back and Hernia Assessment - 
**Back**: An examination to assess baseline function of the back and the ability to perform the duties as indicated for employment.

**Hernia**: A basic exam to determine if a clinically significant hernia is present in an anatomical area that is known for complication.

Department of Transportation (DOT) Physical - Department of transportation exams are for individuals who operate vehicles with a combined gross weight between 10,001 lbs. and 26,001 lbs. (vehicles such as 18 wheelers, city buses, school buses, box trucks, etc.) This is performed only by a National Registry Certified Examiner under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration guidelines.

Respiratory Clearance Exam - An exam performed by a medical provider under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA) guidelines to determine if an employee can safely and effectively wear a respirator.

Pulmonary Function Test (PFT) - A “breathing” test that measures the function of an individual’s lungs. This is done by measuring how much air is inhaled, how much air is exhaled, and how quickly the air is exhaled. This test is usually required for employees who are required to wear a respirator on the job and is mainly based on medical history.

Audiometric Test (audio) - A test which determines an individual’s hearing levels by measuring the hearing acuity involving frequencies and thresholds.

Fit for Duty Exam - An exam that determines whether or not an employee is physically and/or mentally suitable to perform their duties.

Urine Drug Screens - A test that analyzes urine for the presence of certain illegal drugs. There are many reasons for testing such as pre-employment screening, random testing, reasonable suspicions, post-accident, etc. There are also many drug screen panels that test for different types of drugs such as:

- **5 Panel urine drug screen** - Tests for amphetamines and methamphetamines, cocaine metabolites, marijuana metabolites, opiates (codeine and morphine) and phencyclidine.

- **10 Panel urine drug screen** - Amphetamines and methamphetamines, cocaine metabolites, marijuana metabolites, opiates (codeine and morphine), phencyclidine, barbiturates, benzo diazepines, methadone, and propoxyphene.