

## MEDICAL ASSESSMENT FAQs – PART 6

### ROUTINE LABORATORY TEST STATION

#### **Q-1: What is tested at the Routine Laboratory Test station?**

A-1: At the Routine Laboratory Test station, blood and urine samples are collected. These samples are then tested by a third party. The tests that are run include:

- Cell Blood Counts (CBC): this measures red/white blood counts and platelet counts.
- A comprehensive medical profile of your blood that measures, sugar (glucose), kidney function, liver function, electrolytes, calcium levels, lipid profiles, and cholesterol/triglycerides.
- Urinalysis: this checks your urine for protein, blood cells, and sugar (glucose).
- Viral titers: this looks for immunity to measles, mumps, rubella, chickenpox, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C. If you are not immune, vaccination for measles, mumps and rubella is required once you are hired. BHS also offers Firefighters optional vaccinations for chicken pox and hepatitis B.

The FDNY tests for unauthorized substances separately. For information on the test for unauthorized substances, [see “FAQs Part 1 - Medical Exam General Information.”](#)

#### **Q-2: What are some Routine Laboratory test results that may require further evaluation?**

A-2: Among other results, the following may require you to get evaluated further:

- Abnormal red and/or white blood cell count;
- Abnormal blood or urine glucose;
- Elevated levels of serum creatinine; and
- Elevated liver function.

#### **Q-3: Is it a problem if I take certain medication?**

A-3: Even with a legal prescription, the chronic use of certain categories of substances may be incompatible with the job of a Firefighter. These categories include, but may not be limited to: opiates, pain medications, anti-psychotic medications, sedatives, sleeping pills, beta blockers, and anti-coagulants.

A positive test for one of these types of substances will require further evaluation. Candidates will be reviewed on an individualized basis. You may be required to provide a prescription

history, an explanation for the prescription, and an opinion as to how long the prescription will be continued from the prescribing physician. You will be required to report medications that you are taking, and your failure to report a medication could result in your disqualification.