

Technical Bulletin

SCPMG LABORATORY SYSTEM – REGIONAL REFERENCE LABORATORIES

Quality Subcommittee – 12/18/2012

Update: Cease Auto-confirmation of Positive Urine Opiate Screens

- Effective December 19, 2012, there is no need to confirm positive opiate urine toxicology screen results, except for children under the age of 14 years and pregnant women or when requested by the provider.
- To date, over 100 positive opiate urine toxicology results from the new MedTox device have been successfully confirmed by GC-MS (>99%). The performance for other drugs of abuse is still under review, so please continue to confirm positive results for the other drugs.
- Toxicology results are to be used only for medical purposes, and not for employment or school enrollment, or for legal purposes. Chain of custody is not monitored.

| Drug Detected by Screen | Confirmatory Test |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Amphetamine or Methamphetamine | AMPHETAMINE, METHAMPHETAMINE, CONFIRM [82145D] |
| PCP | PCP (PHENCYCLIDINE) URINE, CONFIRMATORY [80102ZF] |
| Barbiturates ¹ | BARBITURATES, URINE, CONFIRMATION [82205M] |
| Benzodiazepines ¹ | BENZODIAZEPINES, URINE, CONFIRMATION [80154U] |
| Cocaine | COCAINE METABOLITE, URINE, CONFIRMATORY [80102H] |
| Opiates ² | <i>Only for children <14 years of age and pregnant patients, send specimen to RRL for confirmation.</i> OPIATES, URINE CONFIRMATORY [80102F] |
| THC ³ | CANNABINOIDS, URINE, CONFIRMATORY [80102A] |
| TCA | CONFIRMATION NOT APPLICABLE (N/A) |

1. Please send all positive screens for Barbiturates and Benzodiazepines to Quest diagnostics directly from your Medical Center.
2. Only positive opiate results from children younger than 14 years and pregnant women should be sent to the RRL for confirmatory testing.
3. All positive THC screen samples from neonates (0 – 31 days) should be sent to the RRL for referral to ARUP laboratories (ARUP test code 0090369). All other positive THC results will be confirmed at the RRL.

Questions?

- Client Service Center, 1-888-4LAB NFO, or tie line 397-7077
- Hashem Almahdi, Manager, RRL Esoteric Chemistry Department, 818-503-6768, tie line 397
- Dr. Darryl Palmer-Toy, Chair, SCPMG Laboratory Operations Quality Subcommittee, 818-503-7028, tie line 397

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