



Robin Laboratory

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Upcoming drug testing on the horizon.



by [Rajeshwari Patel](#) on December 01st 2023

In the upcoming year, we will introduce the following drug classes: Promethazine, Clonidine, Xylazine, and Nitrazenes. You might be wondering why we are testing for these specific drugs. Allow me to explain.

Clonidine can lead to false-positive results by suppressing certain substances. These substances include β -adrenergic blockers, tricyclic antidepressants, and thiazide diuretics. If possible, it is recommended to discontinue these medications 48 hours before collection.

We have included promethazine in our testing due to the potential for false-positive urine amphetamine results in patients taking this drug. Similar to clonidine, certain medications can interfere with its suppression, leading to inaccurate outcomes. The medications to be cautious of are β -adrenergic blockers, tricyclic antidepressants, and thiazide diuretics. It is advised to discontinue these drugs 48 hours prior to sample collection.

Nitrazenes, a subclass of synthetic opioids, have been found to be exceptionally potent. A recent study suggests that they may be associated with an increased risk of cardiac arrest in cases of overdose.

Xylazine, on the other hand, can cause extreme sedation, elevating the risk of overdose and severe skin wounds.

By testing for these specific drugs and understanding their effects, we aim to ensure accurate and reliable results. Your safety and well-being are our top priorities.



Did you know?

by [Rajeshwari Patel](#) on December 01st 2023

Methamphetamine comes in two forms: dextro-methamphetamine (D-MAMP) and levo-methamphetamine (L-MAMP). D-MAMP is a stimulant and commonly abused drug, found in both pharmaceutical and clandestine preparations worldwide. Due to the rudimentary and uncontrolled nature of clandestine labs, most street methamphetamine is a mixture of D-MAMP and L-MAMP. On the other hand, L-MAMP is available over the counter (OTC) in nasal decongestants. However, most forensic laboratories do not differentiate between the two isomers and simply test for methamphetamine.

With the advancements in liquid chromatography technology and decreasing costs, forensic laboratories are increasingly adopting LC-MS/MS techniques over GC-MS. This shift presents an opportunity to educate and empower toxicology and crime laboratories to separate and quantify methamphetamine and amphetamine enantiomers in their casework. By separating methamphetamine enantiomers, valuable information can be extracted from existing forensic evidence and workflows, enhancing overall investigative outcomes.

Emerging trends

by [Rajeshwari Patel](#) on December 01st 2023

Laboratory toxicologists currently face numerous pressing challenges in their field. One major issue they encounter is the increasing prevalence of illicit drugs, necessitating more precise testing methods to accurately detect these substances in specimens. Furthermore, specimen irregularities, such as diluted urine or substitutions, pose significant obstacles for toxicologists striving to produce reliable test results. Despite these challenges, Urine Drug Screen Tests have emerged as a valuable tool for drug detection in laboratories, enabling professionals to meet the growing demand for accurate and timely drug testing. As the use of illicit substances continues to escalate, laboratory toxicologists will undoubtedly be tasked with developing even more innovative and effective testing methods to ensure public safety and security.

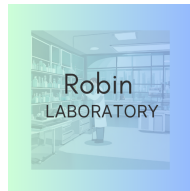
Wondering how to assess the quality assurance in our laboratory effectively?

The laboratory has implemented an ongoing Quality Assessment Program aimed at enhancing patient service. This program systematically monitors and evaluates the quality and appropriateness of services provided to address identified issues. The objective is to continuously improve the delivery of services and ensure optimal patient care.

We prioritize personnel qualifications, training, and performance evaluations. This includes regular safety compliance evaluations of the physical environment, investigations into communications and complaints, proficiency testing and sample evaluation, as well as tracking requisitions for pre-analytical tests. Proper handling of specimens is also ensured.

We encourage you to share any questions or suggestions you may have. Your valuable input allows us to provide even better assistance to you.

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