

# Urine Drug Screening: Practical Guide for Clinicians<sup>1</sup>

Federal Workplace Cutoff Values		
Substance	Initial drug test level (immunoassay) (ng/mL)	Confirmatory drug test level (GC-MS) (ng/mL)
Marijuana	50	15
Cocaine metabolites	300	150
Opiate metabolites	2000	2000
Phencyclidine	25	25
Amphetamines	1000	500
Methamphetamine	Incomplete data	500

Length of Time Drugs of Abuse Can Be Detected in Urine	
Drug	Time
Alcohol	7-12 h
Amphetamine	48 h
Methamphetamine	48 h
Barbiturate	
Short-acting	24 h
Long-acting	3 wk
Benzodiazepine	
Short-acting (e.g., lorazepam)	3 d
Long-acting (e.g., diazepam)	30 d
Cocaine metabolites	2-4 d
Marijuana	
Single use	3 d
Moderate use (4 times/wk)	5-7 d
Daily use	10-15 d
Long-term heavy smoker	>30 d
Opioids	
Codeine	48 h
Heroin (morphine)	48 h
Hydromorphone	2-4 d
Methadone	3 d
Morphine	48-72 h
Oxycodone	2-4 d
Propoxyphene	6-48 h
Phencyclidine	8 d

Summary of Agents Contributing to Positive Results by Immunoassay			
Substance tested via immunoassay	Potential agents causing false-positive result	Substance tested via immunoassay	Potential agents causing false-positive result
<b>Alcohol</b>	Short-chain alcohols (isopropyl alcohol)	<b>Cannabinoids</b>	Dronabinol
<b>Amphetamines</b>	Amantadine		Efavirenz
	Benzphetamine		Hemp-containing foods
	Bupropion		NSAIDs
	Chlorpromazine		PPIs
	Clobenzorex		Tolmetin
	<i>l</i> -Deprenyl	<b>Cocaine</b>	Coca leaf tea
	Desipramine		Topical anesthetics containing cocaine
	Dextroamphetamine	<b>Opioids, opiates, and heroin</b>	Dextromethorphan
	Ephedrine		Diphenhydramine
	Fenproporex		Heroin
	Isomethoptene		Opiates
	Isoxsuprine		Poppy seeds
	Labetalol		Quinine
	MDMA		Quinolones
	Methamphetamine		Rifampin
	<i>l</i> -Methamphetamine (Vick's inhaler)		Verapamil and metabolites
	Methylphenidate	<b>Phencyclidine</b>	Dextromethorphan
	Phentermine		Diphenhydramine
	Phenylephrine		Doxylamine
	Phenylpropanolamine		Ibuprofen
	Promethazine		Imipramine
	Pseudoephedrine		Ketamine
	Ranitidine		Meperidine
	Ritodrine		Mesoridazine
	Selegiline		Thioridazine
	Thioridazine		Tramadol
	Trazodone		Venlafaxine, O-desmethylvenlafaxine
	Trimethobenzamide	<b>TCA's</b>	Carbamazepine
	Trnprimamine		Cyclobenzaprine
			Cyproheptadine
<b>Benzodiazepines</b>	Oxaprozin		Diphenhydramine
	Sertraline		Hydroxyzine
			Quetiapine

1) Moeller KE, Lee KC, Kissack JC. Urine Drug Screening: Practical Guide for Clinicians. Mayo Clin Proc. 2008;83(1):6676.