

## INTERPRETING DAU (DRUG ABUSE URINE) RESULTS

Opioid Prescribed	Expected results on DAU	Confirmatory Test GC/MS Metabolites reported	How long will drug be detected after last dose?
Codeine	Opiate: positive	Codeine, norcodeine	1-2 days
Hydrocodone (Vicodin)	Opiate: positive *	Hydrocodone, hydromorphone	1-2 days
Hydromorphone (Dilaudid)	Opiate: positive *	hydromorphone	1-2 days
Fentanyl	Opiate: negative	Can only be detected by GC/MS test. Result reported: Fentanyl confirmed by GC/MS	2-3 days after patch taken off
Methadone	Opiate: negative Methadone: positive	methadone	2-3 days
Morphine	Opiate: positive	morphine	1-2 days
Oxycodone	Opiate: usually ** negative	Oxycodone, oxymorphone	2 days

GC/MS = gas chromatography/mass spectrometry

\* Screening technology is very sensitive in detecting codeine and morphine, not so with hydrocodone or hydromorphone, i.e., if low concentration, opiate screen may be reported as non-detected, necessitating follow-up with confirmation(GC/MS).

\*\* Oxycodone: in most screens, opiate will be negative. It may be positive with oxycodone screen used in Philadelphia.

**Take Home:** Understand the technology (strengths and limitations) before making clinical judgment. If screening test is ambiguous, follow-up with confirmation (GC/MS)

### How to detect tampering with urine:

- Quality of urine specimen based on appearance, temperature, pH, urinary creatinine, and specific gravity.
- All urine drug tests report creatinine and pH
- Creatinine normal > 30 ( less than 30 is diluted)

## DETECTION PERIODS FOR DRUGS IN URINE

Amphetamine		1-2 days
Methamphetamine		Up to a week
Barbiturates	Short acting (i.e. secobarbital)	1 day
	Long-acting (i.e. Phenobarbital)	2-6 weeks
Cocaine	Parent	5 hours
	Metabolite	2-4 days
Heroin	6-acetyl-morphine	6-8 hours
	Breaks down to morphine	1-2 days
THC	1 joint	2 days
	3 x a week	2 weeks
	Daily	3-6 weeks
PCP (Phencyclidine)		2-14 days
Benzodiazepines		3-5 days
	If long-acting and chronic use	up to 3-6 weeks
Methadone		2-3 days
Morphine		1-2 days
Codeine		1-2 days
Oxycodone		1-2 days
	Metabolite: oxymorphone	1-2 days after oxycodone
Fentanyl		2-3 days
Hydromorphone		1-2 days
Hydrocodone		1-2 days