

Buprenorphine Testing: Update to Assay

Date: April 17, 2020

Effective Date: May 20, 2020

An FDA-cleared immunoassay will be used for Buprenorphine urine drug screening. A negative initial test result will be reported as negative. If the initial result is positive, and confirmation is requested, the urine will undergo further testing by a quantitative Liquid Chromatography-Tandem Mass Spectrometry assay. If confirmation testing has not been ordered, the initial positive result will be reported as 'Presumptive Positive, Interpret Unconfirmed Result with Caution'.

The expected turnaround time for the initial screen result is 24-48 hours or 90 minutes if ordered STAT from the Emergency Department. The expected turnaround time for the confirmation test result is 1-4 days.

Regulations prohibit the performance of the confirmation test if the initial screen result is negative. In those rare occasions where the negative initial result is suspected to be a false negative, a separate mass spectrometry-based quantitative test can be ordered.

From: Tai C. Kwong, PhD

Director, Clinical Chemistry, UR Medicine Labs University of Rochester Medical Center

Phone: (585) 275-5654

E-mail: Tai_Kwong@urmc.rochester.edu