

Amphetamine (urine)

Description	Amphetamine is a psychostimulant drug that is known to produce increased wakefulness and focus in association with decreased fatigue and appetite. Amphetamine is related to drugs such as methamphetamine, levoamphetamine, dextroamphetamine, which are a group of potent drugs that act by increasing levels of dopamine and noradrenaline in the brain, inducing euphoria. The group includes prescription CNS drugs commonly used to treat attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). It is also used to treat symptoms of traumatic brain injury and the daytime drowsiness symptoms of narcolepsy, Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome and chronic fatigue syndrome. The drug is also used recreationally and as a performance enhancer.
Indication	To assess if amphetamine has been taken.
Additional Info	Amphetamines measured in the screening assay include: Amphetamine, Methamphetamine, Pseudoephedrine, ecstasy group (e.g. MDA, MDMA, MDEA) Urinary creatinine levels of <2mmol/L suggests dilute urine and may result in a false negative screen. Sample referred to external laboratory for analysis.
Concurrent Tests	Drugs of abuse screen
Dietary Requirements	N/A
Interpretation	A positive screen result will be produced if concentrations in the urine are >300ng/mL. The half life of amphetamines' varies from 4-24 hours and a positive screen may be seen up to 3 days after the drug has been taken.
Collection Conditions	Fresh urine sample.
Frequency of testing	Re-testing is not indicated in the same acute episode when investigating toxicity. Expert opinion for the Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine