

<h2>Opiates (urine)</h2>	
<b>Description</b>	Opiates are narcotic alkaloids found as natural products in the opium poppy plant, as well as many semi-synthetic chemical derivatives of such alkaloids.
<b>Indication</b>	To assess if an opiate has been taken.
<b>Additional Info</b>	<p>Several opiates are measured by the screening assay and include: Heroin (diacetylmorphine), 6-monoacetylmorphine, Morphine, Codeine, Dihydrocodeine, Pholcodine.</p> <p>The presence of opiates in urine is assumed to be indicative of heroin use/abuse but urinary morphine may also result from consumption of various foodstuffs (e.g. poppy seed, strudel/Danish pastry) or medication (e.g. Kaolin, Gee's linctus, Co-Codamol etc).</p> <p>Confirmation analysis will be performed on all samples that have a positive screen result except where confirmation analysis has been performed in the last 4 months.</p> <p>Urinary creatinine levels of &lt;2mmol/L suggests dilute urine and may result in a false negative screen.</p> <p>Sample referred to external laboratory for analysis.</p>
<b>Concurrent Tests</b>	Urine drugs of abuse screen
<b>Dietary Requirements</b>	N/A
<b>Interpretation</b>	A positive screen result will be produced if concentrations in the urine are >300ng/mL. The half life of morphine varies from 2-4 hours and a positive screen may be seen up to 2 days after the drug has been taken.
<b>Collection Conditions</b>	Fresh urine
<b>Frequency of testing</b>	<p>Re-testing is not indicated in the same acute episode when investigating toxicity.</p> <p>Expert opinion for the Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine.</p>