

# URINE DRUG TEST INFORMATION SHEET

# METHADONE

**Classification:** Analgesic, Opioid

**Background:** Methadone was first synthesized as a morphine substitute in Germany during World War II and was made clinically available in the United States in 1947. Methadone is as potent as morphine as an analgesic; however, unlike morphine, methadone produces a marked sedative effect with repeated administration. This is an important aspect when prescribing dosages for the treatment of opioid addiction, as the individual dose will vary with each patient, depending on the patient's dependence level. Its intended uses are the management of moderate to severe pain, detoxification and maintenance treatment of opioid addiction.

**Legally Obtained With Prescription As:** Schedule II. Dolophine, Methadose, Methadone Diskets, Methadone Intensol

**Legally Obtained OTC:** None

**Street Names:** Fizzies, Amadones, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Dollies, Done, Jungle Juice, Metho

**Method of Use:** Tablet, disket and liquid concentrate forms for oral consumption and a solution for parenteral injection

**Appearance:** White round or oblong tablets, greenish-to-yellow syrup

**Metabolism and Detection:** The major urinary excretion products of methadone are methadone, EDDP and EMDP. Methadone has a half-life of 15–55 hours and a detection window of 5–7 days. Although methadone is used as a maintenance drug for opioid addiction, it will NOT test positive as an opiate.

**Physiological Effects:** Headache, nausea, vomiting, constipation, weight gain, stomach pain, flushing, sweating, difficulty urinating, vision problems, swelling and missed menstrual periods

**Psychological Effects:** Drowsiness, weakness, loss of appetite, dry mouth, mood changes, difficulty falling or staying asleep, and decreased sexual desire or ability

**Toxicity:** Sedations, seizures, itches, hives, rash, dizziness, nausea, diaphoresis, anorexia, visual disturbances, bradycardia, palpitations, respiratory depression, stupor, muscle flaccidity, papillary constriction, hypotension and coma and circulatory collapse

**Screen Test:** Performed by enzyme multiplied immunoassay technique (EMIT).

**Confirmation Test:** Performed by liquid chromatography mass spectrometry.

#### Cutoff Levels:

Screen Test:		300 ng/mL
Confirmation Test:	Methadone	300 ng/mL
	EDDP	300 ng/mL

For more information, visit [www.cordantsolutions.com](http://www.cordantsolutions.com), email [info@cordanth.com](mailto:info@cordanth.com) or call 1-855-625-3778.

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