Classification: Hallucinogen

Background: Phencyclidine is a popular drug of abuse as well as a legitimate veterinary tranquilizer. It is structurally related to Ketamine and was first developed for possible human use as an intravenous anesthetic agent in World War II. Its side effects and long half-life make it unsuitable for human medical applications.

Legally Obtained with Prescription As: None

Legally Obtained OTC: None

Street Names: Angel Dust, Boat, Hog, Love, Love Boat, Fry Stick, Sherm, Amp, Dippa, Getting Wet, Wet Stick, Toe Tag, Happy Stick

Mode of Use: Smoking on plant material (typically sprayed onto marijuana, mint, oregano, parsley, or ginger leaves), nasal insufflation, and oral ingestion, dipping cigarette in the liquid and then smoking (“embalming method”).

Appearance: White powder, round tablet form, liquid form

Metabolism and Detection in Urine: PCP is released in the urine and feces as unchanged drug and conjugated metabolites. PCP has a half-life of 7–46 hours. Although the effects of the drug (psychoactive stimulation) only lasts a few hours the drug can be detected in urine for much longer periods of time. The detection window is 2–8 days but in some cases can extend even longer.

Physiological Effects: Numbness of extremities, staggering, unsteady gait, slurred speech, bloodshot eyes, analgesia, anesthesia

Psychological Effects: Mania, delirium, disorientation, hallucinations, paranoia, depersonalization, severe changes in body image, loss of ego boundaries, suicidal impulses, detachment, animation, aggressive behavior

Toxicity: Brain damage, convulsions, sedation, nystagmus, hypertension, ataxia, agitation, combativeness, seizures, spasticity, coma, respiratory depression, death

Screen Test: Performed by Enzyme Multiplied Immunoassay Technique (EMIT).

Confirmation Test: Performed by Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry. (LC-MS/MS)

Cutoff Levels:

Immuno-Assay screen test: 25 ng/mL
LC-MS/MS confirmation test: 25 ng/mL