

Toxicology News

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2011

AIT Forensics Dashboard

Top 20 drugs that tested positive in all AIT forensic cases in Q3:

Ethanol	2,067
Alprazolam	768
THC-COOH	710
Hydrocodone	601
Morphine	520
THC	505
Oxycodone	480
7-Aminoclonazepam	424
Methadone	290
Nordiazepam	288
Citalopram	260
Diphenhydramine	255
Benzoylcegonine	247
Diazepam	243
Gabapentin	218
Oxymorphone	208
Codeine	173
Acetaminophen	168
EDDP	166
Hydromorphone	164

Turnaround Time (TAT) Delay

Recently, AIT has made some updates to our lab in the form of:

- LIMS software upgrade
- New validated methods (K2/bath salts)
- Revamped the lab layout to better utilize our space
- Re-organized the forensic business unit structure

During the lab changes, we have experienced issues that have caused a short-term increase in our TAT. The TAT is being monitored and tracked in order to resume our standard 14 calendar day/10 business day TAT.

Please contact Lori Hicks at lhicks@aitlabs.com or Eric White at ewhite@aitlabs.com for more specific information or questions.

Meet AIT's Forensic Toxicologist, George Behonick, Ph.D., DABFT

When George S. Behonick, Ph.D. joined AIT in November 2009, he brought more than eleven years of experience. He came to the company after serving as the director of forensic toxicology at UMass Memorial Medical Center Department of Hospital Laboratories and assistant professor of pathology at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, Mass., since January 2005. Prior to that, Behonick was a forensic toxicologist for six years with the Virginia Department of Forensic Science Western Laboratory in Roanoke, Va. This period of time included extensive experience in complex postmortem drug-related cases, notably involving the opiate and opioid classes, extensive scientific expert witness testimony in driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drug(s) (DUI/DUID) criminal court cases.



In addition to forensic postmortem toxicology, Dr. Behonick's duties include providing technical and scientific expertise in support of AIT Laboratories compliance program. This includes direct contact with prescription providers such as clinicians, Physician Assistants (PAs), Nurse Practitioners (NPs), among others. He also participates in formal educational initiatives such as AIT's Therapy Awareness Programs (TAP).

Behonick earned his bachelor's degree from The Citadel in Charleston, S.C.; his master's degree from Hahnemann University in Philadelphia, Pa.; and his doctorate from St. John's University in Queens, N.Y. In 1998, Behonick completed a postdoctoral research associateship through the National Research Council/National Academy of Sciences at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, Aberdeen-Edgewood area, Md. He also holds diplomate status with the American Board of Forensic Toxicology (ABFT) and is also a member of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT), the American Academy of Forensic Science, and the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology.

Our Mission Statement

Into each client...
Satisfaction.
Into each result...
Integrity.
Into each service...
Quality.
Into each response...
Truthfulness.
Into each employee...
Dignity.
Into each accomplishment...
Gratitude.

Online Results

AIT offers clients easy-to-read toxicology results online. Let AIT's technology work for you by signing up for our website reporting feature. You will have the ability to do the following:

- View and print test results
- Update contact information
- Obtain supply order forms
- Access a training booklet designed to walk you step-by-step through the website reporting feature

To obtain secure access to AIT's website reporting feature, please complete the steps below:

- Obtain registration form from the website or Client Services
- Complete and mail to AIT Laboratories (no fax copies accepted)
- Receive confirmation e-mail containing your assigned user ID and password

For assistance, please contact our Client Services Department at: ClientServices@aitlabs.com 800-875-3894

AIT Now Tests for Bath Salts

AIT Laboratories is now offering testing in blood, serum/plasma, and urine for synthetic stimulants, most commonly known as bath salts. On September 7, 2011, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) used its emergency scheduling authority to temporarily control three synthetic stimulants (mephedrone, 3,4 methylenedioxypropylamphetamine (MDPV), and methylenedioxymethamphetamine).

Test Code

13610**

Matrix

Whole Blood, Serum/Plasma, Urine

Sample Volume

0.5 mL (minimum); 2 mL (preferred)

Instrumentation

Ultra Performance Liquid Chromatography – Tandem Mass Spectrometry (UPLC/MS/MS)

Reportable Analytes

MDPV (quantitative); Mephedrone (quantitative)

Limit of Quantitation

10 ng/mL

Cost

\$100

TAT

Within 14 calendar days/10 business days

www.aitlabs.com/catalog.aspx

**This test must be ordered separately. It is not included in any panel.



AIT On the Move

AIT will be attending the following upcoming conferences. Please stop by to say hello and collect information on the services we provide.

Mississippi Coroner-Medical Examiner Association

Jackson, MS

January 11-13, 2012

American Academy of Forensic Science

Atlanta, GA

February 22-24, 2012

If you would like to have one of our expert toxicologists present at your state conference, please contact Lori Hicks at lhicks@aitlabs.com for more information.

Limited Sample Volume

Sending limited sample volume can hinder TAT as AIT runs the testing parallel instead of individually. If you have limited volume, please use the red top tubes instead of the bottle.

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Happy Holidays
from AIT!

Audits

External:

CLIA Certification – January 2010

ISO Surveillance Audit – May 2011

- Scope ISO 9001:2008
- Audited to maintain our certification

ABFT (American Board of Forensic Toxicology) – June 2011

- Audited forensic processes to maintain accreditation

CAP (College of American Pathologists) – October 2011

- Audited to maintain CAP accreditation and CLIA certification

Internal:

Laboratory Process Audit – Feb/Mar 2011

- Scope (procedures, processes, instrumentation, training records, and observation)
- Two-month audit that covered every area and department in the laboratory

Reconstruction Audit – June 2011

- Assured proper audit trails exist through documentation and demonstration
- Ensured that AIT is equipped with all the resources necessary to provide superior lab testing services to our clients
- Ability to trace our work from client reports back to specimen collection

Pending:

- Laboratory Process Audit – November 2011