



## Test Announcement: Tapentadol

**Trade Name**

Nucynta

**AIT Test Code**

40660

**CPT Code**

82542

**Clinical, Forensic Significance**

Schedule II novel analgesic drug approved for the treatment of moderate to severe pain in patients 18 years of age or older. Effective as an agonist at the  $\mu$ -opioid receptor sites and as a nor-epinephrine reuptake inhibitor. None of the metabolites of tapentadol are thought to be pharmacologically active. As an agonist at the  $\mu$ -opioid receptor sites, overdose is typically treated with naloxone.

**Specimen Type**

Urine

**Minimum Specimen Volume**

5 mL

**Method of Analysis**

Liquid chromatography coupled to tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)

**Limit of Quantification**

10 ng/mL (confirmation only)

**Excretion Characteristics**

Undergoes extensive (97%) first-pass hepatic metabolism with approximately 99% renal excretion – 3% unchanged drug, 69% glucuronic acid conjugates, and the remainder as other metabolites. Approximately 95% of a single dose is excreted in the 24-hour urine. Complete (99.9%) excretion is noted to be within 5 days.

**Comments**

If you have any questions regarding the information in this test announcement, please contact our Client Services Department at 800-875-3894 or [clientservices@aitlabs.com](mailto:clientservices@aitlabs.com). To learn more about AIT Laboratories, log on to [www.AITLABS.com](http://www.AITLABS.com).