

## Interpretation of Confirmed Opiate Results

To help programs better interpret Opiate patient results (after a confirmation test has been performed on a sample that has screened positive for Opiates), SDRL has created the below chart. As an example, a patient's sample confirming positive for Morphine and 6-MAM would be the result of that patient consuming/using heroin.

**If the results are as follows:**

Morphine	Codeine	Hydro-codone	Hydro-morphone	6-MAM	Oxy-codone	Oxy-morphone	Then the following condition exists:
Positive	-	-	-	Positive	-	-	<b>Heroin use</b>
Positive (M>C)	Positive	-	-	Positive	-	-	<b>Heroin use</b> - plus Codeine use or Codeine impurity in the Heroin (M>C = Morphine greater than Codeine)
Positive (M>C)	Positive	-	-	-	-	-	<b>Heroin or Morphine use</b> - plus Codeine use or Codeine impurity in the Heroin or Morphine (M>C = Morphine greater than Codeine)
Positive	Positive (C>M)	-	-	-	-	-	<b>Codeine use</b> - Morphine positive due to the metabolism of the Codeine in the body (C>M = Codeine greater than Morphine)
Positive	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>Heroin or Morphine use</b>
-	Positive	-	-	-	-	-	<b>Codeine use</b>
-	-	Positive	-	-	-	-	<b>Hydrocodone use</b> (ex. Vicodin, Lortab, etc.)
-	-	-	Positive	-	-	-	<b>Hydromorphone use</b> (ex. Dilaudid)
-	-	Positive	Positive	-	-	-	<b>Hydrocodone use</b> - Hydromorphone positive due to the metabolism of the Hydrocodone in the body OR Hydromorphone use as well
-	-	-	-	-	Positive	-	<b>Oxycodone use</b>
-	-	-	-	-	Positive	Positive	<b>Oxycodone use</b> - Oxymorphone is Oxycodone's metabolite
-	-	-	-	-	-	Positive	<b>Oxymorphone use</b> (ex. Opana) or <b>Oxycodone use</b> - Oxymorphone is Oxycodone's metabolite and has a longer half-life than the parent drug

### ???

### Question of the Month

According to a recent report released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, annual overdose deaths involving opioid pain relievers (OPR) – a class of drugs that includes oxycodone, methadone and hydrocodone – have increased and now exceed deaths involving heroin and cocaine combined. In 2008, drug overdoses in the United States caused 36,450 deaths. OPR were involved in 14,800 deaths (73.8%) of the 20,044 prescription drug overdose deaths – or roughly 40 deaths per day. The overdose death rate from OPR in 2008 was nearly four times the rate in 1999, while the OPR substance abuse treatment admission rate in 2009 was almost six times the rate from just ten years earlier. (**Source:** [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov))

**Question:** "One of our patients has blamed their positive Methamphetamine result on taking Adderall, for which the patient has a prescription. Is this possible?"

**Answer:** No. The Amphetamines class is broken down into two analytes: Methamphetamine and Amphetamine. Methamphetamine's metabolite is Amphetamine; however, Amphetamine has no metabolite. Adderall is made from Amphetamine. Therefore, if Adderall is taken, regardless of the dose, Amphetamine is the only analyte that would be present and test positive. The positive Methamphetamine result is due to the patient consuming Methamphetamine. In confirmation, a patient consuming Methamphetamine will produce a urine or saliva sample that tests positive for both Methamphetamine and Amphetamine.