

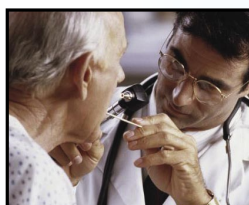
**JANUARY 2006**

*As the market leader in Canada for Drugs of Abuse Testing, Diagnostix Ltd. is committed to providing our customers with the most current medical information regarding new advances in the treatment of drug & alcohol addiction. Our quarterly newsletter includes abstracts and product news focused on the latest technology and research to improve the quality of patient care and enhance the workflow in your lab or clinic.*

## Drugs In Oral Fluids

### **A Pilot Study: Presented at the Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine By Dr. Bhushan Kapur\***

Sample tampering and adulteration has been reported to be a problem in Methadone Maintenance Treatment programs (MMT). A pilot study was performed to investigate the viability of drugs of abuse screening in saliva samples within a clinical setting. Correlations between urine, blood and saliva samples were performed for substance abuse drugs using CEDIA® liquid reagents<sup>1</sup> on a Hitachi 717 platform. Results showed significant correlations between oral and serum Methadone levels. A high rate of concordance between saliva and urine was also observed. This study, which involved developing an automated screening method, showed the viability of oral fluid testing in a clinical setting.



In addition to the clinical benefits of oral fluid screening, physicians can also address any concerns of sample tampering. Some common tampering issues are the resubmission of samples, in-vivo or in-vitro dilution or the addition of exogenous substances that can interfere with the immunoassay screen.

The results derived from this study suggest several advantages to oral fluid analysis: (1) The same tests performed on urine samples, including alcohol, can be done with saliva samples,

(2) Samples can be collected under the direct supervision of the clinician (3) The time required to collect an oral fluid sample is less than one minute, (4) The need to screen for electrolytes and creatinine, and the need to witness urine samples will no longer be necessary with oral fluid analysis.

**For further information contact Sharmin Sriram:**  
[sharmin\\_sriram@diagnostix.ca](mailto:sharmin_sriram@diagnostix.ca)

1. *The CEDIA® liquid reagents used in this pilot study were supplied by Diagnostix, Ltd. in Mississauga, ON.*

*\* This study was co-authored by Dr. Sheldon Hershkop, Maylene Rey, and Dianne Rampersaud.*

## Ethyl Glucuronide in Urine

Diagnostix, Ltd. will be launching the latest assay to our extensive and unique menu of diagnostic reagents: Ethyl glucuronide (EtG). Ethyl glucuronide is a direct metabolite of ethanol, which is formed by enzymatic conjugation of ethanol with glucuronic acid. This compound is stable, non-volatile, water soluble, and is an excellent biomarker for determining recent alcohol use and chronic alcoholism. Alcohol in urine is normally detected for only a few hours, whereas EtG can be detected up to 5 days. EtG is a specific biomarker of alcohol because, unlike other biomarkers, EtG levels are not influenced by age, gender and non-alcohol related diseases. Since EtG is a metabolite of alcohol that is formed only after consumption of alcohol, the EtG test can *(continued on reverse...)*

be used as a confirmatory test to determine if alcohol in the sample is from alcohol that is consumed or produced in vitro due to fermentation as can be the case in diabetic urine. This assay is specific to the EtG metabolite and is a simple and convenient test for the detection of EtG in urine.

*Available January 2006*

## Microstat 500™

### Automated Test System

Diagnostix introduces the most complete and comprehensive fully automated testing system designed to meet the challenges of Methodone Maintenance Programs. The MicroStat 500™ Automated Test System is an innovative solution which combines instrumentation, a broad menu of leading edge assays (such as Buprenorphine, Oxycodone, EDDP, and EtG), an integrated quality control program, software, technical support & service.

#### Key features include:

- Load up to 90 samples.
- Program the instrument for overnight sample analysis.
- The system will also analyze serum and oral fluid samples.



The MicroStat 500™ system is not only cost effective but it also incorporates easily into the daily routine of your clinic to provide lab quality results.



Microstat 500™ Chemwell Analyzer

**NOW AVAILABLE  
FROM DIAGNOSTIX!**



## Diagnostix Launches New Website & Online Store

Beginning January 2006, the Diagnostix web site will have a new look along with many new features. Our new web site reflects our goal to provide our customers with the highest level of service. The on-line catalog is easy-to-use and lists our extensive menu of leading edge products while our new on-line store will help make your purchasing fast and convenient. As a registered member of the Diagnostix on-line store, your benefits will include access to product information, training, and educational materials.

Visit [www.diagnostix.ca](http://www.diagnostix.ca) to register.

