Clinical Update: November 2022

AEGIS'S NOVEL PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCE (NPS) TESTING MENU UPDATE

In September, Aegis updated both urine and oral fluid novel psychoactive substance (NPS) test menus as a continued commitment to offering providers a contemporary testing option for NPS. The updates involve the addition of analytes which are newly circulating since the existing menu was deployed, as well as the deletion of analytes which are no longer circulating in the illicit drug supply. In this round of updates, there were additions and removals to designer opioids, designer benzodiazepines, synthetic cannabinoids, synthetic stimulants, and hallucinogen/dissociatives.

In September and October, Aegis detected 6,200 NPS analytes in healthcare samples when testing was ordered. While these figures may seem daunting, it is still an underrepresentation of actual positivity, as many samples received at Aegis do not include medical orders for NPS testing. A description of detection frequency and emphasis on new analytes detected in each class is included below.

Designer Benzodiazepines

Since September 1st, 8-aminoclonazolam is the most detected analyte, followed by bromazolam, and alpha-hydroxy flualprazolam. Newly added benzodiazepines detected include: 7-aminomeclonazepam and metizolam.

8-Aminoclonazolam	458
Bromazolam	253
alpha-Hydroxyflualprazolam	226
Flualprazolam	134
alpha-Hydroxyetizolam	121
Clonazolam	50
Etizolam	48
alpha-Hydroxyflubromazolam	20
Flubromazolam	19
Deschloroetizolam	16
Flubromazepam	7
7-aminomeclonazepam	3
Delorazepam	2
Metizolam	1

Designer Opioids

Since September 1st, fluoro fentanyl continues to be the most detected analyte, followed by despropionyl fluorofentanyl, and 4-hydroxy nitazene. Newly added designer opioids detected include: dipyanone, flunitazene, and N-piperidinyl etonitazene.

Fluoro Fentanyl	1438
Despropionyl Fluorofentanyl	1004
4-Hydroxy Nitazene	254
Valeryl Fentanyl Mtb	156
Metonitazene	134
N-desethyl Isotonitazene	59
Despropionyl Bromofentanyl	49
Benzyl Fentanyl	39
Valeryl Fentanyl	36
Acryl Fentanyl	12
Despropionyl Chlorofentanyl	5
Dipyanone	3
Fluoroisobutyryl Fentanyl	3
Protonitazene	3
Brorphine	2
Flunitazene	2
Butonitazene	1
Isotonitazene	1
N-piperidinyl Etonitazene	1

Synthetic Cannabinoids

Since September 1st, MDMB-4en-PINACA BA continues to be the most detected synthetic cannabinoid analyte, followed by ADB-BUTINACA NBA (new), 4F-MDMB-BUTINACA, and 5F-MDMB-PICA M7. Other newly detected analytes include: ADB-BUTINACA, ADB-FUBIATA metabolite, MDMB-5Br-INACA, ADB-FUBIATA BA, and ADB-HEXINACA NHA.

MDMB-4en-PINACA BA	158
ADB-BUTINACA NBA	34
4F-MDMB-BUTINACA N-BA	23
5F-MDMB-PICA M7	23
4F-MDMB-BUTINACA BA	17
4F-MDMB-BUTINACA N-BA	15
FUB-PB-22 3CI	9
5F-MDMB-PICA M8	6
ADB-BUTINACA	6
ADB-FUBIATA Metabolite	6

MDMB-5Br-INACA	6
MMB-FUBICA M3	6
5F-PB-22 3CI	5
ADB-FUBIATA BA	4
ADB-PINACA PA	4
MDMB-4en-PINACA	3
5F-MDMB-PICA/5F-EMB-PICA	2
4F-MDMB-BUTINACA N4HB	1
4F-MDMB-BUTINACA N4HB	1
5F-EMB-PICA HP/5F-MDMB-PICA M2	1
5F-MDMB-PICA M4	1
ADB-HEXINACA NHA	1
MMB-4en-PINACA BA	1

Synthetic Stimulants

Since September 1st, a newly added analyte, N,N-dimethyl pentylone is the most detected synthetic stimulant, followed by pentylone and eutylone. N-cyclohexyl methylone is another newly detected stimulant.

N,N-dimethyl Pentylone	40
Pentylone	31
Eutylone	11
Alpha-PiHP	10
N-cyclohexyl Methylone	5
Alpha-PHP	2
TFMPP	2
Butylone	1

Hallucinogens/Dissociatives

Since September 1st, 3-OH-PCP is the most detected hallucinogen/dissociative, followed by 3F-PCP, and 2F-Deschloronorketamine. There were no new analytes detected since September 1st.

3-OH-PCP	20
3F-PCP	10
2F-Deschloronorketamine	7

Miscellaneous NPS

Xylazine continues to be the most detected miscellaneous NPS, followed by phenibut and tianeptine. There were no new additions to this class in this update.

Xylazine	784
4-Hydroxyxylazine	296
Phenibut	48
Tianeptine	40

Aegis's NPS offerings are developed to allow providers the ability to more completely identify substance use and afford them the opportunity to provide more informed care and minimize the potential for these unregulated substances to contribute to adverse events, including overdose deaths. This timely testing expansion increases the utility of oral fluid as an alternative to urine by allowing testing for NPS, which go undetected in traditional definitive testing.

NOTICE: The information above is intended as a resource for health care providers. Providers should use their independent medical judgment based on the clinical needs of the patient when making determinations of who to test, what medications to test, testing frequency, and the type of testing to conduct.