Retrospective Monitoring of Long-Term Recreational and Dependent Cocaine Use in Toenail Clippings/Scrapings as an Alternative to Hair.

Toenails

CASE STUDY

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Overview

Keywords: Abstinence, nails, contamination, LC-MS/MS, norcocaine, cocaine, cocaethylene, benzoylecgonine

Aim of the study: Retrospective monitoring of cocaine consumption of recreational and dependent users

Application: Cocaine and metabolite analysis by LC-MS/MS

Sample name: Toenails

Material: FastPrep-24™ Homogenizer, 2 mL Lysing Matrix S tubes containing metal beads

Protocol and Parameters

- 1. Wash nail clippings twice with 1 mL of water and acetone, respectively, by vortexing for 30s.
- 2. Cut into snippets and weigh approximately 5 mg into Lysing Matrix Tubes containing metal beads for pulverization at 5.5 m/s (8-times for 60 s) using a FastPrep-24TM homogenizer.

Conclusion

The FastPrep-24 instrument and Lysing Matrix tubes offer a quick and efficient solution for grinding nail clippings for retrospective monitoring of cocaine consumption/abstinence.



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