



# ALFA-BITS™

## New Oral-View® Test To Debut

This fall Alfa Scientific Designs, Inc. will be officially launching its new oral fluid drug test device under the name Oral-View®.

The Oral-View® Saliva Multi-Drug of Abuse Test is a

rapid, lateral flow diagnostic test designed to simultaneously detect up to 8 drugs of abuse in human saliva.

The Oral-View® test has many advantages:

- Easy to use one step device.

Made in the USA

- Its see-through design allows you to monitor the flow of saliva so you can see if you have collected enough sample from the donor.

- The device can be used to screen a donor and if a positive result occurs, the device itself can be sent off to a laboratory for LC/MS confirmation.

When launched the following configurations will be available:

- 1) 5 Drug Combination: AMP, COC, MET (with XTC), OPI, THC
- 2) 6 Drug Combination: AMP, BZD, COC, MET (with XTC), OPI
- 3) 8 Drug Combination: AMP, BZD, COC, MET (with XTC), MTD, OPI, PCP, THC.

Internationally this product is CE Marked for sale in Europe.

Over the last several years the interest in Saliva testing, otherwise known as Oral Fluid testing, has grown dra-

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Vol. 3, Fall 2010, #2

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# Oxycodone - A Hillbilly Heroin

Developed in 1916 in Germany, semi-synthetic opiate oxycodone was expected to improve pain relief while reducing the dependence typically seen with existing opiates such as morphine, heroin, and codeine however, truth be told it too has its own dependence concerns.

Synthetic opiates are known under the trade names:

Tylox®, Percodan® or Percocet® (in combination with acetaminophen or aspirin), OxyContin®, and Vicodan (hydrocodone). Oxycodone is an oral medication typically prescribed for the relief of moderate to severe pain. Given its intended use, this narcotic tends to be a highly prescribed pharmaceutical however it is also fast becoming a highly

abused one.

Despite being a controlled substance, oxycodone is easily finding its way onto the streets through a variety of avenues: forged prescriptions; diversion through unscrupulous medical professionals; people that "doctor-shop" to get additional prescriptions and then resell; and theft, etc. On the street oxycodone is referred to as oxy, hillbilly heroin, oxycotton, OC, killers, etc.

In the late 1990's the US began seeing an increase in recreational use and diversion of Purdue Pharma's brand OxyContin® specifically. A study conducted in 2003 by the Government Accountability Office found the following factors to be contributing to this rise:

- 1) OxyContin contains a larger amount of oxycodone than other types of oxycodone containing pills.
- 2) Many people crushed the tablets and injected or snorted OxyContin after reading its warning label which stated not to crush the controlled-release tablets because of the potential for a rapid release of oxycodone.
- 3) People who received pre-

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## New Oral-View® Test

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matically and that is in part due to its advantages over the traditional urine-based testing:

- Since collections can be observed, it is difficult for the donor to adulterate the specimen.
- Eliminates shy bladder issues that delay sample collections.
- Is a good indicator of recent drug usage. With urine testing, you must wait for the drug to be metabolized by the liver before it will show a preliminary positive result.
- Collections can be observed without having to worry about gender or donor privacy issues typically associated with urine testing.
- Cost effective as it eliminates

the need for special collection facilities. Oral Fluid (Saliva) tests can be performed anytime - anywhere.

In the United States this product is for forensic or investigational use only and is not for at home use or over-the-counter sale. This product is not for use in any medical diagnosis or treatment in the United States. The Oral-View® test is CE Marked for export.

For more information on our Oral-View® tests or any of our other diagnostic tests please contact your Alfa Sales or Customer Service representative today or visit the following link on our website <http://www.alfascientific.com/alfa-products/drugs-of-abuse/saliva-doa>.

WHERE VALUE MEETS QUALITY IN DIAGNOSTICS™

# Oxycodone - A Hillbilly Heroin

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criptions for OxyContin® from across the United States and didn't use them saw the potential in "profiting" from their sale 4) U.S. sales of OxyContin® exceeded \$1 billion per year by 2001.

But the US was not the only country to see issues arising from the illegal use of OxyContin®. In the early 2000's it was reportedly on the rise in Australia and the United Kingdom. By 2007, 51% of a national sample of injection drug users in Australia had reported using oxycodone. While thought of as a "white-collar" addiction, oxycodone abuse has increased among all ethnic and socio-economic groups.

Over the last few years the diversion and abuse of OxyContin® has become a major concern. According to a National Survey on Drug Use and Health conducted in 2008, 13.8 million people (12 years of age or older) used oxycodone (4.8 million of those used the OxyContin® brand) for nonmedical use at least once during their lifetime.

Even on the home front, oxycodone is making its way into the hands of teens from

their parents own medicine cabinets - eventually leading them to the streets or schools to procure further hits. A December 19, 2005 National Public Radio article reported that about 1 in 20 high school seniors acknowledged taking OxyContin. It also went on to detail that in its 2005 annual survey of teen drug use, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) reported that OxyContin use by 12th graders was up 40 percent nationwide in just three years. NIDA's "Monitoring the Future" study surveyed 49,347 students from 402 public and private schools in grades eight, 10 and 12. One of the key things that was discovered through this survey was that approximately half of all students would try an illicit drug by the time they finish high school - a scary statistic indeed.

It is no wonder then that it has become more and more important for drug screening to be performed for the potential use or abuse of oxycodone. This

information is helpful to doctors prior to writing a prescription or choosing a method of treatment; parents looking to protect their teens; and even for employers in the workplace setting.

To fulfill this need Alfa Scientific Designs offers FDA cleared oxycodone tests in single drug dip strip, cassette (with pipette), dip cassettes, and multi-drug panel product configurations and as of July 2010 some of these formats are even OTC-Cleared and CLIA-Waived. For more information on these tests contact your Alfa Sales or Customer Service Representative today.

## Sources:

<http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/index.html>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxycodone>

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