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Laboratory testing for pain management

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Based on the 2011 report by Institute of Medicine, pain is a national issue with significant social and economic consequences. Therefore, relieving pain should be a national priority. Recently pain management has drawn much attention due to the high potential of pain medication diversion and drug abuse. As such laboratory testing plays a critical role in assisting physicians to monitor patient compliance. Immunoassays are quick but not the ideal tools due to the false negative and false positive results. Liquid Chromatography-Tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) has been increasingly used for pain management testing due to its high specificity and sensitivity. In this presentation challenges associated with pain management and laboratory testing to support pain management will be reviewed. An example of a comprehensive method for analyzing multiple drugs/metabolites in urine by LC-MS/MS will be discussed in detail.

Biography

Sihe Wang, PhD is Section Head and Medical Director of Clinical Biochemistry and Director of Clinical Biochemistry Fellowship Training Program at Cleveland Clinic. He chairs clinical chemistry integration team for the Cleveland Clinic Health System which includes one Florida hospital, eight community hospitals and eighteen family health centers in Northeast Ohio. Additionally, he is a Clinical Chemistry Professor, Cleveland State University. His expertise includes general clinical chemistry and clinical application of mass spectrometry. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Clinical Chemistry since 2005 and a Fellow of the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry since 2006.

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