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Determination of hydroxy metabolites of cocaine from hair samples and comparison with street cocaine samples

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Highlights

- Findings of hydroxy-cocainics in hair-samples were compared with street-cocaine samples.
- No hydroxy-metabolites of benzoylecgonine and norcocaine were found in seized material
- New criteria for interpretation of cocaine consumption through hair analysis are proposed.

Abstract

Drugs which are commonly smoked or sniffed (e.g. cocaine), can contaminate hair through smoke or dust; therefore testing for metabolites, especially hydroxy metabolites, is highly recommended. The presence of hydroxy metabolites in street-cocaine (COC) has been discussed. To check if detection of hydroxy metabolites definitely proves ingestion, the presence of these metabolites in street COC samples

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