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Title: DETERMINATION OF BENZODIAZEPINES IN PERICARDIAL FLUID BY GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY-MASS SPECTROMETRY

Authors: I. Álvarez-Freire, P. Brunetti, P. Cabarcos-Fernández, A. Fernández-Liste, M.J. Taberero-Duque, A.M. Bermejo-Barrera



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## DETERMINATION OF BENZODIAZEPINES IN PERICARDIAL FLUID BY GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY-MASS SPECTROMETRY

Álvarez-Freire I<sup>1</sup>, Brunetti P<sup>2</sup>, Cabarcos-Fernández P<sup>1</sup>, Fernández-Liste A<sup>3</sup>, Tabernero-Duque MJ<sup>1</sup>, Bermejo-Barrera AM<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Forensic Toxicology Service. Forensic Sciences Institute. Medicine School. University of Santiago de Compostela C/ San Francisco s/n 15782 Santiago de Compostela Spain

<sup>2</sup>Università degli Studi di Urbino “Carlo Bo” Facoltà di Farmacia Via Aurelio Saffi, 2 61029 Urbino (PU) Italy

<sup>3</sup>Galicia’s Legal Medicine Institute (IMELGA). Courthouse Building. C/ Viena s/n 15707 Santiago de Compostela Spain

*Corresponding Author: Iván Álvarez Freire ivan.alvarez@usc.es Tel.+34881812459*

### Highlights

- An extraction procedure (SPE) of benzodiazepines and a GC-MS analysis is described.
- This procedure was validated in pericardial fluid.
- The extraction procedure is valid for routine analysis in a Toxicology Laboratory.
- Current papers for pericardial fluid analysis of BZDs are detailed.
- Results demonstrate that pericardial fluid is useful in absence of blood

### Abstract

In Forensic Toxicology it is sometimes impossible to obtain a valid blood sample to perform toxicological analysis due to several factors like advanced state of decomposition, severe burns, bleed to death.... Pericardial Fluid has already been studied during the last years and has been proposed as a valid specimen for toxicological tests.

Over the years, the consumption of benzodiazepines spread among the drug dependent population and became noticeable in drug facilitated assault cases and road accidents. Improvement of the analytical methodology required for detecting the presence of these

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