

From: Tobin, Thomas Thomas.Tobin@uky.edu

Subject: RE: Morphine

Date: November 29, 2018 at 11:52 AM

To: Ed Martin emartin@arci.com

Cc: Eric Hamelback ehamelback@hbpa.org, Dave Basler (dbasler@rroho.com) dbasler@rroho.com, Clara Fenger drfng@gmail.com, docrobholland@gmail.com

TT

Ed,

This is a very conservative threshold but better than none.

Some comments.

First morphine, as such, in urine is most likely evidence of during collection contamination.

If it has passed through the horse to get into the urine the great bulk of the morphine in the urine will be Morphine Glucuronides, ie, the equine urinary metabolites of morphine. See figure 11 below.

Second, does the RMTC documentation include a listing of the regulatory limits for Morphine glucuronides already in place in the US? If not, why not??

I attach this information from the 2012 HBPA book.

Third, the in place thresholds in the US are pharmacologically conservative. I attach one of my early (1981) publications on morphine, and figure 11 from this paper below showing an average urinary concentration of around 30 ng/ml of morphine glucuronides a full three days or so after administration of an no effect dose of 50 mg of morphine to a number of horses.

30 ng ml is therefore very conservative, and less than the published in place thresholds in a number of American states and also less than the threshold than the fro memory 50 ng/ml threshold that the BHA introduced in England in 2004 or thereabouts.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas T

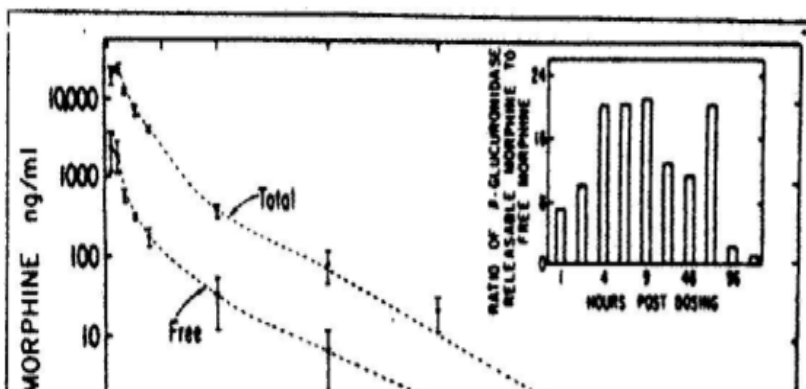
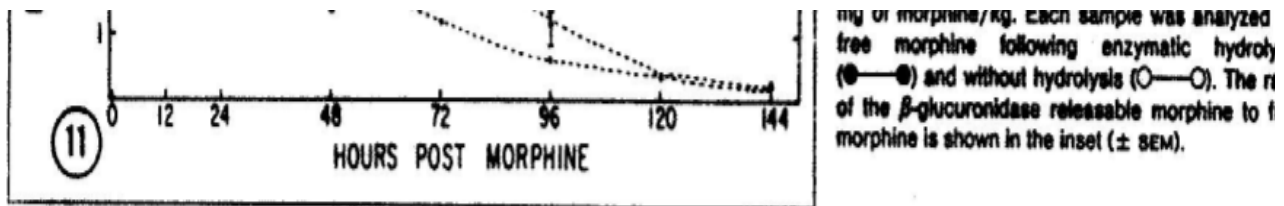


Fig 11—Urine concentrations in horses given (iv)



**From:** Ed Martin <emartin@arci.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 29, 2018 12:08 PM  
**Subject:** Morphine

The Racing Medication and Testing Consortium has made a proposal to RCI to set a screening limit for morphine at 30ng./ml. Currently there is no recommended screening limit and individual labs may call a positive at LOD which would not take into account environmental transfers or feed contamination.

This proposal recommend adoption of the “international standard” yet there is no supporting materials submitted.

Last evening, a proposal came to RCI challenging this screening limit. A 2005 paper presented to the AAEP was attached concerning this matter: **Review of Environmental Morphine Identifications: Worldwide Occurrences and Responses of Authorities.**

You can access the RMTC proposal as well as the paper through this link: <http://www.arcimodelrules.online/2018/11/20/addition-of-morphine-to-arcj-schedule/>

You are receiving this email as a Member of the ARCI Scientific Advisory Group. I am circulating this for comment prior to our meetings this Sunday and Monday. This information has been circulated to the committee members and it is unclear what path they will choose to take at this time.

Any input or guidance you would recommend would be greatly appreciated.  
 Thank you in advance.

Ed

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