



NEW TEST ANNOUNCEMENT

Eszopiclone/Zopiclone

NMS Labs is proud to announce the availability of our newest assay for Eszopiclone/Zopiclone. Zopiclone was first introduced in 1988 as a novel hypnotic agent used in the treatment of insomnia. It is currently marketed in 85 foreign countries worldwide as Imovane®, but has never been registered in the U.S. The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has listed Zopiclone as a Schedule IV substance due to some evidence that the drug has addictive properties similar to benzodiazepines. Zopiclone is a mixture of two isomers with identical atoms that are arranged differently. Eszopiclone (S-Zopiclone) is one of the two chiral forms and is much more active than the R-Zopiclone isomer. In 2005, Eszopiclone began to be marketed in the U.S. under the trade name Lunesta® for the treatment of insomnia.

NMS Labs' new assay is not chiral specific, as a result it does not differentiate between Eszopiclone and Zopiclone, but it does provide a quantitatively value, using High Performance Liquid Chromatography/Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS/MS).

Test Usage: The Zopiclone/Eszopiclone assay can be useful to clinicians for monitoring their patient's therapeutic levels. It can also be a valuable tool to identify potential toxic concentrations or provide an investigative insight to a drug overdose or suspected abuse.

Test Specifications:

Scope & Reporting Limit	Eszopiclone /Zopiclone 2.0 ng/mL Blood, Serum, Plasma, or Urine
Acodes	1968B (Blood) 1968SP (Serum/Plasma) 1968U (Urine)
Method of Analysis	High Performance Liquid Chromatography/Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS/MS)
Specimen Requirements	1 mL Serum, Plasma, Blood or Urine. Freeze and ship frozen. Analysis of tissue samples also available. Contact lab for more information. The use of serum separator tubes is not acceptable.
Special Handling	Specimens must be maintained frozen since Eszopiclone / Zopiclone is not stable.
Pharmacokinetics	This test is not Chiral specific. Patients who have taken racemic Zopiclone (not approved in the US), as opposed to Eszopiclone (Lunesta®), within the past day may have falsely elevated values. A single 3 mg Eszopiclone oral dose produced peak serum concentrations of 20 to 30 ng/mL within 2 hours. Once daily 2 mg Eszopiclone oral doses given to elderly adults for 7 days resulted in a peak serum concentration of approximately 15 ng/mL.

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For more information on Eszopiclone/Zopiclone or other related products, please call NMS Labs at 800-522-6671 or visit us on the web at www.nmslabs.com