

5th International Conference and Exhibition on **Pharmaceutical Regulatory Affairs**

August 03-05, 2015 Orlando, USA

Modern microextraction techniques for drugs of abuse

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In various drug testing laboratories, the need for analyzing drugs of abuse and their metabolites at ultra-trace levels in complex biological sample has made the sample preparation most important and critical step. Additionally, the demand for sensitive, selective, economical and robust analytical methods, lead the researchers to focus on sample preparation methods which can overcome the disadvantages of traditional extraction methods such as liquid-liquid extraction (LLE). Modern microextraction techniques such as liquid phase microextraction (LPME) and solid-phase microextraction (SPME) are the two technique which have gained significant attraction from the researcher all over the globe in drug analysis. The consumption of zero, or microlitres of extraction solvent, high extraction efficiencies, high enrichment factors, ease of operation, environmentally friendliness and rapidity are the major advantages of modern microextraction techniques. Dispersive liquid-liquid microextraction (DLLME), LPME and SPME have been widely used for the extraction and pre-concentration of drugs of abuse such as amphetamines, benzodiazepines, cocaine, LSD etc. The present article is a discussion on the applications and pros and cons of microextraction techniques for the analysis of drugs of abuse in biological matrices.

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Openness in Nigeria's public pharmaceutical sector as seen from the eyes of the policy makers

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Pharmaceuticals are an important part of health care systems across the world, hence, any weakness in regulations especially in the governance of the pharmaceutical system will impact health outcomes retrogressively most importantly in developing countries. It's a common knowledge that of all countries whose pharmaceutical system has taken a negative hit from corruption and is struggling really hard to put the trafficking, importation and production of fake and substandard drugs under check, Nigeria ranks extremely high. There was a massive organizational restructuring within Nigeria's foremost regulatory body, National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) back in 2001. This gave birth to measures to drastically reduce fake drugs and regulate pharmaceuticals better. Even with that restructuring, room for improvement still abounds. What this study solely focused on was to evaluate the assumed level of openness, transparency and of course, the likelihood of corruption vulnerability that still exists in registration, procurement, inspection and distribution, which are the four vital areas of Nigeria's pharmaceutical sector.

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