

Human Milk Testing Solutions

Importance of Human Milk

Human milk is increasingly recognized as the nutrition option with the most health benefits for infants. Unfortunately, some mothers might not be able to produce a sufficient supply of milk. In these cases, parents have turned to donated milk as a solution, sometimes finding local donors online or through their communities. The need for donated human milk is expanding for many reasons, including:

- One in eight babies is born prematurely.
- Human milk is especially important for premature or sick babies, who are at ten times increased risk of intestinal infections if they are formula fed.
- Less than 50% of moms who deliver a baby prematurely are able to produce milk.
- Some mothers have health complications or require medications that may prevent breastfeeding.
- Human milk contains antibodies to fight disease and infection and protect against allergies.
- Human milk contains growth hormones to help babies develop.

Source — www.milkbank.org/milk-banking

There is risk when sharing milk that many people are not aware of, especially with chemicals or medication transferring into the milk supply.

Milk Banks

Milk banks have stepped in to help coordinate donation and distribution of human milk for babies around the world. Milk banks typically have donor prescreening processes to identify risk factors, pasteurization procedures in place to maximize safety before sending milk to babies in need. The screening and pasteurization process can vary from one milk bank to the other depending on the established procedures.

One major area of concern for milk banks is mothers donating milk that is tainted and unsafe for consumption. Ideally, donated milk should receive thorough scientific testing and screening before it is passed along to infants. A major cause of contamination is prescribed medication and illegal drugs that can reach harmful concentrations in a mother's milk. Some milk banks test donated samples for the presence of harmful drugs with various screening methods, and others rely on donor prescreening processes and doctor recommendations to prevent this situation. However, the only way to be fully confident that donated milk is free from harmful concentrations of dangerous chemicals is to perform validated scientific testing.

Solutions for Milk Banks

NEOGEN® has validated a specific panel of our ELISA kits for human milk screening and each kit is optimized to ensure we can provide a sensitive solution for this unique matrix. Our goal is to provide milk banks with the highest level of confidence the milk they supply is free from harmful drugs. We're also experienced with establishing screening protocols for milk banks to efficiently screen a large number of samples and increase the overall safety of the milk they're providing to infants in need.

NEOGEN Advantage

Our ELISA kits are more sensitive, specific, and accurate than quick test methods such as test cups or dip strips, which are typically optimized for urine. Our kits offer excellent correlation with analytical results from highly sensitive confirmation methods, providing a high level of confidence the milk is safe for consumption.

In addition to our test kits, we also offer a range of automation solutions to increase sample throughput and screening volumes, allowing your milk bank to screen more milk in less time with highly consistent overall results.

Ordering Information

Assay Name	96-well Product #	480-well Product #
6-AM	134019	134015
Amphetamine Ultra	130819	130815
Barbiturates	130619	130615
Benzodiazepines	130119	130115
Buprenorphine	131919	131915
Cocaine/BZE-2	130319-2	130315-2
Cotinine	182219	182215
Fentanyl	131519	131515
LSD	130219	130215

Assay Name	96-well Product #	480-well Product #
Meperidine	131219	131215
Methadone	131619	131615
Methadone/LAAM	132919	132915
Opiates Group	130419	130415
Oxycodone/Oxymorphone	130719	130715
PCP	130519	130515
Propoxyphene	131119	131115
THC	131019	131015

If your milk bank is interested in screening for any drug that we have not listed, contact us and we can determine how our kits can better meet your needs.

Call 800.477.8201 to order or visit NEOGEN.com

