



## **Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)**

The major psychoactive compound in marijuana is  $\Delta^9$ -tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). A major metabolite of THC is 11-nor-9-carboxy- $\Delta^9$ -tetrahydrocannabinol (THCCA). THCCA is found in the urine and can be quantified by LC-MS/MS to a level of 25 ng/mL by Genotox Labs. Generally, THCCA is found in the urine up to 7 days after use. The heavier the use the longer it will take for the THC to clear from the body. Heavy smokers have been reported to be positive for a 46 days after use and some smokers are positive even longer.<sup>1</sup> The levels of THCCA would be expected to go down with time from the last use of marijuana.

<sup>1</sup>Ellis, G. M., Mann, M. A., Judson, B. A., Schramm, N. T. and Tashchian, A. (1985), Excretion patterns of cannabinoid metabolites after last use in a group of chronic users. *Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics*, 38: 572–578.

Best Regards,

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