

# Reaching new sensitivity levels for the detection of fentanyl analogs and highly potent novel synthetic opioids in blood

Using the SCIEX Triple Quad™ 7500 LC-MS/MS System – QTRAP® Ready, powered by SCIEX OS Software

Pierre Negri<sup>1</sup> and Alex J. Krotulski<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>SCIEX, USA; <sup>2</sup>Center for Forensic Science Research and Education at the Fredric Rieders Family Foundation, USA

The continuous emergence of novel synthetic opioids (NSO) on the recreational drug market has been a major contributor to the ongoing opioid crisis. NSO are a class of novel psychoactive substances (NPS) that includes analogs of fentanyl and newly emerging non-fentanyl compounds. These illicitly manufactured substances are designed to mimic the effects of conventionally controlled opioids but greatly vary in potency and purity. The continuous introduction of these new opioid substances on the drug market, in combination with the rapidly changing trends in drug consumption, has created a significant challenge for law enforcement agencies and health professionals.

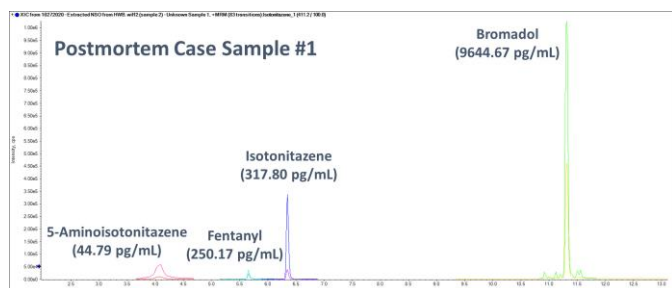
NSO can be consumed as stand-alone products but have more commonly been used as adulterants in heroin or counterfeit prescription preparations. The frequent occurrence of these substances in counterfeit pills is presenting an additional health and safety threat that requires vigilance and monitoring from drug tracking agencies and laboratories. NSO have been responsible for an increasing number of acute intoxications that often result in accidental and fatal combined drug overdoses. As newer and more potent synthetic opioids are synthesized and introduced to the recreational drug market, timely and comprehensive analytical drug screening approaches focused on rapid identification of these novel substances in biological matrices are critically needed. However, prior mass spectrometry-based detection platforms are lacking the sensitivity requirements for trace level detection of potent NSO linked to increasing intoxications, adverse events, and death.



In this technical note, the sensitivity of the SCIEX 7500 System<sup>1</sup> was investigated for the detection of 32 NSO, including fentanyl analog isomers, in human whole blood. The unparalleled quantification performance of the system enabled accurate detection of potent substances in poly-drug, authentic case samples at trace levels that were not previously achievable. This advancement enables toxicologists to develop a better picture of the overdose causation.

## Key features of sensitive detection method for low levels of NSO in blood samples

- Optimized LC conditions in combination with a robust detection method using the Scheduled MRM™ Algorithm in SCIEX OS Software enabled sensitive detection of 32 NSO extracted from authentic forensic blood samples
- Method demonstrated excellent linearity, accuracy and precision for NSO concentrations ranging from 10 to 100000 pg/mL, even at the low end of the calibration curve
- The remarkable quantification performance of the SCIEX 7500 System enabled robust quantification of NSO down to 10 pg/mL, with limits of the detection below 5 pg/mL for the majority of the NSO in the panel
- The SCIEX 7500 System provided the ability to detect low levels of NSO in postmortem case samples that would normally go undetected, providing a clearer picture for help in determining the cause of death



**Figure 1. Trace level quantification of potent NSO in postmortem case sample #1.** Extracted ion chromatogram (XIC) showing the successful detection of two potent NSO, a metabolite, and fentanyl at low concentrations in a case sample from a subject suspected of accidental overdose from combined drug toxicity.

## Experimental details

**Target analytes and solutions:** A total of 32 NSO including 17 fentanyl analogs and 15 newly emerging non-fentanyl opioids were selected for this panel. Two solutions were prepared in water: a 1 µg/mL standard mixture containing the 32 target analytes and a 1 ng/mL internal standard mixture containing two deuterated internal standards (fentanyl-D5 and carfentanil-D5). Table 1 lists the 32 target analytes used in this method.

**Calibrator preparation:** The 1 µg/mL standard mixture containing the 32 target analytes was used to fortify 200 µL of human whole blood. This fresh spiked whole blood mixture was used to prepare a series of 9 calibrator solutions covering concentrations ranging from 1 pg/mL to 100 ng/mL.

**Sample preparation:** NSO were extracted from the 200 µL spiked whole blood mixtures using a liquid-liquid extraction (LLE) procedure summarized in Figure 2.

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Load           | •Add 200 µL human whole blood spiked with calibrator solution |
| Add IS         | •Add 20 µL of 1 ng/µL IS stock solution                       |
| Add buffer     | •Add 500 µL of Borax buffer, pH 10.4 and vortex for 5 sec     |
| Add MTBE       | •Add 800 µL of MTBE to the tube                               |
| Rotate         | •Cap and rotate for 10 min at 40%                             |
| Uncap & Freeze | •Uncap the tube and freeze at -80°C for 15 min                |
| Transfer       | •Transfer 500 µL supernatant to new tubes                     |
| Dry            | •Dry down in TurboVap at 35°C, 10 psi for 30 min              |
| Reconstitute   | •Add 200 µL of 95:5 A:B to tube and vortex thoroughly         |
| Transfer       | •Transfer to HPLC vial and inject 10 µL onto instrument       |

**Figure 2. Liquid-liquid extraction (LLE) procedure for human whole blood samples.** A 10-step extraction protocol was used for selectively extracting NSO from human whole blood samples for analysis with the SCIEX 7500 System.

**Liquid chromatography:** HPLC separation was performed on an ExionLC™ system using a Phenomenex Kinetex C18 column (50 × 3.0 mm, 2.6µm, 00B-4462-Y0). Mobile phase A (MPA) and mobile phase B (MPB) were ammonium formate with formic acid and formic acid in methanol and acetonitrile, respectively. The LC gradient and runtime were optimized to enable baseline separation of all the analytes in the panel, including isomeric species. The injection volume was 10 µL and the total LC runtime was 15.5 minutes.

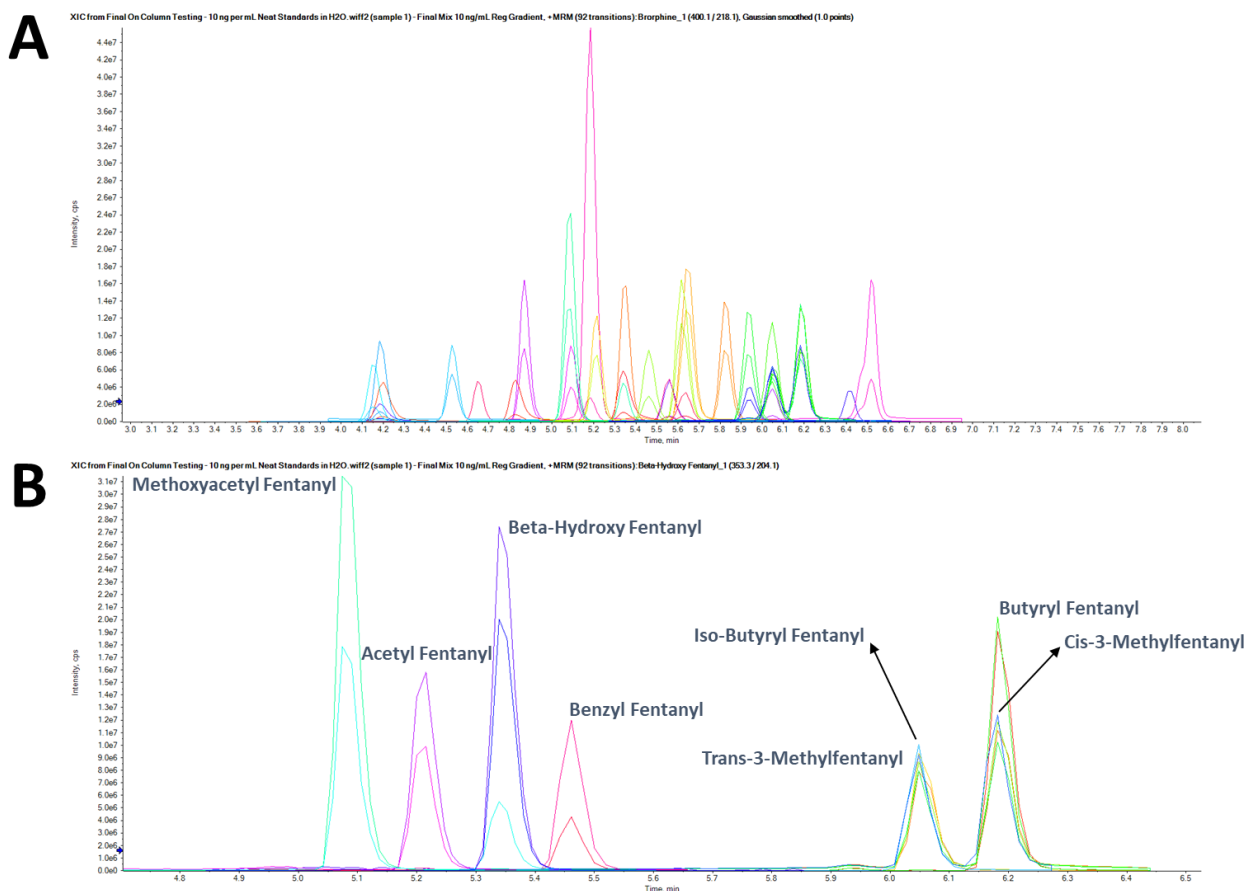
**Mass spectrometry:** A SCIEX 7500 System equipped with an OptiFlow® Pro Ion Source with an analytical probe and E Lens™ Technology was used. The ionization source was operated with electrospray ionization (ESI) in positive mode. A single acquisition method consisting of 68 MRM transitions (64 for the NSO and 4 for the internal standards) was created using the Scheduled MRM Algorithm in SCIEX OS Software 2.0. Two MRM transitions were monitored for each of the targeted NSO and each sample was injected in triplicate to build a data analysis processing method.

**Data analysis:** Data processing was performed using SCIEX OS Software. Detection and integration of the peaks from the background was accomplished within the viewing window using the MQ4 algorithm. Quantitative analysis was performed in the Analytics module of the software. Here calibration curves, concentration calculations, assay precision and accuracy statistics were automatically generated.

## Optimized LC conditions lead to separation of isomeric species

A diluted, 10 ng/mL neat standard mixture containing the 32 NSO was used for initial method development. Figure 3A shows the chromatographic profile of the NSO panel resulting from the optimized data acquisition method. Baseline separation of the 32 analytes, including fentanyl and non-fentanyl isomeric species, was accomplished by using a combination of appropriate gradient, adequate mobile phase composition and ideal column choice (Phenomenex Kinetex C18). Together, this enabled better retention of the more polar NSO throughout the course of the 15.5 minute long gradient.

A few fentanyl analogs in the panel are isomeric with other analogs and have no unique fragments that can be used for analyte differentiation. That is the case with *trans*-3-methylfentanyl and *cis*-3-methylfentanyl (sharing fragment ions of 202.1 and 105.0 Da), as well as iso-butyryl fentanyl and butyryl fentanyl (sharing fragment ions of 188.1 and 105.0 Da). Figure 3B displays representative extracted ion chromatograms (XICs) for four sets of isomeric fentanyl analogs (*trans*-3-methylfentanyl and *cis*-3-methylfentanyl, iso-butyryl fentanyl and butyryl fentanyl, acetyl fentanyl and benzyl fentanyl, and β-hydroxy fentanyl and methoxyacetyl fentanyl). As seen in Figure 3, the optimized LC conditions used in this workflow produced the level of separation needed to correctly distinguish the four sets of isomeric species, including the two sets that share the same fragment ions. Chromatographic separation of these four pairs of analogs from their isomers was critical for accurate identification and quantification.



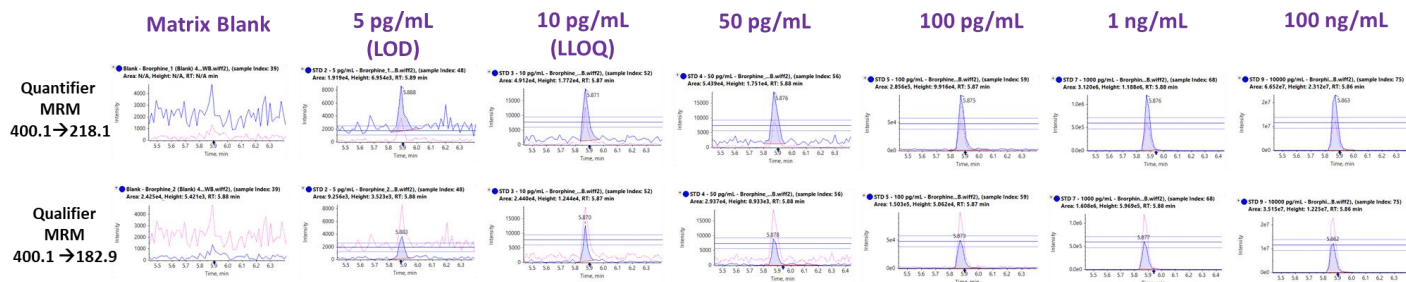
**Figure 3. Chromatographic profile of the 32 NSO targeted in this study.** A) Extracted ion chromatogram (XIC) resulting from the optimized LC conditions and data acquisition method using a 10 ng/mL neat standard mixture containing the 32 NSO included in the panel. B) Representative extracted ion chromatogram (XIC) of four sets of isomeric fentanyl analogs (*trans*-3-methylfentanyl and *cis*-3-methylfentanyl, iso-butyryl fentanyl and butyryl fentanyl, acetyl fentanyl and benzyl fentanyl, and  $\beta$ -hydroxy fentanyl and methoxyacetyl fentanyl). The optimized LC conditions enabled the level of separation required to separate the fentanyl isomeric species in this NSO panel.

### Optimized data collection using the Scheduled MRM Algorithm in SCIEX OS Software enables robust drug quantification

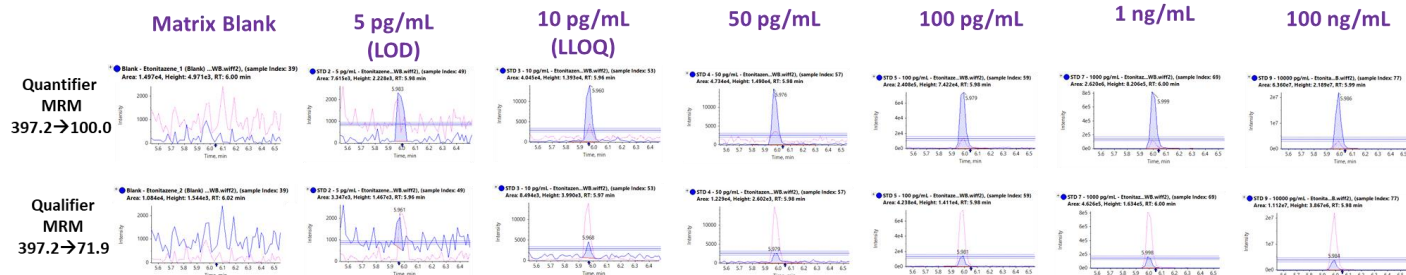
Control human whole blood samples spiked with the 32 target analytes were prepared at concentrations ranging from 1 pg/mL to 100 ng/mL. These standard human whole blood mixtures were spiked with the internal standard mixture, extracted using the aforementioned liquid-liquid extraction procedure and injected to build a data processing method. The Scheduled MRM Algorithm in SCIEX OS Software was used to optimize the dwell time of each MRM transition, ensuring sufficient data sampling across each peak and providing reliable peak integration, quantification and confirmation for each of the NSO in the panel. Detection and integration of the peaks was performed automatically using the MQ4 Algorithm in the Analytics module of SCIEX OS Software. Analyte concentration and ion ratios were calculated automatically in the software.

The ability to accurately detect trace levels of NPS extracted from human whole blood is critical for a toxicologist's interpretation of drug testing results and their help in determining the cause of death. The series of calibrator solutions were injected to evaluate the quantification performance of the system and its ability to accurately measure low levels of drugs and their metabolites with a high level of precision and accuracy. Figure 4 shows representative extracted ion chromatograms (XICs) for the two MRM transitions monitored for A) bromphine and B) etonitazene, two highly potent NSO that have been linked to accidental drug overdoses at low concentration. The series of XIC display overlays both the quantifier and qualifier ions for a blank injection and for concentrations ranging from 5 pg/mL (LOD) to 100 ng/mL. Also displayed in Figure 4 is the tolerance in the form of the ion ratio line overlay which helps visualize the confidence levels. The signal shown for 5 pg/mL is well above the blank signal. The signal for 10 pg/mL is the lower limit of quantification (LLOQ). The LLOQ is the lowest concentration level meeting the following standard performance requirements:

### A Borphine



### B Etonitazene

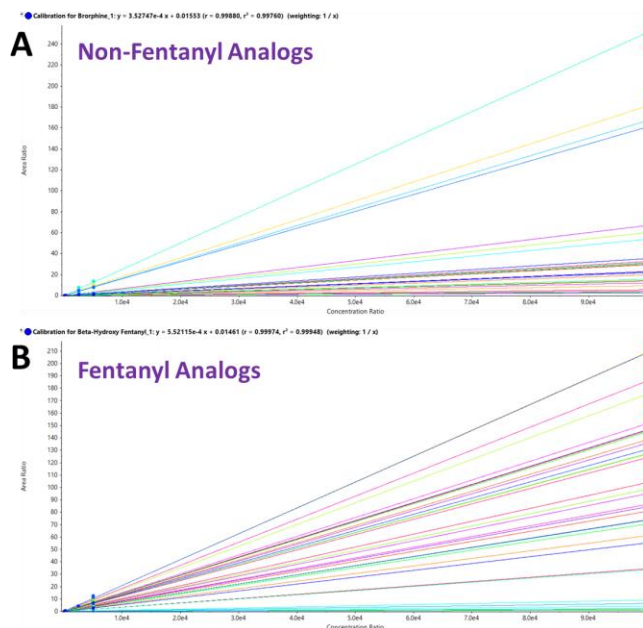


**Figure 4 Accurate quantification of two potent NSO extracted from blood samples using the SCIEX 7500 System.** Extracted ion chromatograms (XICs) for A) borphine and B) etonitazene, two potent NSO recently found in accidental overdose case samples. The series of XICs display overlays of both the qualifier and qualifier ions from 5 to 100000 pg/mL. Also shown is the ion ratio line tolerance overlay to visualize the ion ratio confidence levels. The sensitivity of the SCIEX 7500 System enabled robust quantification of NSO down to 10 pg/mL, with limits of detection down to 5 pg/mL for borphine and etonitazene. Similar quantification performance was observed for the rest of the NSO in the panel.

signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) > 10, calculated concentration accuracy (%bias) within 20%, precision less than 20%, ion ratio acceptance criteria below 20% and calibrators falling on a linear regression curve with an R<sup>2</sup> value of at least 0.99. Overall, the developed method provided robust and accurate quantification of the drugs in the panel without any sacrifice or compromise in data quality.

Table 1 summarizes the statistical results obtained for the 32 NSO and includes the LOD and LLOQ for each of the two MRM transitions monitored for each analyte. Also included in the table is the calibration range and linear correlation coefficient (R<sup>2</sup>), as well as the accuracy and precision at the LLOQ. Reported LLOQ values ranged between 10 to 50 pg/mL for the 32 analytes in the panel. The accuracy and precision of measurements ranged from 80.50-116.64% of target and 0.42-17.80%, respectively. The excellent accuracy and precision were observed over the entire concentration range, including at the LLOQ. Overall, the developed method showed excellent reproducibility and linearity, proving the robustness of the developed method and quantitative performance of the SCIEX 7500 System even at low concentration levels for each of the targeted NSO in this study.

Figure 5 shows the resulting calibration curves for the fentanyl analogs (A) and non-fentanyl analogs (B) in the panel. Excellent linearity was observed across the concentration ranges analyzed with R<sup>2</sup> values greater than 0.99 for all of the NPS in the panel.



**Figure 5. Excellent linearity for the 32 NSO.** Linear regression curves resulting from the calibration series from 10 to 100000 pg/mL for A) non-fentanyl analogs and B) fentanyl analogs extracted from human whole<sup>9</sup> blood samples. R<sup>2</sup> values greater than 0.99 were observed for all the NSO in the panel.

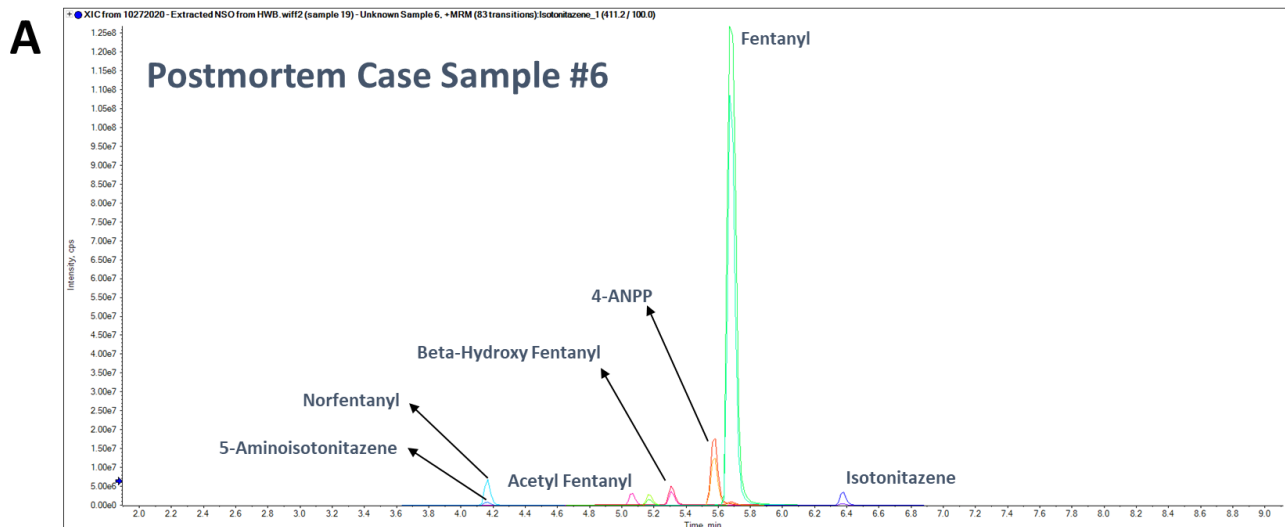
## Enhanced sensitivity leads to low level detection of potent NSO in case samples

The robustness of the method and the quantitative performance of the SCIEX 7500 System were further investigated by analyzing ten discarded authentic postmortem case samples from subjects suspected of NPS ingestion resulting in accidental overdoses. These biological specimens were prepared using the aforementioned liquid-liquid sample extraction method and analyzed using the developed acquisition method. The concentration of the positively detected NSO in the postmortem samples were calculated automatically in SCIEX OS Software using the calibration curves generated for each of the 32 NPS. Each case sample was run in triplicate.

Figure 6 shows the results of the successful detection of one NSO and its metabolite: isotonitazene and 5-aminoisotonitazene, as well as fentanyl and four of its analogs/metabolites: beta-hydroxy-fentanyl, norfentanyl, 4-ANPP and acetyl fentanyl. These results are from postmortem case sample #6 at concentrations of 1434.33, 7.93, 599.10, 9756.67, 147.69 and

1465.00 pg/mL, respectively. The displayed XIC in Figure 6A shows the seven analytes positively identified in the postmortem sample. The results summary table shown in Figure 6B lists the analyte peak name, retention time, area and calculated concentration of each of the positively identified analytes. It also shows ion ratio, precursor mass, and the accuracy and concentration acceptance criteria.

A few observations can be drawn from the results highlighted in the summary table. First, detection of the potent NSO isotonitazene is supported by the presence of one of its metabolites, 5-aminoisotonitazene, at low (<10 pg/mL) concentration. Second, detection of fentanyl is confirmed by the presence of its metabolites (*beta*-hydroxy-fentanyl, norfentanyl) as well as synthesis precursors (e.g. 4-ANPP) and by-products (e.g. acetyl fentanyl). This data might suggest that the drug ingested by the subject originated from the illicit market. Although the presence of fentanyl might have been a contributing factor to the accidental overdose, the presence of the potent NSO isotonitazene could support the case of combined opioid drug toxicity leading to death.



**B**

| Analyte Peak Name       | Retention Time | Area       | Calculated Concentration | Accuracy | Ion Ratio | Precursor Mass | Accuracy Acceptance | Concentration Acceptance |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Isotonitazene_1         | 6.36           | 8.972e+06  | 1.417e+03                | N/A      | 0.1134    | 411.239        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| Isotonitazene_2         | 6.36           | 1.018e+06  | 1.440e+03                | N/A      | 0.1134    | 411.239        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| 5-Aminoisotonitazene_1  | 4.12           | 2.242e+04  | 7.596e+00                | N/A      | 0.1454    | 411.239        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| 5-Aminoisotonitazene_2  | 4.12           | 2.326 e+04 | 7.687e+00                | N/A      | 0.1454    | 381.265        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| Beta-Hydroxy Fentanyl_1 | 5.30           | 9.492e+06  | 6.077e+02                | N/A      | 1.3138    | 353.300        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| Beta-Hydroxy Fentanyl_2 | 5.30           | 1.247e+07  | 5.029e+02                | N/A      | 1.3138    | 353.300        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| 4-ANPP_1                | 5.57           | 5.581e+07  | 1.484e+03                | N/A      | 0.7001    | 281.200        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| 4-ANPP_2                | 5.57           | 3.907e+07  | 1.467e+03                | N/A      | 0.7001    | 281.200        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| Acetyl Fentanyl_1       | 5.16           | 7.986e+06  | 1.548e+02                | N/A      | 0.5167    | 323.200        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| Acetyl Fentanyl_2       | 5.16           | 4.126e+06  | 1.391e+02                | N/A      | 0.5167    | 323.200        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| Fentanyl_1              | 5.67           | 4.699e+08  | 1.126e+06                | N/A      | 0.3129    | 337.200        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| Fentanyl_2              | 5.67           | 4.350e+08  | 1.063e+06                | N/A      | 0.3129    | 337.200        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| Norfentanyl_1           | 4.15           | 1.747e+07  | 9.950e+03                | N/A      | 0.1201    | 233.200        | Pass                | Pass                     |
| Norfentanyl_2           | 4.15           | 2.098e+06  | 9.931e+03                | N/A      | 0.1201    | 233.200        | Pass                | Pass                     |

Figure 6. Accurate and sensitive quantification of low levels of potent NSO in postmortem case sample #6. A) Extracted ion chromatogram (XIC) and B) results summary table showing the analytical and quantitative details of the successful detection of seven potent NSO in a postmortem sample at low concentration. The robustness and sensitivity performance of the SCIEX 7500 System enabled accurate quantification of these analytes at trace p 5 levels.

The potency of some non-fentanyl analog NSO showcased in this workflow is a true testament of their ability to cause fatal outcomes. Figure 1 shows the detection of four analytes that were detected in postmortem case sample #1 which was analyzed using the described method. The XIC shows the successful detection of fentanyl at 250.17 pg/mL and two NSOs: isotonitazene (317.80 pg/mL) and its metabolite 5-aminoisotonitazene (44.79 pg/mL), and bromadol, (9644.67 pg/mL). The presence of fentanyl alone at 250 pg/mL might not be sufficient to explain the overdose. However, the two potent non-fentanyl analog NSOs, isotonitazene and bromadol, can contribute to additive opioid effects leading to a combined drug overdose scenario.

The results from the analysis of the postmortem case samples demonstrated the robustness of the developed method and showed that the Scheduled MRM Algorithm in SCIEX OS Software 2.0 on the SCIEX 7500 System enabled sensitive detection and accurate quantification of trace levels of potent NSO. The information that can be interpreted from the results offers valuable insight into the causation of accidental death. As seen with the case samples presented, the sensitivity of the SCIEX 7500 System can support the necessary evidence in postmortem cases where combined intake of high potency drugs at low concentration is responsible for or contributes to an unintentional drug overdose.

## Conclusions

A robust and sensitive drug screening workflow for the analysis of 32 potent NSO was successfully developed using the SCIEX 7500 System. The combination of optimized LC conditions with the use of the Scheduled MRM Algorithm in SCIEX OS Software enabled robust and sensitive quantification and identification of isomeric species with a high level of precision and accuracy, even at trace level concentrations. The applicability of the developed workflow to accurately detect low concentrations of NSO in authentic forensic samples was further evaluated for the analysis of postmortem case samples from a subject suspected of accidental drug overdose. The results indicate the high quantification performance of the method and its ability to detect low levels of NSO, providing the necessary evidence for toxicologists and medical examiners to determine the cause of death. Overall, the remarkable quantification performance of the SCIEX 7500 System enabled accurate detection of potent NSO at concentrations that were not previously achievable, providing a means to monitor ultra-potent NSO in overdose scenarios. The adaptation of this robust method to postmortem case samples from a subject suspected of combined NSO intake, using the SCIEX 7500 System, offers a valuable insight into the causation of accidental overdoses.

## References

1. Enabling new levels of quantification - using the SCIEX Triple Quad™ 7500 LC-MS/MS System – QTRAP® Ready, powered by SCIEX OS Software. SCIEX technical note, RUO-MKT-02-11886-A.

**Table 1. Statistical results for the 32 NPS targeted in this workflow.** The table includes calibration range, linear correlation coefficient ( $R^2$  Value), LOD and LLOQ, as well as the accuracy and precision at the LLOQ for each of the two MRM transitions monitored for each of the targeted NSO.

| Compound                          | Calibration Range (pg/mL) | Linear Correlation ( $R^2$ ) | LOD (pg/mL) | LLOQ (pg/mL) | Accuracy at LLOQ (%) | Precision at LLOQ (%) |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Brorphine 1</i>                | 10-100000                 | 0.99760                      | 5           | 10           | 84.25                | 1.25                  |
| <i>Brorphine 2</i>                | 10-100000                 | 0.99889                      | 5           | 10           | 89.32                | 15.11                 |
| <i>Isotonitazene 1</i>            | 10-100000                 | 0.99881                      | 5           | 10           | 87.80                | 4.72                  |
| <i>Isotonitazene 2</i>            | 50-100000                 | 0.99936                      | 10          | 50           | 85.00                | 4.26                  |
| <i>5-Aminoisotonitazene 1</i>     | 10-100000                 | 0.99858                      | 5           | 10           | 100.57               | 0.83                  |
| <i>5-Aminoisotonitazene 2</i>     | 50-100000                 | 0.99937                      | 10          | 50           | 87.75                | 4.83                  |
| <i>Metonitazene 1</i>             | 50-100000                 | 0.99797                      | 10          | 50           | 82.48                | 2.74                  |
| <i>Metonitazene 2</i>             | 50-100000                 | 0.99718                      | 10          | 50           | 83.09                | 2.49                  |
| <i>Etonitazene 1</i>              | 10-100000                 | 0.99726                      | 5           | 10           | 88.35                | 12.31                 |
| <i>Etonitazene 2</i>              | 10-100000                 | 0.99758                      | 5           | 10           | 86.84                | 5.17                  |
| <i>AP-237 1</i>                   | 10-100000                 | 0.99752                      | 5           | 10           | 99.15                | 16.41                 |
| <i>AP-237 2</i>                   | 50-100000                 | 0.99741                      | 10          | 50           | 95.17                | 12.00                 |
| <i>2-methyl AP-237 1</i>          | 50-100000                 | 0.99608                      | 10          | 50           | 94.51                | 17.39                 |
| <i>2-methyl AP-237 2</i>          | 50-100000                 | 0.99096                      | 10          | 50           | 81.50                | 10.97                 |
| <i>2F-Viminol 1</i>               | 10-100000                 | 0.0.99812                    | 5           | 10           | 104.64               | 4.33                  |
| <i>2F-Viminol 2</i>               | 10-100000                 | 0.99779                      | 5           | 10           | 98.53                | 4.35                  |
| <i>Butorphanol 1</i>              | 10-100000                 | 0.99413                      | 5           | 10           | 103.86               | 14.11                 |
| <i>Butorphanol 2</i>              | 10-100000                 | 0.99178                      | 5           | 10           | 107.15               | 9.02                  |
| <i>N-Desethyl Isotonitazene 1</i> | 50-100000                 | 0.99750                      | 10          | 50           | 80.50                | 0.42                  |
| <i>N-Desethyl Isotonitazene 2</i> | 50-100000                 | 0.99828                      | 10          | 50           | 96.91                | 7.61                  |
| <i>4'-Hydroxy Nitazene 1</i>      | 10-100000                 | 0.99807                      | 5           | 10           | 98.80                | 14.71                 |
| <i>4'-Hydroxy Nitazene 2</i>      | 10-100000                 | 0.99904                      | 5           | 10           | 93.47                | 17.80                 |
| <i>Flunitazene 1</i>              | 50-100000                 | 0.99850                      | 10          | 50           | 87.94                | 14.34                 |
| <i>Flunitazene 2</i>              | 50-100000                 | 0.99857                      | 10          | 50           | 98.22                | 0.51                  |
| <i>Isotodesnitazene 1</i>         | 10-100000                 | 0.99789                      | 5           | 10           | 81.64                | 6.99                  |
| <i>Isotodesnitazene 2</i>         | 50-100000                 | 0.99857                      | 10          | 50           | 83.65                | 3.64                  |
| <i>Etodesnitazene 1</i>           | 10-100000                 | 0.99896                      | 5           | 10           | 84.74                | 1.47                  |
| <i>Etodesnitazene 2</i>           | 50-100000                 | 0.99889                      | 10          | 50           | 85.79                | 1.76                  |
| <i>Metodesnitazene 1</i>          | 10-100000                 | 0.99879                      | 5           | 10           | 87.73                | 13.55                 |
| <i>Metodesnitazene 2</i>          | 10-100000                 | 0.99882                      | 5           | 10           | 96.67                | 10.94                 |
| <i>Beta-Hydroxy Fentanyl 1</i>    | 50-100000                 | 0.99948                      | 10          | 50           | 88.20                | 4.34                  |
| <i>Beta-Hydroxy Fentanyl 2</i>    | 100-100000                | 0.98615                      | 50          | 100          | 88.44                | 7.60                  |
| <i>2-Furanyl Fentanyl 1</i>       | 10-100000                 | 0.99888                      | 5           | 10           | 88.78                | 1.84                  |
| <i>2-Furanyl Fentanyl 2</i>       | 10-100000                 | 0.99919                      | 5           | 10           | 97.75                | 2.25                  |

| Compound                 | Calibration Range (pg/mL) | Linear Correlation (R <sup>2</sup> ) | LOD (pg/mL) | LLOQ (pg/mL) | Accuracy at LLOQ (%) | Precision at LLOQ (%) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 4-ANPP 1                 | 10-100000                 | 0.99911                              | 5           | 10           | 88.22                | 5.83                  |
| 4-ANPP 2                 | 10-100000                 | 0.99945                              | 5           | 10           | 110.72               | 7.71                  |
| Acetyl Fentanyl 1        | 10-100000                 | 0.99884                              | 5           | 10           | 87.10                | 1.96                  |
| Acetyl Fentanyl 2        | 10-100000                 | 0.99944                              | 5           | 10           | 104.51               | 4.96                  |
| Acrylfentanyl 1          | 10-100000                 | 0.99925                              | 5           | 10           | 89.53                | 10.24                 |
| Acrylfentanyl 2          | 10-100000                 | 0.99971                              | 5           | 10           | 88.55                | 16.63                 |
| Benzyl Fentanyl 1        | 10-100000                 | 0.99943                              | 5           | 10           | 108.57               | 8.84                  |
| Benzyl Fentanyl 2        | 50-1000000                | 0.99876                              | 10          | 50           | 94.42                | 1.60                  |
| Butyryl Fentanyl 1       | 10-100000                 | 0.99909                              | 5           | 10           | 85.64                | 0.53                  |
| Butyryl Fentanyl 2       | 10-100000                 | 0.99934                              | 5           | 10           | 98.81                | 11.39                 |
| Carfentanil 1            | 10-100000                 | 0.99608                              | 5           | 10           | 94.51                | 17.39                 |
| Carfentanil 2            | 10-100000                 | 0.99811                              | 5           | 10           | 82.24                | 0.87                  |
| Cis-3-Methylfentanyl 1   | 10-100000                 | 0.99689                              | 5           | 10           | 99.76                | 14.18                 |
| Cis-3-Methylfentanyl 2   | 10-100000                 | 0.99920                              | 5           | 10           | 83.95                | 2.36                  |
| Cyclopropyl Fentanyl 1   | 10-100000                 | 0.99895                              | 5           | 10           | 109.59               | 7.98                  |
| Cyclopropyl Fentanyl 2   | 10-100000                 | 0.99956                              | 5           | 10           | 91.83                | 9.10                  |
| Fentanyl 1               | 10-100000                 | 0.99378                              | 10          | 50           | 85.68                | 5.94                  |
| Fentanyl 2               | 10-100000                 | 0.99138                              | 10          | 50           | 95.66                | 5.98                  |
| Iso-Butyryl Fentanyl 1   | 10-100000                 | 0.99846                              | 5           | 10           | 80.66                | 5.47                  |
| Iso-Butyryl Fentanyl 2   | 10-100000                 | 0.99909                              | 5           | 10           | 105.30               | 7.05                  |
| Methoxyacetyl Fentanyl 1 | 10-100000                 | 0.99944                              | 5           | 10           | 86.35                | 6.59                  |
| Methoxyacetyl Fentanyl 2 | 10-100000                 | 0.99945                              | 5           | 10           | 108.48               | 3.87                  |
| N-Methyl Norfentanyl 1   | 10-100000                 | 0.99932                              | 5           | 10           | 104.74               | 3.51                  |
| N-Methyl Norfentanyl 2   | 10-100000                 | 0.99944                              | 5           | 10           | 103.20               | 2.15                  |
| Norcarfentanil 1         | 50-100000                 | 0.99675                              | 10          | 50           | 115.85               | 12.50                 |
| Norcarfentanil 2         | 50-100000                 | 0.99825                              | 10          | 50           | 108.52               | 6.85                  |
| Norfentanyl 1            | 10-100000                 | 0.99808                              | 5           | 10           | 116.64               | 2.98                  |
| Norfentanyl 2            | 50-100000                 | 0.99852                              | 10          | 50           | 105.62               | 12.85                 |
| Trans-3-Methylfentanyl 1 | 10-100000                 | 0.99762                              | 5           | 10           | 107.72               | 4.64                  |
| Trans-3-Methylfentanyl 2 | 50-100000                 | 0.99546                              | 10          | 50           | 83.32                | 5.88                  |

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**Headquarters**  
 500 Old Connecticut Path | Framingham, MA 01701 USA  
 Phone 508-383-7700  
[sciex.com](https://sciex.com)

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