



New drug test via pericardial fluid

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GRANADA, Spain, June 22 The University of Granada has developed a new technique to obtain drug test information using the pericardial fluid -- fluid surrounding the heart.

Antonio Hernandez Jerez determined that the pericardial fluid is an alternative to a drug test using blood for forensic purposes.

One of the advantages highlighted by study is that the test is easier than a blood test because pericardial fluid takes longer to decompose after death than blood, which makes it possible to determine if drugs had been present at the time of death.

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Pericardial fluid is plasma ultrafiltered from the serous vessel surrounding the heart, a watertight compartment separated from blood, according to Jerez.

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