

EXCRETION OF CHLOROQUINE IN
URINE OF HEALTH VOLUNTEERS

R.L. Jayakody *, K. Weerasuriya *,
M.L.D. Mahindaratne ** and L.M.V. Tillekeratne **

* Dept. of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine,
University of Colombo,

** Faculty of Science, University of Colombo.

A simple method for detection of chloroquine (CQ) in human body fluids has many applications in the field. The Saker Soloman's test for detection of CQ and its metabolite (CQM) was used to assess the excretion pattern of CQ and CQM in urine. Six healthy males (age range: 32-50 years) were used in the study. None of these subjects had taken CQ previously. After preserving urine samples, each subject was administered 300 mg Chloroquine (base) orally. This dose was selected as it is the dose used in the prophylaxis of malaria. Urine was tested daily by the Saker Solomans method. This test showed that all six subjects were positive for CQ and CQM in urine upto day 14 (day CQ was administered was taken as day 0). The range over which the rest was positive was from 14 - 24 days. These results indicate that the Saker Solomans test is sensitive in detecting CQ and CQM in urine of adult males for upto 14 days after a 300 mg oral dose of CQ. As the reagents used in this test are stable and the equipment used being easily available it can be used in field studies.