

VALIDATED RP HPLC METHOD DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ESTIMATION OF LOSARTAN POTASSIUM IN MARKETED FORMULATION

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ABSTRACT

A simple, reliable, rapid, precise, sensitive and validated RP-HPLC method has been developed to determine Losartan in pharmaceutical dosage form. Chromatographic separation achieved isocratically Thermo C₁₈ column (4.6 x 250mm, 5μ particle size) as the stationary phase with a flow rate of 1.0 ml/min and using a UV detector to monitor the eluate at 286 nm. The mobile phase consisted of Methanol: Acetonitrile (10:90v/v) enabled separation of the drug. Parameters such as linearity, precision, accuracy, recovery, specificity and robustness are studied as reported in the ICH guidelines. The retention times for Losartan was found to be 3.305±0.5 min. Linearity for Losartan was in the range of 5-25μg/ml. The mean recoveries obtained for Losartan was 100.22% and RSD was less than 2. The correlation coefficients for all components are close to 1. Developed method was found to be accurate, precise, selective and rapid for estimation of Losartan in pharmaceutical dosage form.

Keywords: Losartan, RP-HPLC, Validation.

INTRODUCTION

Losartan potassium is chemically 2-butyl-4-chloro-1-[p-(o-1H-tetrazol-5-yl-phenyl)benzyl]-imidazole-5-methanol monopotassium salt (Fig. 1) ^{1,2}. It is an angiotensin II receptor blocker and chemically is used as an antihypertensive agent ³. Losartan has been demonstrated to be superior to previous peptide receptor antagonists and angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors because of its enhanced specificity, selectivity, and tolerability ⁴. Several analytical methods have been applied to the analysis of Losartan potassium in pharmaceutical products that make use of high performance thin layer chromatography (HPTLC) ^{5,6}, capillary electrophoresis (CE), capillary electrochromatography (CEC) [7], and spectrophotometry ⁸⁻¹⁰. The literature reports many analytical methods for the quantitation of Losartan in tablets using HPLC ¹¹⁻¹⁵.

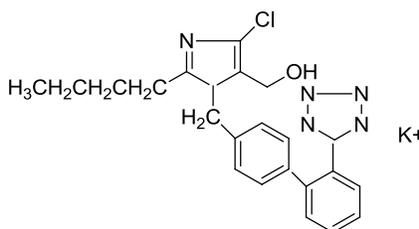


Fig. 1: Chemical structures of Losartan Potassium

EXPERIMENTAL

Instrumentation

A high performance liquid chromatographic system from Waters comprising of manual injector, waters 715 pump for constant flow and constant pressure delivery and U.V. vis. Detector connected to software data Ace for controlling the instrumentation as well as processing the data generated was used.

Reagents and chemicals

Losartan potassium was obtained as pure samples from Micro labs Ltd. Bangalore, India. Methanol and acetonitrile were of HPLC grade supplied by Merck Ltd., India. Triple distilled water was generated in house. Tablet, Cozaar 50 mg was purchased from local market.

Chromatographic condition

The isocratic mobile phase consisted of methanol–acetonitrile 10:90 v/v, flowing through the column at a constant flow rate of 1 ml/min. A Thermo (C- 18) Column (5 µm, 250mm x 4.60mm) was used as the stationary phase. Considering the chromatographic parameter, sensitivity and selectivity of method for losartan, 286 nm was selected as the detection wavelength for UV.vis detector.

Standard preparation

Standard stock solution: Standard stock solutions of 1000 µg/ml of losartan was prepared in mixture of methanol: acetonitrile (50:50 % v/v) respectively.

Working standard solution: Working standard solutions were prepared by taking dilutions ranging from 5-25 µg/ml for losartan.

Sample preparation

Twenty tablets of Cozaar containing losartan 50mg was weighed and crushed to fine powder. Powder equivalent to 50 mg of losartan was weighed and dissolved in 100 ml of diluent, sonicated for 10 min and filtered through whatmann filter paper No. 42, finally different concentrations of tablet sample were prepared by serial dilution technique.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chromatography

Initially reverse phase LC separation was tried to develop using methanol and water (80:20) as mobile phase, in which losartan gave tailing of 2.4 and the resolution was also poor. The organic content of

mobile phase was also investigated to optimize the separation of losartan. To improve the tailing factor, the pH of mobile phase becomes important factor. At pH 6.4 the signal to noise ratio for losartan is less and RT was also 12.5 min. Thereafter, methanol– acetonitrile in the ratio of 10:90 v/v was selected to improve resolution and the tailing for losartan was reduced considerably and brought close to 1. To analyze losartan various wavelengths from 230nm to 260nm were tried for detection. Therefore 286 nm was found to be suitable. The peak shapes of losartan was symmetrical and the asymmetry factor was lesser than 2.0. [Fig.2].

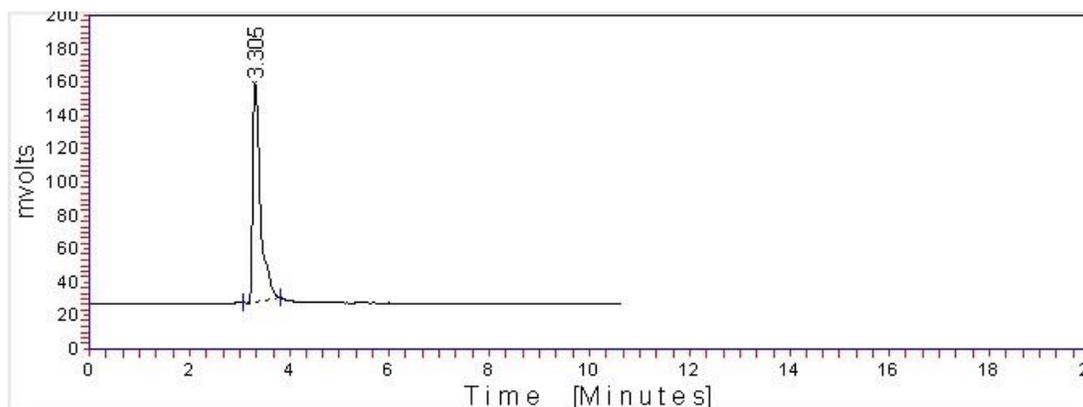


Fig. 2: Representative chromatogram of Losartan Potassium

System suitability

System suitability parameters such as number of theoretical plates, HETP and peak tailing were determined. The results obtained are shown in Table-1. The number of theoretical plates for losartan 3176.

Table 1: Result of system suitability

Serial No.	Parameters	Losartan
1	No. of Theoretical plates	3176
2	HETP	0.079
3	Tailing factor	1.8

Linearity

Losartan showed a linearity of response between 5-25 µg/ml. The linearity was represented by a linear regression equation as follows.

$$Y (\text{Losartan}) = 86.27 \text{ conc.} + 19.63 \text{ (} r^2 = 0.999 \text{)}$$

Accuracy

Recovery studies were performed to validate the accuracy of developed method by adding a definite concentration of standard drug in to preanalyzed sample solution. These results are summarized in Table-2.

Table 2: Results of recovery experiments

S.NO.	Initial Amount (mg) [A]	Addition of known quantity (mg) [B]	A+ B	% Recovery	Average Recovery n=3
1				100.05	
2	10	8	18	99.56	99.68
3				99.45	
4				99.98	
5	10	10	20	101.25	100.22
6				99.45	
7				100.10	
8	10	12	22	99.98	99.91
9				99.65	

Precision:

Repeatability: Five dilutions in three replicates were analyzed in same day for repeatability and results were found within acceptable limits (RSD < 2) as shown in Table-3.

Intermediate precision: Five dilutions in three replicates were analyzed on two different days and by two analysts for day to day and analyst to analyst variation. All Results were fall within acceptable limits (RSD < 2) as shown in Table-3.

Table 3: Results of precision

Serial No.	Validation Parameter	% Mean*	S.D.	% R.S.D.
1	Repeatability	100.1	0.51	0.50
2	Intermediate precision Day to Day	98.33	0.398	0.405
3	Intermediate precision Analyst to Analyst	99.96	0.110	0.158

* Mean of fifteen determinations (3 replicates at 5 concentration level)

Robustness

As per ICH norms, small, but deliberate variations, by altering the pH or concentration of the mobile phase were made to check the method's capacity to remain unaffected. The change was made in the ratio of mobile phase, instead of Methanol: acetonitrile (10:90v/v), Methanol: Methanol: acetonitrile (15:85v/v), was used as a Mobile Phase. Results of analysis were summarized in Table-4.

Table 4 : Results of robustness

Serial No.	Validation Parameter	% Mean*	S.D.	% R.S.D.
1	Robustness	99.8	0.26	0.26

* Mean of six determinations

Stability of sample solution

The sample solution injected after 12 hr did not show any appreciable change.

Tablet analysis

Content of losartan found in the tablets by the proposed method are shown in Table-5. The low values of R.S.D. indicate that the method is precise and accurate.

Table 5: Results of the HPLC analysis for tablets

Serial No.	Parameter	Cozaar
1	% Mean*	99.09
2	S.D.	0.84
3	% R.S.D.	0.85

* Mean of fifteen determinations (3 replicates at 5 concentration level)

CONCLUSION

RP-HPLC method was developed and validated for estimation of losartan in tablet dosage form. Proposed method is fast, accurate, precise and sensitive hence it can be employed for routine estimation and quality control of tablets containing these drug in industries.

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