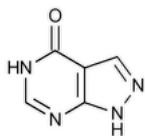


Status: Currently Official on 17-Feb-2025  
 Official Date: Official as of 01-May-2020  
 Document Type: USP Monographs  
 DocId: GUID-56E20296-05C3-48CB-8FA6-04ADA9B50953\_3\_en-US  
 DOI: [https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF\\_M1430\\_03\\_01](https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M1430_03_01)  
 DOI Ref: oi311

© 2025 USPC  
 Do not distribute

# Allopurinol



$C_5H_4N_4O$  136.11  
 4H-Pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-one, 1,5-dihydro-;  
 1,5-Dihydro-4H-pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-one;  
 1H-Pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidin-4-ol CAS RN®: 315-30-0; UNII: 63CZ7GJN5I.

## DEFINITION

Allopurinol contains NLT 98.0% and NMT 102.0% of allopurinol ( $C_5H_4N_4O$ ), calculated on the dried basis.

## IDENTIFICATION

**Change to read:**

- ▲ [SPECTROSCOPIC IDENTIFICATION TESTS \(197\), Infrared Spectroscopy: 197K](#) ▲ (CN 1-MAY-2020)

## ASSAY

### PROCEDURE

[NOTE—Store and inject the *System suitability solution*, *Standard solution*, and *Sample solution* at 8°, using a cooled autosampler.]

**Mobile phase:** 1.25-g/L solution of monobasic potassium phosphate in water, filtered and degassed

**System suitability solution:** 0.5 µg/mL each of [USP Allopurinol RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound B RS](#), and [USP Allopurinol Related Compound C RS](#), prepared as follows. Transfer weighed quantities of [USP Allopurinol RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound B RS](#), and [USP Allopurinol Related Compound C RS](#) to three separate suitable volumetric flasks, dissolve in a small volume of 0.1 N sodium hydroxide, and immediately dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume to obtain solutions containing 0.05 mg/mL each. Transfer 1.0 mL of each of these three solutions to a 100-mL volumetric flask and dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume.

**Standard stock solution:** 0.5 mg/mL of [USP Allopurinol RS](#), prepared as follows. Transfer a weighed quantity of [USP Allopurinol RS](#) to a suitable volumetric flask, dissolve in a small volume of 0.1 N sodium hydroxide, and immediately dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume.

**Standard solution:** 0.08 mg/mL of [USP Allopurinol RS](#) in *Mobile phase* from the *Standard stock solution*

**Sample stock solution:** 0.5 mg/mL of Allopurinol, prepared as follows. Transfer 50 mg of Allopurinol to a 100-mL volumetric flask, dissolve in 5.0 mL of 0.1 N sodium hydroxide, and immediately dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume.

**Sample solution:** 0.08 mg/mL of Allopurinol in *Mobile phase* from the *Sample stock solution*

### Chromatographic system

(See [Chromatography \(621\), System Suitability](#).)

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 230 nm

**Column:** 4.6-mm × 25-cm; packing L1

**Flow rate:** 1.8 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 20 µL

### System suitability

**Samples:** *System suitability solution* and *Standard solution*

[NOTE—The relative retention times for allopurinol related compound B, allopurinol related compound C, and allopurinol are about 0.7, 0.8, and 1.0, respectively.]

### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 1.1 between allopurinol related compound B and allopurinol related compound C; NLT 6.0 between allopurinol related compound C and allopurinol, *System suitability solution*

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 2.0% for replicate injections, *Standard solution*

### Analysis

**Samples:** *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of allopurinol ( $C_5H_4N_4O$ ) in the portion of Allopurinol taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times 100$$

$r_U$  = peak response from the *Sample solution*

$r_S$  = peak response from the *Standard solution*

$C_S$  = concentration of [USP Allopurinol RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

$C_U$  = concentration of Allopurinol in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

**Acceptance criteria:** 98.0%–102.0% on the dried basis

## IMPURITIES

### • ORGANIC IMPURITIES

[NOTE—Store and inject the *Standard solution* and the *Sample solution* at 8°, using a cooled autosampler.]

**Solution A:** 1.25-g/L solution of monobasic potassium phosphate in water, filtered and degassed

**Solution B:** Methanol

**Mobile phase:** See [Table 1](#).

**Table 1**

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	90	10
30	70	30
35	70	30
36	90	10
46	90	10

**Diluent:** *Solution A* and *Solution B* (90:10)

**Standard stock solution:** 0.05 mg/mL each of [USP Allopurinol RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound A RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound B RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound C RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound D RS](#), and [USP Allopurinol Related Compound E RS](#), prepared as follows. Transfer 5 mg each of [USP Allopurinol RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound A RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound B RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound C RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound D RS](#), and [USP Allopurinol Related Compound E RS](#) to a 100-mL volumetric flask. Add 2.0 mL of 0.1 N sodium hydroxide, and promptly sonicate with swirling for NMT 1 min to dissolve. Add 80 mL of *Diluent*, and sonicate for an additional 5 min. Dilute with *Diluent* to volume. [NOTE—This solution is stable for 48 h when stored at 8°.]

**Standard solution:** 0.5 µg/mL each of [USP Allopurinol RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound A RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound B RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound C RS](#), [USP Allopurinol Related Compound D RS](#), and [USP Allopurinol Related Compound E RS](#) in *Diluent* from the *Standard stock solution*

**Sample solution:** 0.25 mg/mL of Allopurinol, prepared as follows. Transfer 25 mg of Allopurinol to a 100-mL volumetric flask. Add 5.0 mL of 0.1 N sodium hydroxide to dissolve, promptly sonicate with swirling for NMT 1 min, add 80 mL of *Diluent*, and sonicate for an additional 5 min. Dilute with *Diluent* to volume.

### Chromatographic system

(See [Chromatography \(621\)](#), [System Suitability](#).)

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 220 nm

**Column:** 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 5-µm packing L1

**Column temperature:** 30°

**Flow rate:** 1.0 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 40 µL

### System suitability

**Sample:** *Standard solution*

[NOTE—See [Table 2](#) for relative retention times.]

### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 0.8 between allopurinol related compound C and allopurinol related compound B

**Tailing factor:** NMT 1.5 for the allopurinol peak

### Analysis

**Samples:** *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentages of allopurinol related compounds A, B, C, D, and E in the portion of Allopurinol taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times 100$$

$r_U$  = peak response of each individual impurity from the *Sample solution*

$r_S$  = peak response of each individual impurity from the *Standard solution*

$C_S$  = concentration of each individual impurity in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

$C_U$  = concentration of Allopurinol in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

Calculate the percentage of any other individual impurity in the portion of Allopurinol taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times 100$$

$r_U$  = peak response of each impurity from the *Sample solution*

$r_S$  = peak response of allopurinol from the *Standard solution*

$C_S$  = concentration of [USP Allopurinol RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

$C_U$  = concentration of Allopurinol in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

**Acceptance criteria:** See [Table 2](#).

**Table 2**

Name	Relative Retention Time	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Allopurinol related compound A	0.62	0.2
Allopurinol related compound C	0.79	0.2
Allopurinol related compound B	0.81	0.2
Allopurinol	1.0	—
Allopurinol related compound D	4.4	0.2
Allopurinol related compound E	4.8	0.2
Ethyl-(E/Z)-3-(2-carbethoxy-2-cyanoethenyl)amino-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxylate	6.5	0.2
Unspecified impurity	—	0.1
Total impurities	—	1.0

• **LIMIT OF HYDRAZINE**

[NOTE—Under the following conditions, any hydrazine present in the sample will react with benzaldehyde to form benzalazine.]

**Mobile phase:** Hexane and isopropyl alcohol (95:5)

**2 N sodium hydroxide solution:** Dissolve 8.5 g of sodium hydroxide in water, and dilute with the same solvent to 100 mL. Alternatively, a commercially available 2 N sodium hydroxide solution can be used.

**Diluent:** Methanol and 2 N sodium hydroxide solution (1:1)

**Benzaldehyde solution:** 40 mg/mL of benzaldehyde in *Diluent*. [NOTE—Prepare immediately before use.]

**Hydrazine solution:** 2.0 µg/mL of hydrazine sulfate in *Diluent*. Use sonication if necessary.

**Standard solution:** Transfer 5.0 mL of *Hydrazine solution* to a suitable flask and add 4 mL of *Benzaldehyde solution*. Mix and allow to stand for 2.5 h at room temperature. Add 5.0 mL of hexane, and shake for 1 min. Allow the layers to separate, and use the upper (hexane) layer.

**Allopurinol solution:** Dissolve 250 mg of Allopurinol in 5 mL of *Diluent*.

**Sample solution:** Transfer the *Allopurinol solution* to a suitable flask, and add 4 mL of *Benzaldehyde solution*. Mix, and allow to stand for 2.5 h at room temperature. Add 5.0 mL of hexane, and shake for 1 min. Allow the layers to separate, and use the upper (hexane) layer.

**Blank solution:** Mix 5.0 mL of *Diluent* and 4 mL of *Benzaldehyde solution*, and allow to stand for 2.5 h at room temperature. Add 5.0 mL of hexane, and shake for 1 min. Allow the layers to separate, and use the upper (hexane) layer.

#### Chromatographic system

(See [Chromatography \(621\), System Suitability](#).)

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 310 nm

**Column:** 4.0-mm × 25-cm; 5-μm packing L10

**Column temperature:** 30°

**Flow rate:** 1.5 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 20 μL

#### System suitability

**Sample:** *Standard solution*

[NOTE—The relative retention times for benzalazine and benzaldehyde are about 0.8 and 1.0, respectively.]

#### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 2.0 between benzalazine and benzaldehyde

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 15.0% for the benzalazine peak

#### Analysis

**Samples:** *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the amount, in ppm, of hydrazine in the portion of Allopurinol taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times (M_{r1}/M_{r2}) \times F$$

$r_U$  = peak response of benzalazine from the *Sample solution*

$r_S$  = peak response of benzalazine from the *Standard solution*

$C_S$  = concentration of hydrazine sulfate in the *Hydrazine solution* (μg/mL)

$C_U$  = concentration of Allopurinol in the *Allopurinol solution* (mg/mL)

$M_{r1}$  = molecular weight of hydrazine, 32.05

$M_{r2}$  = molecular weight of hydrazine sulfate, 130.12

$F$  = unit conversion factor (from μg/mg to ppm), 1000

**Acceptance criteria:** NMT 10 ppm of hydrazine

#### SPECIFIC TESTS

##### • [Loss on Drying \(731\)](#)

**Analysis:** Dry under vacuum at 105° for 5 h.

**Acceptance criteria:** NMT 0.5%

#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

• **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in well-closed containers. Store at room temperature.

**Change to read:**

##### • [USP REFERENCE STANDARDS \(11\)](#)

[USP Allopurinol RS](#)

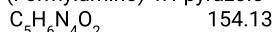
[USP Allopurinol Related Compound A RS](#)

3-Amino-4-carboxamidopyrazole hemisulfate.



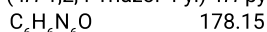
[USP Allopurinol Related Compound B RS](#)

5-(Formylamino)-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxamide.



[USP Allopurinol Related Compound C RS](#)

5-(4H-1,2,4-Triazol-4-yl)-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxamide.



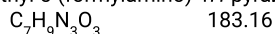
[USP Allopurinol Related Compound D RS](#)

Ethyl 5-amino-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxylate.



[USP Allopurinol Related Compound E RS](#)

Ethyl 5-(formylamino)-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxylate.



Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
ALLOPURINOL	<a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>	SM32020 Small Molecules 3
REFERENCE STANDARD SUPPORT	RS Technical Services <a href="mailto:RSTECH@usp.org">RSTECH@usp.org</a>	SM32020 Small Molecules 3

Chromatographic Database Information: [Chromatographic Database](#)

Most Recently Appeared In:

Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. PF 34(1)

Current DocID: GUID-56E20296-05C3-48CB-8FA6-04ADA9B50953\_3\_en-US

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF\\_M1430\\_03\\_01](https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M1430_03_01)

DOI ref: [oi311](#)

OFFICIAL