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# Benzocaine, Butamben, and Tetracaine Hydrochloride Topical Aerosol

### DEFINITION

Benzocaine, Butamben, and Tetracaine Hydrochloride Topical Aerosol is Benzocaine, Butamben, and Tetracaine Hydrochloride Topical Solution packaged in a pressurized container with a suitable inert propellant. It contains NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of benzocaine ( $C_9H_{11}NO_2$ ), butamben ( $C_{11}H_{15}NO_2$ ), and tetracaine hydrochloride ( $C_{15}H_{24}N_2O_2 \cdot HCl$ ).

### IDENTIFICATION

- A.** The retention times of the major peaks of the *Sample solution* correspond to those of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the Assay.
- B.** The UV spectrum of the major peaks of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the Assay.

### ASSAY

• **PROCEDURE**

**Solution A:** 0.1% [formic acid](#) in [water](#)  
**Solution B:** 0.1% [formic acid](#) in acetonitrile  
**Mobile phase:** See [Table 1](#).

Table 1

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	91	9
2.5	50	50
3.9	50	50
4	91	9
5	91	9

**Diluent:** [Acetonitrile](#) and [water](#) (10:90)  
**Standard stock solution A:** 1750 µg/mL of [USP Benzocaine RS](#) prepared as follows. Transfer a suitable amount of [USP Benzocaine RS](#) to a suitable volumetric flask and dissolve in 10% of the total volume of [acetonitrile](#). Dilute with [water](#) to volume.  
**Standard stock solution B:** 250 µg/mL each of [USP Butamben RS](#) and [USP Tetracaine Hydrochloride RS](#) prepared as follows. Transfer a suitable amount of [USP Butamben RS](#) and [USP Tetracaine Hydrochloride RS](#) to a suitable volumetric flask and dissolve in 10% of the total volume of [acetonitrile](#). Dilute with [water](#) to volume.  
**Standard solution:** 175 µg/mL of [USP Benzocaine RS](#) from *Standard stock solution A* and 25 µg/mL each of [USP Butamben RS](#) and [USP Tetracaine Hydrochloride RS](#) from *Standard stock solution B* diluted in *Diluent*  
**Sample solution:** Nominally 175 µg/mL of benzocaine and 25 µg/mL each of butamben and tetracaine hydrochloride, prepared as follows. Accurately weigh about 125 mg of the evaporated sample into a 100-mL volumetric flask. Dissolve in 50 mL of [methanol](#) and dilute with *Diluent* to volume.

**Chromatographic system**  
(See [Chromatography \(621\), System Suitability](#).)  
**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 300 nm. For *Identification B*, use a diode array detector in the range of 200–400 nm.  
**Column:** 2.1-mm × 5-cm; 1.7-µm packing [L1](#)  
**Flow rate:** 0.6 mL/min  
**Injection volume:** 1 µL

**System suitability**  
**Sample:** *Standard solution*  
[NOTE—The relative retention times for benzocaine, tetracaine, and butamben are about 0.71, 0.74, and 1.0, respectively.]  
**Suitability requirements**

**Resolution:** NLT 2 between benzocaine and tetracaine

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 2.0% for each of the three analyte peaks

#### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of benzocaine ( $C_9H_{11}NO_2$ ), butamben ( $C_{11}H_{15}NO_2$ ), and tetracaine hydrochloride ( $C_{15}H_{24}N_2O_2 \cdot HCl$ ) in the portion of Topical Aerosol taken:

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

$r_U$  = peak response of the corresponding analyte from the *Sample solution*

$r_S$  = peak response of the corresponding analyte from the *Standard solution*

$C_S$  = concentration of the corresponding Reference Standard in the *Standard solution* ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )

$C_U$  = nominal concentration of the corresponding analyte in the *Sample solution* ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )

**Acceptance criteria:** 90.0%–110.0%

#### PERFORMANCE TESTS

- **MINIMUM FILL (755):** Meets the requirements

#### IMPURITIES

##### • ORGANIC IMPURITIES

**Mobile phase, Diluent, and Chromatographic system:** Proceed as directed in the Assay.

**System suitability solution:** 10  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  each of [USP Benzocaine RS](#), [USP Tetracaine Hydrochloride RS](#), [USP Butamben RS](#), and [USP Ethyl 4-Nitrobenzoate RS](#) in *Diluent*

**Standard solution:** 3.4  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  each of [USP Benzocaine RS](#) and [USP Ethyl 4-Nitrobenzoate RS](#) and 1  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  of [USP Tetracaine Hydrochloride RS](#) in *Diluent*

**Sample solution:** Nominally 1.68 mg/mL of benzocaine, 0.24 mg/mL of butamben, and 0.24 mg/mL of tetracaine prepared as follows.

Accurately weigh about 600 mg of evaporated sample into a 50-mL volumetric flask, dissolve with 25 mL of [methanol](#), and dilute with *Diluent* to volume. [NOTE—Sonication for about 1 min may be necessary.]

##### System suitability

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

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

##### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 2 between butamben and ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate; NLT 2 between benzocaine and tetracaine, *System suitability solution*

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 5.0% for each of the analyte peaks, *Standard solution*

#### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of 4-aminobenzoic acid in the portion of Topical Aerosol taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times (1/F) \times 100$$

$r_U$  = peak response of 4-aminobenzoic acid from the *Sample solution*

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

$C_S$  = concentration of [USP Benzocaine RS](#) in the *Standard solution* ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )

$C_U$  = nominal concentration of benzocaine in the *Sample solution* ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )

$F$  = relative response factor (see [Table 2](#))

Calculate the percentage of ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate in the portion of Topical Aerosol taken:

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

$r_U$  = peak response of ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate from the *Sample solution*

$r_S$  = peak response of ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate from the *Standard solution*

$C_S$  = concentration of [USP Ethyl 4-Nitrobenzoate RS](#) in the *Standard solution* ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )

$C_U$  = nominal concentration of benzocaine in the *Sample solution* ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )

Calculate the percentage of tetracaine related compound B and any individual unspecified degradation product in the portion of Topical Aerosol taken:

Result = (r<sub>U</sub>/r<sub>S</sub>) × (C<sub>S</sub>/C<sub>U</sub>) × (1/F) × 100

- r<sub>U</sub> = peak response of tetracaine related compound B or any individual unspecified degradation product from the *Sample solution*
- r<sub>S</sub> = peak response of tetracaine from the *Standard solution*
- C<sub>S</sub> = concentration of [USP Tetracaine Hydrochloride RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (µg/mL)
- C<sub>U</sub> = nominal concentration of tetracaine hydrochloride in the *Sample solution* (µg/mL)
- F = relative response factor (see [Table 2](#))

**Acceptance criteria:** See [Table 2](#). Disregard any impurity peaks less than 0.05%.

Table 2

Name	Relative Retention Time	Relative Response Factor	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
4-Aminobenzoic acid	0.15	1.3	0.3
Benzocaine	0.70	—	—
Tetracaine	0.74	—	—
Tetracaine related compound B <sup>a</sup>	0.93	0.6	0.4
Butamben	1.0	—	—
Ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate	1.04	—	0.2
Any individual unspecified degradation product	—	1.0	0.4
Total degradation products	—	—	2.0

<sup>a</sup> 4-(Butylamino)benzoic acid.

SPECIFIC TESTS

- [TOPICAL AEROSOLS \(603\), Pressure Test](#): Meets the requirements
- [LEAK RATE \(604\)](#): Meets the requirements

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in pressurized containers, and avoid exposure to excessive heat.
- [USP REFERENCE STANDARDS \(11\)](#).

[USP Benzocaine RS](#)  
[USP Butamben RS](#)  
[USP Ethyl 4-Nitrobenzoate RS](#)  
Ethyl *p*-nitrobenzoate.  
C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 195.17  
[USP Tetracaine Hydrochloride RS](#)

**Auxiliary Information** - Please [check for your question in the FAQs](#) before contacting USP.

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
BENZOCAINE, BUTAMBEN, AND TETRACAINE HYDROCHLORIDE TOPICAL AEROSOL	<a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>	SM52020 Small Molecules 5
REFERENCE STANDARD SUPPORT	RS Technical Services <a href="mailto:RSTECH@usp.org">RSTECH@usp.org</a>	SM52020 Small Molecules 5

Chromatographic Database Information: [Chromatographic Database](#)

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