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Benzocaine Topical Solution

DEFINITION

Benzocaine Topical Solution is a solution of Benzocaine in a suitable solvent. It contains NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of benzocaine ($C_9H_{11}NO_2$). It contains a suitable antimicrobial agent.

IDENTIFICATION

- **A.** The UV spectrum of the major peak of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the *Assay*.
- **B.** The retention time of the major peak of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the *Assay*.

ASSAY

- **Procedure**

Solution A: 0.1% Trifluoroacetic acid, prepared by diluting 1.0 mL of trifluoroacetic acid with water to 1 L

Solution B: Acetonitrile

Mobile phase: See *Table 1*.

Table 1

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	90	10
34	50	50
35	90	10
38	90	10

Diluent: *Solution A* and *Solution B* (1:1)

System suitability solution: 1 µg/mL of USP Benzocaine RS and 2 µg/mL each of USP Aminobenzoic Acid RS and USP Ethyl 4-Nitrobenzoate RS in *Diluent*

Standard solution: 0.1 mg/mL of USP Benzocaine RS in *Diluent*

Sample solution: Nominally 0.1 mg/mL of benzocaine in *Diluent* prepared as follows. Transfer 10 mg of benzocaine from a portion of Topical Solution to a 100-mL volumetric flask, and dilute with *Diluent* to volume. Pass through a suitable filter of 0.45-µm pore size as needed, discarding the first 2–3 mL of filtrate.

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography ⟨621⟩, System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 280 nm. For *Identification* test *A*, use a diode array detector in the range of 200–400 nm.

Column: 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 5-µm packing L7

Flow rate: 1.5 mL/min

Injection volume: 20 µL

System suitability

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

[Note—The relative retention times for aminobenzoic acid, benzocaine, and ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate are 0.3, 1.0, and 2.1, respectively.]

Suitability requirements

Resolution: NLT 6 between aminobenzoic acid and benzocaine; and between benzocaine and ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate, *System suitability solution*

Tailing factor: NMT 1.5, *Standard solution*

Relative standard deviation: NMT 1.0%, *Standard solution*

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of benzocaine ($C_9H_{11}NO_2$) in the portion of Topical Solution taken:

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

r_U = peak response of benzocaine 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* (mg/mL)

C_U = nominal concentration of benzocaine in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

Acceptance criteria: 90.0%–110.0%

IMPURITIES

• **Organic Impurities**

Solution A: 0.1% Trifluoroacetic acid, prepared by diluting 1.0 mL of trifluoroacetic acid with water to 1 L

Solution B: Acetonitrile

Mobile phase: See *Table 2*.

Table 2

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	85	15
34	55	45
35	85	15
38	85	15

Diluent: *Solution A* and *Solution B* (1:1)

Standard solution: 1 µg/mL of USP Benzocaine RS and 2 µg/mL each USP Aminobenzoic Acid RS and USP Ethyl 4-Nitrobenzoate RS in *Diluent*

Sample solution: Nominally 1 mg/mL of benzocaine in *Diluent* prepared as follows. Transfer 50 mg of benzocaine from a portion of Topical Solution to a volumetric flask and dissolve with aid of sonication as needed, then dilute with *Diluent* to volume. Pass through a suitable filter of 0.45-µm pore size as needed, discarding the first 2–3 mL of filtrate.

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography ⟨621⟩, System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 280 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 5-µm packing L7

Flow rate: 1.5 mL/min

Injection volume: 20 µL

System suitability

Sample: *Standard solution*

[Note—See *Table 3* for relative retention times.]

Suitability requirements

Resolution: NLT 6 between aminobenzoic acid and benzocaine; and between benzocaine and ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate

Relative standard deviation: NMT 2.0% for each peak corresponding to benzocaine, aminobenzoic acid, and ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of aminobenzoic acid and ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate in the portion of Topical Solution taken:

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

r_U = peak response of aminobenzoic acid or ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response of aminobenzoic acid or ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Aminobenzoic Acid RS or USP Ethyl 4-Nitrobenzoate RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

C_U = nominal concentration of benzocaine in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

Calculate the percentage of any other individual unspecified impurity in the portion of Topical Solution taken:

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

r_U = peak response of any other individual unspecified impurity 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* (mg/mL)

C_U = nominal concentration of benzocaine in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

Acceptance criteria: See *Table 3*. Disregard peaks less than 0.05%.

Table 3

Name	Relative Retention Time	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Aminobenzoic acid	0.27	0.20
Benzocaine	1.0	—
Ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate	2.5	0.20
Any other individual unspecified impurity	—	0.10
Total impurities	—	1.0

SPECIFIC TESTS

• **Microbial Enumeration Tests ⟨61⟩** and **Tests for Specified Microorganisms ⟨62⟩:** It meets the requirements of the tests for absence of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

• **Packaging and Storage:** Preserve in tight containers, protected from light, and avoid prolonged exposure to temperatures exceeding 30°.

• **USP Reference Standards ⟨11⟩**

USP Aminobenzoic Acid RS

Benzoic acid, 4-amino.

$C_7H_7NO_2$ 137.14

USP Benzocaine RS

USP Ethyl 4-Nitrobenzoate RS

Benzoic acid, 4-nitro-, ethyl ester.

$C_9H_9NO_4$ 195.17

Auxiliary Information - Please check for your question in the FAQs before contacting USP.

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
BENZOCAINE TOPICAL SOLUTION	Documentary Standards Support	SM52020 Small Molecules 5

Chromatographic Database Information: Chromatographic Database

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