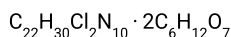
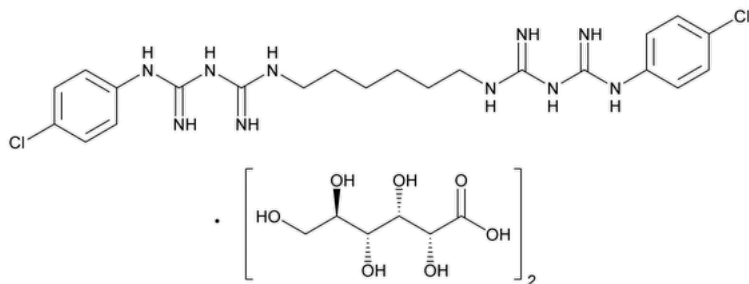


Status: Currently Official on 14-Feb-2025  
 Official Date: Official as of 01-May-2022  
 Document Type: USP Monographs  
 DocId: GUID-8DB32701-2059-41F1-A428-9705E1241D77\_3\_en-US  
 DOI: [https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF\\_M15620\\_03\\_01](https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M15620_03_01)  
 DOI Ref: e9xus

© 2025 USPC  
 Do not distribute

## Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution

**Change to read:**

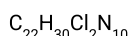


897.76

2,4,11,13-Tetraazatetradecanediimidamide, *N,N*<sup>2</sup>-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3,12-diimino-, di-*D*-gluconate;

1,1'-Hexamethylenebis[5-(4-chlorophenyl)biguanide] di-*D*-gluconate CAS RN<sup>®</sup>: 18472-51-0; UNII: MOR84MUD8E.

▲Chlorhexidine (free base)



505.45

CAS RN<sup>®</sup>: 55-56-1; UNII: R4K00DY52L.▲ (USP 1-May-2022)

### DEFINITION

Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution is an aqueous solution of chlorhexidine gluconate. It contains NLT 19.0% and NMT 21.0% (w/v) of chlorhexidine gluconate ( $C_{22}H_{30}Cl_2N_{10} \cdot 2C_6H_{12}O_7$ ).

### IDENTIFICATION

- **A. SPECTROSCOPIC IDENTIFICATION TESTS (197), Infrared Spectroscopy:** 197K

**Standard:** 5 mg/mL of [USP Chlorhexidine RS](#) in 70% alcohol. Recrystallize this solution, and dry the crystals at 105° for 1 h.

**Sample:** To 1 mL of Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution add 40 mL of water, and cool in ice. Add 10 N sodium hydroxide, dropwise with stirring, until the solution produces a red color on thiazol yellow paper, and add 1 mL in excess. Filter, wash the precipitate with water until the washings are free from alkali, recrystallize the residue from 70% alcohol, and dry the crystals at 105° for 1 h.

**Acceptance criteria:** Meets the requirements

- **B. THIN-LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION TEST (201).**

**Standard solution:** 20 mg/mL of [USP Potassium Gluconate RS](#)

**Sample solution:** Dilute 10 mL of Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution with water to 50 mL. This solution contains 40 mg/mL of chlorhexidine gluconate.

#### Chromatographic system

**Adsorbent:** 0.25-mm layer of chromatographic silica gel

**Application volume:** 5 µL

**Developing solvent system:** Alcohol, ethyl acetate, ammonium hydroxide, and water (5:1:1:3)

**Spray reagent:** Dissolve 2.5 g of ammonium molybdate in 50 mL of 2 N sulfuric acid in a 100-mL volumetric flask. Add 1.0 g of ceric sulfate, swirl to dissolve, and dilute with 2 N sulfuric acid to volume.

#### Analysis

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

Develop the chromatogram in a solvent system until the solvent front has moved 10 cm from the point of spotting. Remove the plate from the chamber, and dry at 110° for 20 min. Allow to cool, and spray with *Spray reagent*. Heat the plate at 110° for 10 min.

**Acceptance criteria:** The principal spot of the *Sample solution* corresponds in color, size, and *R<sub>F</sub>* value to that of the *Standard solution*.

**Add the following:**

- ▲ **C.** The retention time of the major peak from the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the Assay.▲

(USP 1-May-2022)

### ASSAY

**Change to read:**

- **PROCEDURE**

**Solution A:** Dissolve 27.6 g of monobasic sodium phosphate and 10 mL of triethylamine in 1.5 L of water. Adjust with phosphoric acid to a pH of 3.0, and dilute with water to 2000 mL. Mix the resulting solution with acetonitrile (70:30).

**Solution B:** Acetonitrile

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

**Table 1**

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	100	0
9	100	0
10	45	55
15	45	55
16	100	0
21	100	0

**System suitability solution:** 50 µg/mL of [USP Chlorhexidine Acetate RS](#) and 1 µg/mL of [USP p-Chloroaniline RS](#) in *Solution A*

**Standard solution:** 50 µg/mL of [USP Chlorhexidine Acetate RS](#) in *Solution A*

**Sample stock solution:** Transfer 5.0 mL of Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution to a 250-mL volumetric flask, and dilute with water to volume.

**Sample solution:** Transfer 5.0 mL of the *Sample stock solution* to a 250-mL volumetric flask, and dilute with *Solution A*.

#### Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 239 nm

**Column:** 4.6-mm × 25-cm; base-deactivated 5-µm packing [L1](#)

**Column temperature:** 40°

**Flow rate:** 1.5 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 50 µL

#### System suitability

**Sample:** *System suitability solution*

[NOTE—The relative retention times for chlorhexidine and *p*-chloroaniline are about 1.0 and 1.3, respectively.]

#### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 3.0 between chlorhexidine and *p*-chloroaniline

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 0.73% for chlorhexidine and NMT 5.0% for *p*-chloroaniline

#### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage (w/v) of chlorhexidine gluconate ( $C_{22}H_{30}Cl_2N_{10} \cdot 2C_6H_{12}O_7$ ) in the portion of Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (0.25 \times C_S) \times (M_{r1}/M_{r2})$$

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

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

$C_S$  = concentration of [USP Chlorhexidine Acetate RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (µg/mL)

$M_{r1}$  = molecular weight of chlorhexidine gluconate, 897.76

$M_{r2}$  = molecular weight of chlorhexidine acetate, ▲625.56▲ (USP 1-May-2022)

**Acceptance criteria:** 19.0%–21.0% (w/v)

#### IMPURITIES

##### • ORGANIC IMPURITIES

Store the *System suitability solution*, the *Sample solution*, and the *Diluted sample solution* at a temperature of NMT 12°.

**Solution A:** 0.1% (v/v) trifluoroacetic acid in acetonitrile

**Solution B:** 0.1% (v/v) trifluoroacetic acid in water

**Solution C:** *Solution A* and *Solution B* (20:80)

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

**Mobile phase:** See [Table 2](#). Return to original conditions, and equilibrate the system.

**Table 2**

Time (min)	Solution C (%)	Solution D (%)
0	100	0
2	100	0
32	80	20
37	80	20
47	70	30
54	70	30

**System suitability solution:** 5.0 mg/mL of [USP Chlorhexidine System Suitability Mixture RS](#) in *Solution C*

**Sample solution:** Dilute 1.0 mL of Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution with *Solution C* to 100.0 mL.

**Diluted sample solution:** Dilute 1.0 mL of *Sample solution* with *Solution C* to 100.0 mL.

**Chromatographic system**

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 254 nm

**Column:** 4.6-mm × 25-cm; base-deactivated 5-µm packing [L1](#)

**Temperatures**

**Autosampler:** NMT 12°

**Column:** 30°

**Flow rate:** 1.0 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 10 µL

**System suitability**

**Sample:** *System suitability solution*

**Suitability requirements**

**Peak-to-valley ratio:** NLT 2.0 between chlorhexidine urea and chlorhexidine guanidine

**Resolution:** NLT 3.0 between chlorhexidine oxazinone analog and chlorhexidine amine

**Analysis**

**Samples:** *Sample solution* and *Diluted sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of each impurity in the portion of Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution taken:

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

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

$r_S$  = peak response of chlorhexidine from the *Diluted sample solution*

$D$  = dilution factor used to prepare the *Diluted sample solution*, 0.01

**Acceptance criteria:** See [Table 3](#). The reporting threshold is 0.05%.

**Table 3**

Name	Relative Retention Time	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Chlorhexidine oxazinone analog	0.23	0.2
Specified unidentified impurity 1	0.24	0.2
Chlorhexidine amine	0.25	0.3
Chlorhexidine guanidine	0.35	1.0

Name	Relative Retention Time	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Chlorhexidine urea	0.36	0.2
<i>p</i> -Chlorophenyl urea	0.5	0.2
Chlorhexidine nitrile	0.6	0.4
Chlorhexidine dimer	0.85	0.5
<i>o</i> -Chlorhexidine and specified unidentified impurity 2	0.90–0.91	0.4 <sup>a</sup>
Chlorhexidine glucityl triazine	0.96	0.4
Chlorhexidine	1.0	—
Oxochlorhexidine	1.4	0.4
Any individual unspecified impurity	—	0.10
Total impurities	—	3.0

<sup>a</sup> If present, *o*-chlorhexidine and specified unidentified impurity 2 may not be completely resolved by the method. These peaks are integrated together to determine conformance.

**Change to read:**

• **LIMIT OF *p*-CHLOROANILINE**

**Solution A, Solution B, Mobile phase, System suitability solution, Chromatographic system, and System suitability:** Proceed as directed in the Assay.

**Diluent:** 27.6 g of monobasic sodium phosphate in 1.5 L of water. Adjust with phosphoric acid to a pH of 3.0, and dilute with water to 2000 mL.

**Standard solution:** 1.0 µg/mL of [USP \*p\*-Chloroaniline RS](#) in *Diluent*

**Sample stock solution:** Transfer 5.0 mL of Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution to a 100-mL volumetric flask, and dilute with water to volume.

**Sample solution:** Transfer 10.0 mL of *Sample stock solution* to a 250-mL volumetric flask, and dilute with *Diluent* to volume.

**Analysis**

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

Calculate the amount, in µg/mL, of *p*-chloroaniline in the portion of Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution taken:

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

$r_U$  = peak response of *p*-chloroaniline from the *Sample solution*

$r_S$  = peak response of *p*-chloroaniline from the *Standard solution*

$D$  = dilution factor used to prepare the *Sample solution*, 500

$C_S$  = concentration of [USP \*p\*-Chloroaniline RS](#) (USP 1-May-2022) in the *Standard solution* (µg/mL)

**Acceptance criteria:** NMT  $\blacktriangle$ 500 ppm $\blacktriangle$  (USP 1-May-2022)

**SPECIFIC TESTS**

- **SPECIFIC GRAVITY (841):** 1.06–1.07
- **pH (791):** 5.5–7.0, when diluted 1 in 20 with water

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

- **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in tight containers, protected from light, at controlled room temperature.

**Change to read:**

- **USP REFERENCE STANDARDS (11).**

[USP Chlorhexidine RS](#)

[USP Chlorhexidine Acetate RS](#)

[USP Chlorhexidine System Suitability Mixture RS](#)

This is a mixture containing chlorhexidine and the following impurities (other impurities may also be present):

Chlorhexidine oxazinone analog;

(5*R*,6*S*)-2-[(4-Chlorophenyl)amino]-5-hydroxy-6-[(1*R*,2*R*)-1,2,3-trihydroxypropyl]-5,6-dihydro-4*H*-1,3-oxazin-4-one.



Chlorhexidine amine;

1-(6-Aminohexyl)-5-(4-chlorophenyl)biguanide.  $C_{14}H_{23}ClN_6$  310.83

Chlorhexidine guanidine;

1-[6-(Carbamimidoylamino)hexyl]-5-(4-chlorophenyl)biguanide.  $C_{15}H_{25}ClN_8$  352.87

Chlorhexidine urea;

*N*-{[6-({[(4-Chlorophenyl)carbamimidoyl]carbamimidoyl}amino)hexyl]carbamimidoyl}urea.  $C_{16}H_{26}ClN_9O$  ▲395.90▲ (USP 1-May-2022)

*p*-Chlorophenyl urea;

1-(4-Chlorophenyl)urea.  $C_7H_7ClN_2O$  170.60

Chlorhexidine nitrile;

1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-5-[6-[(cyanocarbamidoyl)amino]hexyl]biguanide.  $C_{16}H_{24}ClN_9$  377.88

Chlorhexidine dimer;

1,5-Bis[5-(4-chlorophenyl)biguanidylhexyl]biguanide.  $C_{30}H_{47}Cl_2N_{15}$  ▲688.71▲ (USP 1-May-2022)

*o*-Chlorhexidine;

1-(2-Chlorophenyl)-5-[6-({[(4-chloro phenyl)carbamimidoyl]carbamimidoyl}amino)hexyl]biguanide.  $C_{22}H_{30}Cl_2N_{10}$  505.45

Specified unidentified impurity 2;

Chlorhexidine glucityl triazine;

1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-5-[6-({4-[(4-chlorophenyl)amino]-6-[(1*S*,2*R*,3*R*,4*R*)-1,2,3,4,5-pentahydroxypentyl]-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl}amino)hexyl]biguanide.  $C_{28}H_{38}Cl_2N_{10}O_5$  ▲665.58▲ (USP 1-May-2022)

Oxochlorhexidine;

*N*-(4-Chlorophenyl)-*N*'-{[6-({[(4-

chlorophenyl)carbamimidoyl]carbamimidoyl}amino)hexyl]carbamimidoyl}urea.  $C_{22}H_{29}Cl_2N_9O$  ▲506.44▲ (USP 1-May-2022)

[USP \*p\*-Chloroaniline RS](#)

[USP Potassium Gluconate RS](#)

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
CHLORHEXIDINE GLUCONATE SOLUTION	<a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>	SM32020 Small Molecules 3

**Chromatographic Database Information:** [Chromatographic Database](#)

**Most Recently Appeared In:**

Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. 46(6)

**Current DocID:** GUID-8DB32701-2059-41F1-A428-9705E1241D77\_3\_en-US

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF.M15620.03.01>

**DOI ref:** [e9xus](#)