

Status: Currently Official on 14-Feb-2025
Official Date: Official as of 01-Dec-2024
Document Type: USP Monographs
DocId: GUID-20F3DB54-53C6-47F8-AC5A-65BDCA0173AA_3_en-US
DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M24972_03_01
DOI Ref: kal52

© 2025 USPC
Do not distribute

Diclofenac Sodium Extended-Release Tablets

To view the Notice from the Expert Committee that posted in conjunction with this accelerated revision, please click www.uspnf.com/rb-notice-diclofenac-na-ert-20241122.

DEFINITION

Diclofenac Sodium Extended-Release Tablets contain NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of diclofenac sodium ($C_{14}H_{10}Cl_2NNaO_2$).

IDENTIFICATION

- A.** The retention time of the diclofenac peak of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the Assay.
- B.** The UV (190–400 nm) spectrum of the diclofenac peak of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the Assay.

ASSAY

PROCEDURE

Solution A: 0.7708 g/L of [ammonium acetate](#) in [water](#). Adjust with [acetic acid](#) to a pH of 5.3. Pass through a suitable filter of 0.2-µm pore size.

Solution B: [Acetonitrile](#)

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

Table 1

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0.00	70	30
0.50	70	30
8.50	5	95
10.00	5	95
10.01	70	30
14.00	70	30

Diluent: [Acetonitrile](#) and [water](#) (50:50)

Standard solution: 0.2 mg/mL of [USP Diclofenac Sodium RS](#) in *Diluent*

Sample solution: Nominally 0.2 mg/mL of diclofenac sodium in *Diluent* prepared as follows. Transfer a suitable portion of diclofenac sodium to a suitable volumetric flask from NLT 20 finely powdered Tablets. Add *Diluent* equivalent to 70% of the flask volume. Dissolve with the aid of sonication for 25 min at 45° and fill with *Diluent* to volume. Pass the solution through a suitable filter of 0.22-µm pore size.

[NOTE—Protect the *Standard solution* and *Sample solution* from light.]

Chromatographic system

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

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 280 nm. For *Identification test B*, use a photo-diode array detector.

Column: 10-cm × 2.0-mm; 1.9-µm packing [L1](#)

Column temperature: 35°

Flow rate: 0.3 mL/min

Injection volume: 1 µL

System suitability

Sample: *Standard solution*

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

Suitability requirements

Tailing factor: NMT 1.2

Relative standard deviation: NMT 2.8%

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of diclofenac sodium ($C_{14}H_{10}Cl_2NNaO_2$) in the portion of Tablets taken:

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

r_U = peak response of diclofenac from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response of diclofenac from the *Standard solution*

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

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

Acceptance criteria: 90.0%–110.0%

PERFORMANCE TESTS

Change to read:

- [DISSOLUTION \(711\)](#).

Test 1

Medium: 0.05 M phosphate buffer, pH 7.5; 900 mL

Apparatus 2: 50 rpm; use wire sinkers.

Times: 1, 5, 10, 16, and 24 h

Detector: UV 276 nm

Standard solution: [USP Diclofenac Sodium RS](#) in *Medium*

Analysis: Pass portions of the solution under test through a suitable filter. Dilute with *Medium*, if necessary, to a concentration similar to that of the *Standard solution*.

Tolerances: See [Table 2](#).

Table 2

Time (h)	Amount Dissolved
1	15%–35%
5	45%–65%
10	65%–85%
16	75%–95%
24	NLT 80%

The percentages of the labeled amount of diclofenac sodium ($C_{14}H_{10}Cl_2NNaO_2$) dissolved at the times specified conform to [Acceptance Table 2](#) in [\(711\)](#).

Test 2: If the product complies with this test, the labeling indicates that it meets USP *Dissolution Test 2*.

Medium, Apparatus 2, and Analysis: Proceed as directed for *Dissolution Test 1*.

Times: 1, 2, 4, 6, and 10 h

Tolerances: See [Table 3](#).

Table 3

Time (h)	Amount Dissolved
1	NMT 28%
2	20%–40%
4	35%–60%

Time (h)	Amount Dissolved
6	50%–80%
10	NLT 65%

The percentages of the labeled amount of diclofenac sodium ($C_{14}H_{10}Cl_2NNaO_2$) dissolved at the times specified conform to [Acceptance Table 2](#) in [\(711\)](#).

Test 3: If the product complies with this test, the labeling indicates that it meets USP *Dissolution Test 3*.

Medium and Analysis: Proceed as directed for *Dissolution Test 1*.

Apparatus 1: 100 rpm

Times: 2, 4, 8, and 16 h

Tolerances: See [Table 4](#).

Table 4

Time (h)	Amount Dissolved
2	22%–42%
4	34%–61%
8	52%–82%
16	NLT 73%

The percentages of the labeled amount of diclofenac sodium ($C_{14}H_{10}Cl_2NNaO_2$) dissolved at the times specified conform to [Acceptance Table 2](#) in [\(711\)](#).

Test 4: If the product complies with this test, the labeling indicates that it meets USP *Dissolution Test 4*.

Medium and Analysis: Proceed as directed for *Dissolution Test 1*.

Apparatus 1: 100 rpm

Times: 2, 4, 8, and 16 h

Tolerances: See [Table 5](#).

Table 5

Time (h)	Amount Dissolved
2	20%–40%
4	35%–55%
8	60%–85%
16	NLT 85%

The percentages of the labeled amount of diclofenac sodium ($C_{14}H_{10}Cl_2NNaO_2$) dissolved at the times specified conform to [Acceptance Table 2](#) in [\(711\)](#).

▲Test 5: If the product complies with this test, the labeling indicates that it meets USP *Dissolution Test 5*.

Medium: 0.05 M phosphate buffer, pH 7.5; 900 mL, deaerated

Apparatus 2: 50 rpm; with sinkers ([Dissolution \(711\)](#), [Figure 2a](#))

Times: 1, 2, 4, 6, and 12 h

Buffer: Dissolve 0.77 g of [ammonium acetate](#) in 1 L of [water](#). Adjust with [acetic acid](#) to a pH of 5.3.

Mobile phase: [Acetonitrile](#) and *Buffer* (45:55)

Standard stock solution: 0.28 mg/mL of [USP Diclofenac Sodium RS](#) prepared as follows. Transfer a quantity of [USP Diclofenac Sodium RS](#) to an appropriate volumetric flask and dissolve in 5% of the flask volume of [methanol](#). Dilute with *Medium* to volume.

Standard solution: 0.112 mg/mL of [USP Diclofenac Sodium RS](#) from the *Standard stock solution* in *Medium*

Sample solution: Pass a portion of the solution under test through a suitable filter of 0.45- μ m pore size, discarding an appropriate volume of filtrate so that a consistent result can be obtained.

Chromatographic system

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

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 280 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 15-cm; 5-μm packing [L1](#)

Column temperature: 35°

Flow rate: 1.2 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 μL

Run time: NLT 2 times the retention time of diclofenac

System suitability

Sample: *Standard solution*

Suitability requirements

Tailing factor: NMT 2.0

Relative standard deviation: NMT 2.0%

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution and Sample solution*

Calculate the concentration (C_i) of diclofenac sodium ($C_{14}H_{10}Cl_2NNaO_2$) in the sample withdrawn from the vessel at each time point (i):

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

r_U = peak response of diclofenac from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response of diclofenac from the *Standard solution*

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

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of diclofenac sodium ($C_{14}H_{10}Cl_2NNaO_2$) dissolved at each time point (i):

$$\text{Result}_1 = C_1 \times V \times (1/L) \times 100$$

$$\text{Result}_2 = \{[C_2 \times (V - V_S)] + (C_1 \times V_S)\} \times (1/L) \times 100$$

$$\text{Result}_3 = \{[C_3 \times [V - (2 \times V_S)]] + [(C_2 + C_1) \times V_S]\} \times (1/L) \times 100$$

$$\text{Result}_4 = \{[C_4 \times [V - (3 \times V_S)]] + [(C_3 + C_2 + C_1) \times V_S]\} \times (1/L) \times 100$$

$$\text{Result}_5 = \{[C_5 \times [V - (4 \times V_S)]] + [(C_4 + C_3 + C_2 + C_1) \times V_S]\} \times (1/L) \times 100$$

C_i = concentration of diclofenac sodium in the portion of sample withdrawn at time point i (mg/mL)

V = volume of *Medium*, 900 mL

L = label claim (mg/Tablet)

V_S = volume of the *Sample solution* withdrawn at each time point (mL)

Tolerances: See [Table 6](#).

Table 6

Time Point (i)	Time (h)	Amount Dissolved (%)
1	1	NMT 20
2	2	20–40
3	4	35–55
4	6	50–70
5	12	NLT 80

The percentages of the labeled amount of diclofenac sodium ($C_{14}H_{10}Cl_2NNaO_2$) dissolved at the times specified conform to [Dissolution](#)

[\(711\)](#), [Acceptance Table 2](#). ▲ (RB 1-Dec-2024)

• [UNIFORMITY OF DOSAGE UNITS \(905\)](#): Meet the requirements

IMPURITIES

Change to read:

• ORGANIC IMPURITIES

Mobile phase and Diluent: Proceed as directed in the Assay.
Standard solution: 0.001 mg/mL each of [USP Diclofenac Sodium RS](#) and [USP Diclofenac Related Compound A RS](#) in *Diluent*
Sample solution: Nominally 1.0 mg/mL of diclofenac sodium in *Diluent* prepared as follows. Transfer a suitable portion of diclofenac sodium to a suitable volumetric flask from NLT 20 finely powdered Tablets. Add *Diluent* equivalent to 70% of the flask volume. Dissolve with the aid of sonication for 25 min at 45° and fill with *Diluent* to volume. Pass the solution through a suitable filter of 0.22-µm pore size.

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

Mode: LC
Detector: UV 254 nm
Column: 10-cm × 2.0-mm; 1.9-µm packing L1
Column temperature: 35°
Flow rate: 0.3 mL/min
Injection volume: 1 µL

System suitability
Sample: *Standard solution*
Suitability requirements
Relative standard deviation: NMT 5%
Signal-to-noise ratio: NLT 10

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

Calculate the percentage of diclofenac related compound A in the portion of Tablets taken:

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

r_U = peak response of diclofenac related compound A from the *Sample solution*
 r_S = peak response of diclofenac related compound A from the *Standard solution*
 C_S = concentration of [USP Diclofenac Related Compound A RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)
 C_U = nominal concentration of diclofenac sodium in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

Calculate the percentage of any other impurity in the portion of Tablets taken:

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 diclofenac from the *Standard solution*
 C_S = concentration of [USP Diclofenac Sodium RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)
 C_U = nominal concentration of diclofenac sodium in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

Acceptance criteria: See [Table 7](#).▲ (RB 1-Dec-2024) Disregard any impurity peak less than 0.05%.

▲Table 7▲ (RB 1-Dec-2024)

Name	Relative Retention Time	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Oxindole ^{a,b}	0.4	—
Diclofenac	1.0	—
Diclofenac related compound D (diclofenac bromo analog) ^{c,b}	1.04	—
Diclofenac related compound A	1.48	0.5

Name	Relative Retention Time	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Diclofenac alcohol analog ^{d,b}	1.55	—
Diclofenac benzaldehyde analog ^{e,b}	1.81	—
Any individual unspecified impurity	—	0.5
Total impurities ^b	—	1.5

- ^a 1,3-Dihydro-2*H*-indol-2-one.
- ^b Process-related impurities, not to be counted in total impurities.
- ^c 2-{2-[(2-Bromo-6-chlorophenyl)amino]phenyl}acetic acid.
- ^d {2-[(2,6-Dichlorophenyl)amino]phenyl}methanol.
- ^e 2-[(2,6-Dichlorophenyl)amino]benzaldehyde.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in well-closed containers. Store at controlled room temperature, and protect from light and moisture.
- **LABELING:** When more than one *Dissolution* test is given, the labeling states the test used only if *Test 1* is not used.
- **USP REFERENCE STANDARDS (11).**
 - USP Diclofenac Sodium RS
 - USP Diclofenac Related Compound A RS
 - 1-(2,6-Dichlorophenyl)indolin-2-one.
C₁₄H₉Cl₂NO 278.13

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
DICLOFENAC SODIUM EXTENDED-RELEASE TABLETS	Documentary Standards Support	SM22020 Small Molecules 2

Chromatographic Database Information: [Chromatographic Database](#)

Most Recently Appeared In:
Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. PF 40(6)

Current DocID: **GUID-20F3DB54-53C6-47F8-AC5A-65BDCA0173AA_3_en-US**
DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M24972_03_01
DOI ref: [kal52](#)