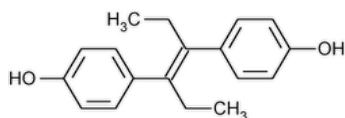


Status: Currently Official on 14-Feb-2025
 Official Date: Official as of 01-May-2020
 Document Type: USP Monographs
 DocId: GUID-D76827D1-E8F3-40F1-A78B-F1140951A8C6_2_en-US
 DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M25530_02_01
 DOI Ref: u9nn9

© 2025 USPC
 Do not distribute

Diethylstilbestrol



$C_{18}H_{20}O_2$ 268.35

Phenol 4,4'-(1,2-diethyl-1,2-ethenediyl)bis-, (E)-.

α,α' -Diethyl-(E)-4,4'-stilbenediol CAS RN®: 56-53-1; UNII: 731DCA35BT.

» Diethylstilbestrol contains not less than 97.0 percent and not more than 100.5 percent of $C_{18}H_{20}O_2$, calculated on the dried basis.

Packaging and storage—Preserve in tight, light-resistant containers. Store at room temperature.

USP REFERENCE STANDARDS (11)—

[USP Diethylstilbestrol RS](#)

Identification—

Change to read:

A: ▲ [SPECTROSCOPIC IDENTIFICATION TESTS \(197\)](#), [Ultraviolet-Visible Spectroscopy: 197U](#) ▲ (CN 1-May-2020) —

Solution: 10 µg per mL.

Medium: alcohol.

Absorptivities at 230 to 350 nm do not differ by more than 3.0%.

B: The retention time of the major peak in the chromatogram of the *Assay preparation* corresponds to that in the chromatogram of the *Standard preparation*, as obtained in the *Assay*.

MELTING RANGE (741): between 169° and 175°, but the range between beginning and end of melting does not exceed 4°.

Acidity or alkalinity—A solution of 100 mg in 5 mL of neutralized 70% alcohol is neutral to litmus.

LOSS ON DRYING (731)—Dry it at 105° for 2 hours: it loses not more than 0.5% of its weight.

RESIDUE ON IGNITION (281): not more than 0.05%.

Assay—

Diluent—Prepare a mixture of alcohol and water (1:1).

Mobile phase—Prepare a filtered and degassed mixture of methanol and water (3:1). Make adjustments if necessary (see *System Suitability* under [Chromatography \(621\)](#)).

Standard preparation—Dissolve an accurately weighed quantity of [USP Diethylstilbestrol RS](#) in *Diluent*, and dilute quantitatively, and stepwise if necessary, with *Diluent* to obtain a solution having a known concentration of about 20 µg per mL.

System suitability solution—Dissolve 10 mg of [USP Diethylstilbestrol RS](#) in 50 mL of chloroform, and allow the solution to stand in the dark for not less than 5 hours. Pipet 5.0 mL of this solution into a 50-mL volumetric flask, and evaporate to dryness under a current of air. Dissolve the residue (the *cis*- and *trans*-isomers of diethylstilbestrol) in *Diluent*, sonicating if necessary. Dilute with *Diluent* to volume, and mix.

Assay preparation—Dissolve an accurately weighed quantity of Diethylstilbestrol in *Diluent*, and dilute quantitatively, and stepwise if necessary, with *Diluent* to obtain a solution having a concentration of about 20 µg per mL.

Chromatographic system (see [CHROMATOGRAPHY \(621\)](#))—The liquid chromatograph is equipped with a 254-nm detector and a 4.6-mm × 25-cm column that contains packing L1. The flow rate is about 1 mL per minute. Chromatograph the *System suitability solution*, and record the peak responses as directed for *Procedure*: the relative retention times are about 1.00 for *trans*-diethylstilbestrol and 1.33 for *cis*-diethylstilbestrol; and the resolution, *R*, between *trans*-diethylstilbestrol and *cis*-diethylstilbestrol is not less than 4.0. Chromatograph the *Standard preparation*, and record the peak responses for the *trans*-isomer as directed for *Procedure*: the column efficiency is not less than 3000 theoretical plates; the tailing factor is not more than 2.0; and the relative standard deviation for replicate injections is not more than 2.0%.

Procedure—Separately inject equal volumes (about 50 µL) of the *Standard preparation* and the *Assay preparation* into the chromatograph, record the chromatograms, and measure the areas of the peak responses for the *cis*- and *trans*-isomers of diethylstilbestrol. Calculate the quantity, in µg, of $C_{18}H_{20}O_2$ in the portion of Diethylstilbestrol taken by the formula:

$$C(r_{t,U} + 1.26r_{c,U})/(r_{t,S} + 1.26r_{c,S})$$

in which *C* is the concentration, in µg per mL, of [USP Diethylstilbestrol RS](#) in the *Standard preparation*; and $r_{t,U}$ and $r_{t,S}$ are the peak responses

for the *trans*-isomer obtained from the *Assay preparation* and the *Standard preparation*, respectively; and $r_{c,U}$ and $r_{c,S}$ are the peak responses for the *cis*-isomer obtained from the *Assay preparation* and the *Standard preparation*, respectively.

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
DIETHYLSTILBESTROL	Documentary Standards Support	SM32020 Small Molecules 3

Chromatographic Database Information: [Chromatographic Database](#)

Most Recently Appeared In:

Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. PF 29(5)

Current DocID: GUID-D76827D1-E8F3-40F1-A78B-F1140951A8C6_2_en-US

DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M25530_02_01

DOI ref: [u9nn9](#)

OFFICIAL