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# Etoposide Injection

To view the Notice from the Expert Committee that posted in conjunction with this accelerated revision, please click [www.uspnf.com/rb-etoposide-inj-20230331](http://www.uspnf.com/rb-etoposide-inj-20230331).

## DEFINITION

Etoposide Injection contains NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of etoposide ( $C_{29}H_{32}O_{13}$ ) in a sterile solution in a nonaqueous medium intended for dilution with a suitable parenteral vehicle before intravenous infusion.

## IDENTIFICATION

### A.

**Diluent:** [Chloroform](#) and [methanol](#) (9:1)

**Standard solution:** 0.8 mg/mL of [USP Etoposide RS](#) in *Diluent*

**Sample solution:** Equivalent to 0.8 mg/mL of etoposide in *Diluent* from the Injection

### Chromatographic system

(See [Chromatography \(621\)](#), [Thin-Layer Chromatography](#).)

**Mode:** TLC

**Adsorbent:** 0.25-mm layer of [chromatographic silica gel mixture](#)

**Application volume:** 10 µL

**Developing solvent system:** [Chloroform](#), [acetone](#), [alcohol](#), and [water](#) (80:25:2.5:0.5)

**Spray reagent:** Add 10 mL of [sulfuric acid](#) with cooling and stirring to 70 mL of [dehydrated alcohol](#) in a 100-mL volumetric flask. Dilute with [dehydrated alcohol](#) to volume, and mix.

### Analysis:

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

Allow the chromatogram to develop until the solvent front has moved 17 cm from the origin. Remove the plate, and allow it to air-dry in a fume hood for 5 min. Replace the plate in the tank, and develop again to a distance of 17 cm from the origin. Remove the plate, and air-dry it in a fume hood for about 20 min. Spray the plate with the *Spray reagent*, and heat in a forced-air oven at 120° for about 15 min.

**Acceptance criteria:** The appearance and  $R_F$  value of the principal spot from the *Sample solution* corresponds to that from the *Standard solution*.

**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

**Buffer:** 2.72 g/L of [sodium acetate](#) in [water](#). Adjust with [glacial acetic acid](#) to a pH of 4.0.

**Mobile phase:** [Acetonitrile](#) and *Buffer* (26:74)

**System suitability solution:** 0.3 mg/mL of [USP Etoposide Resolution Mixture RS](#) in *Mobile phase*

**Standard stock solution:** 2.0 mg/mL of [USP Etoposide RS](#) in [acetonitrile](#)

**Standard solution:** 0.2 mg/mL of [USP Etoposide RS](#) in *Mobile phase* from the *Standard stock solution*

**Sample solution:** Equivalent to 0.2 mg/mL of etoposide in *Mobile phase* from the Injection

### Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 254 nm

**Column:** 3.9-mm × 30-cm; packing [L11](#)

**Flow rate:** 1 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 20 µL

**Run time:** NLT 1.5 times the retention time of etoposide

### System suitability

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

### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 1.35 between the etoposide and α-etoposide peaks, *System suitability solution*

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 2.0% for etoposide, *Standard solution*

### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of etoposide ( $C_{29}H_{32}O_{13}$ ) in the portion of Injection taken:

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

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

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

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

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

**Acceptance criteria:** 90.0%–110.0%

## IMPURITIES

### • ORGANIC IMPURITIES

**Buffer:** Prepare as directed in the Assay.

**Solution A:** [Acetonitrile](#) and *Buffer* (20:80)

**Solution B:** [Acetonitrile](#) and *Buffer* (60:40)

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

**Table 1**

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	100	0
15	100	0
30	40	60
40	40	60
42	0	100
45	0	100
47	100	0
50	100	0

**Diluent:** [Acetonitrile](#) and 0.02 M [sodium acetate](#) previously adjusted with [acetic acid](#) to a pH of 4.0 (30:70)

**Standard stock solution:** 2.0 mg/mL of [USP Etoposide RS](#) in *Diluent*

**System suitability stock solution:** 0.2 mg/mL of [n-propylparaben](#) in *Diluent*

**System suitability solution:** Transfer 5.0 mL of the *System suitability stock solution* and 5.0 mL of the *Standard stock solution* to a 50-mL volumetric flask, and dilute with *Diluent* to volume. Transfer 5.0 mL of this solution to a 100-mL volumetric flask, and dilute with *Diluent* to volume.

**Standard solution:** 10 µg/mL of [USP Etoposide RS](#) from the *Standard stock solution* in *Diluent*

**Sample solution:** Nominally equivalent to 2.0 mg/mL of etoposide in *Diluent*

### Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 254 nm

**Column:** 3.9-mm × 15-cm; less than 5-µm packing [L11](#)

**Flow rate:** 1.5 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 25 µL

**Run time:** NLT 40 min

### System suitability

[NOTE—Run time is 15 min in isocratic conditions.]

**Sample:** *System suitability solution*

### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 1.1 between propylparaben and etoposide

### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of each impurity in the portion of Injection taken:

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

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

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

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

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

#### Acceptance criteria

**Total impurities:** NMT 3.0%

#### SPECIFIC TESTS

##### • [pH \(791\)](#)

**Sample solution:** 5.0 mL of Injection in 45 mL of [water](#)

**Acceptance criteria:** 3.0–4.0

##### • [ALCOHOL DETERMINATION \(611\)](#), [Method II](#) (if present): 90.0%–110.0% of the labeled amount of alcohol (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH), using [n-propyl alcohol](#) as the internal standard

##### • [BACTERIAL ENDOTOXINS TEST \(85\)](#)

**Sample solution:** Dilute the Injection with sterile [water](#) to obtain 0.31 mg/mL of etoposide activity

**Acceptance criteria:** NMT 2.0 USP Endotoxin Units/mg of etoposide

##### • **BENZYL ALCOHOL CONTENT** (if present)

**Buffer, Mobile phase, System suitability solution, Sample solution, Chromatographic system, and System suitability:** Proceed as directed in the Assay.

**Standard solution:** Transfer 0.75 mL of freshly distilled benzyl alcohol, accurately weighed, to a 50-mL volumetric flask, dissolve in and dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume, and mix. Transfer 1.0 mL of this solution to a 50-mL volumetric flask, dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume, and mix.

#### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of benzyl alcohol in the portion of Injection taken:

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

$r_U$  = peak response of benzyl alcohol from the *Sample solution*

$r_S$  = peak response of benzyl alcohol from the *Standard solution*

$C_S$  = concentration of benzyl alcohol in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

$C_U$  = concentration of the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

**Acceptance criteria:** 90.0%–110.0%

##### • **OTHER REQUIREMENTS:** It meets the requirements in [Injections and Implanted Drug Products \(1\)](#).

#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

**Change to read:**

##### • **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in single-dose or multiple-dose containers▲, preferably▲ (RB 1-Apr-2023) of Type I glass.

##### • **LABELING:** Label it to indicate that it must be diluted with suitable parenteral vehicle before intravenous infusion.

##### • [USP REFERENCE STANDARDS \(11\)](#)

[USP Etoposide RS](#)

[USP Etoposide Resolution Mixture RS](#)

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

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

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

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