

Status: Currently Official on 15-Feb-2025  
 Official Date: Official Prior to 2013  
 Document Type: USP Monographs  
 DocId: GUID-032F4E9A-AE1A-429B-80CD-70A7BD63D8A8\_1\_en-US  
 DOI: [https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF\\_M33645\\_01\\_01](https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M33645_01_01)  
 DOI Ref: 0t47p

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# Fluorescein Sodium and Benoxinate Hydrochloride Ophthalmic Solution

## DEFINITION

Fluorescein Sodium and Benoxinate Hydrochloride Ophthalmic Solution is a sterile aqueous solution of fluorescein sodium and benoxinate hydrochloride. It contains NLT 90.0% and NMT 120.0% of the labeled amounts of fluorescein sodium ( $C_{20}H_{10}Na_2O_5$ ) and benoxinate hydrochloride ( $C_{17}H_{28}N_2O_3 \cdot HCl$ ). It contains a suitable preservative.

## IDENTIFICATION

- **A.** A solution of it is strongly fluorescent, even in extreme dilution. The fluorescence disappears when the solution is made acid, and reappears when the solution is again made alkaline.
- **B.** The relative retention times of the major peaks of the *Sample solution* correspond to those of *Standard solution A* and *Standard solution B*, as obtained in the Assay.

## ASSAY

### PROCEDURE

**Mobile phase:** Dissolve 100 mg of sodium 1-pentanesulfonate in 40 mL of glacial acetic acid in a 2000-mL volumetric flask. Add 600 mL of acetonitrile and 10 mL of triethanolamine, and dilute with water to volume. Adjust with phosphoric acid to a pH of 3.

**Standard stock solution A:** Transfer 55 mg of [USP Diacetylfluorescein RS](#) to a 50-mL volumetric flask containing 5 mL of alcohol. Add 1 mL of 2.5 N sodium hydroxide, and heat on a steam bath at the boiling temperature for 20 min, with frequent swirling. Cool, and dilute with water to volume.

**Standard solution A:** 0.1 mg/mL of fluorescein sodium in *Mobile phase* prepared as follows. Transfer 10.0 mL of *Standard stock solution A* to a 100-mL volumetric flask, and dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume.

**Standard solution B:** 0.1J mg/mL of [USP Benoxinate Hydrochloride RS](#) in *Mobile phase*, where J is the ratio of the labeled amount, in mg, of benoxinate hydrochloride to the labeled amount, in mg, of fluorescein sodium in each mL of Ophthalmic Solution

**Sample solution:** Nominally equivalent to 0.1 mg/mL of fluorescein sodium in *Mobile phase* from Ophthalmic Solution

### Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 254 nm

**Column:** 4-mm × 30-cm; packing L1

**Flow rate:** 1.5 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 25 µL

### System suitability

**Samples:** *Standard solution A* and *Standard solution B*

### Suitability requirements

**Tailing factor:** NMT 2.0 for each analyte peak, *Standard solution A* and *Standard solution B*

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 2.0% for each analyte peak, *Standard solution A* and *Standard solution B*

### Analysis

**Samples:** *Standard solution A*, *Standard solution B*, and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of fluorescein sodium ( $C_{20}H_{10}Na_2O_5$ ) in the portion of Ophthalmic Solution taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times (M_{r1}/M_{r2}) \times 100$$

$r_U$  = peak area of fluorescein from the *Sample solution*

$r_s$  = peak area of fluorescein from *Standard solution A*

$C_s$  = concentration of [USP Diacetylfluorescein RS](#) in *Standard solution A* (mg/mL)

$C_u$  = nominal concentration of fluorescein sodium in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

$M_{r1}$  = molecular weight of fluorescein sodium, 376.28

$M_{r2}$  = molecular weight of diacetylfluorescein, 416.39

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of benoxinate hydrochloride ( $C_{17}H_{28}N_2O_3 \cdot HCl$ ) in the portion of Ophthalmic Solution taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_u/r_s) \times (C_s/C_u) \times 100$$

$r_u$  = peak area of benoxinate from the *Sample solution*

$r_s$  = peak area of benoxinate from *Standard solution B*

$C_s$  = concentration of [USP Benoxinate Hydrochloride RS](#) in *Standard solution B* (mg/mL)

$C_u$  = nominal concentration of benoxinate hydrochloride in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

#### Acceptance criteria

**Fluorescein sodium:** 90.0%–120.0%

**Benoxinate hydrochloride:** 90.0%–120.0%

#### SPECIFIC TESTS

- **STERILITY TESTS** (71): It meets the requirements when tested as directed in [Test for Sterility of the Product to Be Examined, Membrane Filtration](#).
- **pH** (791): 4.3–5.3

#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in tight, light-resistant containers.
- **USP REFERENCE STANDARDS** (11).  
[USP Benoxinate Hydrochloride RS](#)  
[USP Diacetylfluorescein RS](#)  
 Spiro(isobenzofuran-1(3H), 9'-(9H)xanthen)-3-one, 3',6'-bis(acetyloxy)-.  
 $C_{24}H_{16}O_7$  416.39

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
FLUORESCIN SODIUM AND BENOXINATE HYDROCHLORIDE OPHTHALMIC SOLUTION	<a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>	SM32020 Small Molecules 3

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

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Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. Information currently unavailable

**Current DocID:** GUID-032F4E9A-AE1A-429B-80CD-70A7BD63D8A8\_1\_en-US

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**DOI ref:** [Qt47p](#)