

Status: Currently Official on 15-Feb-2025
Official Date: Official as of 01-May-2018
Document Type: USP Monographs
DocId: GUID-B86F8533-F687-42F3-9E92-87F5301B3381_3_en-US
DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M40420_03_01
DOI Ref: t4rra

© 2025 USPC
Do not distribute

Indomethacin Capsules

DEFINITION

Indomethacin Capsules contain NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of indomethacin ($C_{19}H_{16}ClNO_4$).

IDENTIFICATION

• A.

Standard: A solution of 25 mg of [USP Indomethacin RS](#) in 5 mL of [acetone](#) recrystallized and prepared similarly as for the *Sample*.

Sample: Shake a portion of the contents of Capsules, nominally equivalent to about 50 mg of indomethacin, with 10 mL of [acetone](#) for about 2 min, and filter. Transfer 5 mL of the filtrate to a stoppered flask, add 20 mL of [water](#), and shake for about 2 min until a precipitate forms and crystallizes. Filter, and collect the crystals. Dry the crystals in air, then dry at a pressure below 5 mm of mercury at 100° for 2 h.

Acceptance criteria: The IR absorption spectrum of a potassium bromide dispersion of the *Sample* exhibits maxima only at the same wavelengths as those of the *Standard*.

• B. The retention time of the indomethacin peak of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the *Assay*.

ASSAY

• PROCEDURE

Solution A: [Phosphoric acid](#) and [water](#) (2:1000)

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

Diluent: *Mobile phase* adjusted with 0.2 N [sodium hydroxide](#) to a pH of 6.0

Standard stock solution: 1 mg/mL of [USP Indomethacin RS](#) prepared as follows. Transfer a suitable quantity of [USP Indomethacin RS](#) to an adequate volumetric flask, add 50% of the final volume of [acetonitrile](#), and dilute with *Diluent* to final volume.

Standard solution: 0.04 mg/mL of [USP Indomethacin RS](#) in *Diluent* from *Standard stock solution*

Sample stock solution: Nominally 1 mg/mL of indomethacin prepared as follows. Transfer a suitable portion of the contents from NLT 20 Capsules to an adequate volumetric flask, add 50% of the final volume of [acetonitrile](#), and sonicate for about 10 min with intermittent shaking. Add about 25% of the final volume of *Diluent* and sonicate for about 10 min with intermittent shaking. Dilute with *Diluent* to final volume and mix. Allow the resulting mixture to stand until a clear supernatant is obtained. Use the clear supernatant.

Sample solution: Nominally 0.04 mg/mL of indomethacin in *Diluent* from *Sample stock solution*. Pass through a suitable filter of 0.45-μm pore size.

Chromatographic system

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

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 240 nm

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

Column temperature: 30°

Flow rate: 1.5 mL/min

Injection volume: 25 μL

Run time: NLT 2 times the retention time of indomethacin

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 percentage of the labeled amount of indomethacin ($C_{19}H_{16}ClNO_4$) in the portion of Capsules taken:

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

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

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

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

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

Acceptance criteria: 90.0%–110.0%

PERFORMANCE TESTS

• [DISSOLUTION \(711\)](#)

Medium: pH 7.2 phosphate buffer (see [Reagents, Indicators, and Solutions—Buffer Solutions](#)) and [water](#) (1:4); 750 mL

Apparatus 1: 100 rpm

Time: 20 min

Standard solution: [USP Indomethacin RS](#) at a known concentration in *Medium*

Sample solution: Filter a portion of the solution under test and suitably dilute with *Medium*, if necessary.

Instrumental conditions

Mode: UV

Analytical wavelength: Maximum absorbance at about 318 nm

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Tolerances: NLT 80% (*Q*) of the labeled amount of indomethacin ($C_{19}H_{16}ClNO_4$) is dissolved.

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

IMPURITIES

• ORGANIC IMPURITIES

Solution A, Mobile phase, Diluent, Standard stock solution, Sample stock solution, and Chromatographic system: Proceed as directed in the Assay.

System suitability stock solution: 0.2 mg/mL each of [USP Indomethacin Related Compound A RS](#) and [USP Indomethacin Related Compound B RS](#) prepared as follows. Transfer suitable quantities of [USP Indomethacin Related Compound A RS](#) and [USP Indomethacin Related Compound B RS](#) to an adequate volumetric flask, add 40% of the final volume of [acetonitrile](#), and sonicate to dissolve. Dilute with *Diluent* to final volume.

System suitability solution: 0.002 mg/mL each of [USP Indomethacin Related Compound A RS](#) and [USP Indomethacin Related Compound B RS](#), and 0.4 mg/mL of [USP Indomethacin RS](#) in *Diluent* from *System suitability stock solution* and *Standard stock solution*

Sensitivity solution: 0.2 µg/mL of [USP Indomethacin RS](#) in *Diluent* from *Standard stock solution*

Standard solution: 0.002 mg/mL of [USP Indomethacin RS](#) in *Diluent* from *Standard stock solution*

Sample solution: Nominally 0.4 mg/mL of indomethacin in *Diluent* from *Sample stock solution*

System suitability

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

Suitability requirements

Resolution: NLT 1.5 between indomethacin related compound A and indomethacin related compound B, *System suitability solution*

Relative standard deviation: NMT 5.0%, *Standard solution*

Signal-to-noise ratio: NLT 10, *Sensitivity solution*

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of indomethacin related compound A, indomethacin related compound B, and any unspecified degradation product in the portion of Capsules taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times (1/F) \times 100$$

r_U = peak response of indomethacin related compound A, or indomethacin related compound B, or any unspecified degradation product from the *Sample solution*

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

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

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

F = relative response factor of each individual impurity (see [Table 1](#))

Acceptance criteria: See [Table 1](#). The reporting threshold is 0.05%.

Table 1

Name	Relative Retention Time	Relative Response Factor	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Indomethacin related compound A	0.3	0.8	0.20
Indomethacin related compound B	0.4	2.1	0.20
Indomethacin	1.0	1.0	—
Any unspecified degradation product	—	1.0	0.20
Total degradation products	—	—	1.0

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

• **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in well-closed containers.

• **USP REFERENCE STANDARDS (11).**

[USP Indomethacin RS](#)

[USP Indomethacin Related Compound A RS](#)

2-(5-Methoxy-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)acetic acid.

$C_{12}H_{13}NO_3$ 219.24

[USP Indomethacin Related Compound B RS](#)

4-Chlorobenzoic acid.

$C_7H_5ClO_2$ 156.57

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
INDOMETHACIN CAPSULES	Documentary Standards Support	SM22020 Small Molecules 2

Chromatographic Database Information: [Chromatographic Database](#)

Most Recently Appeared In:

Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. PF 42(5)

Current DocID: GUID-B86F8533-F687-42F3-9E92-87F5301B3381_3_en-US

Previous DocID: GUID-B86F8533-F687-42F3-9E92-87F5301B3381_1_en-US

DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M40420_03_01

DOI ref: [t4rra](#)