Status: Currently Official on 15-Feb-2025
Official Date: Official as of 16-Jun-2022
Document Type: USP Monographs
DocId: GUID-CAC2588F-9536-4FBC-AA54-45C08164A379_5_en-US
DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M44660_05_01
DOI Ref: wr77d

Levetiracetam Tablets

To view the Notice from the Expert Committee that posted in conjunction with this accelerated revision, please click https://www.uspnf.com/rb-levetiracetam-tabs-20220624.

DEFINITION

Levetiracetam Tablets contain NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$).

IDENTIFICATION

- **A. Spectroscopic Identification Tests ⟨197⟩, *Infrared Spectroscopy*:** 197K, 197A

Standard solution: 1 mg/mL solution of USP Levetiracetam RS in solution prepared as follows. Transfer a suitable quantity of USP Levetiracetam RS to a suitable volumetric flask. Add 70% of the flask volume of acetone. Sonicate for 15 min. Dilute with acetone to volume.

Standard: Pass 10 mL of the *Standard solution* through a membrane filter of 0.45-µm pore size. Evaporate acetone from the filtrate completely to form crystals. Scratch the crystals. Weigh 2–4 mg of the residue and 200 mg of KBr in a mortar and pestle. Mix and grind well, and prepare the KBr pellet.

Sample solution: Transfer an amount of finely powdered Tablets (NLT 20) equivalent to 250 mg of levetiracetam to a 50-mL volumetric flask. Add 35 mL of acetone. Sonicate for 15 min. Dilute with acetone to volume.

Sample: Pass 10 mL of the *Sample solution* through a membrane filter of 0.45-µm pore size. Evaporate acetone from the filtrate completely to form crystals. Scratch the crystals. Weigh 2–4 mg of the residue and 200 mg of KBr in a mortar and pestle. Mix and grind well, and prepare the KBr pellet.

Analysis: Record the spectra of the *Standard* and *Sample* between 4000 cm^{-1} and 650 cm^{-1}.

Acceptance criteria: The spectrum of the *Sample* corresponds to that of the *Standard*.

- **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: 1.4 g/L of monobasic potassium phosphate and 0.6 g/L of sodium 1-heptanesulfonate, adjusted with phosphoric acid to a pH of 2.8

Mobile phase: Acetonitrile and *Buffer* (8:92)

Diluent: Acetonitrile and water (20:80)

Standard solution: 0.35 mg/mL of USP Levetiracetam RS in *Diluent*. Sonication may be used to aid dissolution.

Sample solution: Nominally 0.4 mg/mL of levetiracetam from NLT 20 Tablets, finely crushed, in *Diluent*. Sonication may be used to aid dissolution.

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography ⟨621⟩, System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 220 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 4-µm packing L1

Flow rate: 2 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 µL

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 levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) in the portion of Tablets taken:

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

r_U = peak response from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Levetiracetam RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

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

Acceptance criteria: 90.0%–110.0%

PERFORMANCE TESTS

Change to read:

• **Dissolution** ⟨711⟩

Test 1

Medium: Water; 900 mL

Apparatus 2: 50 rpm

Time: See *Table 1*.

Table 1

Tablet Strength (mg/Tablet)	Time (min)
250	15
500	15
750	15
1000	30

Buffer: 6.8 g/L of monobasic potassium phosphate, adjusted with dilute potassium hydroxide to a pH of 5.6

Mobile phase: Acetonitrile and *Buffer* (15:85)

Standard solution: (*L*/1000) mg/mL in *Medium*, where *L* is the Tablet label claim, in mg

Sample solution: Pass a portion of the solution under test though a suitable filter of 0.45-µm pore size.

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography* ⟨621⟩, *System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 220 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 15-cm; 5-µm packing L1

Flow rate: 1.2 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 µL

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 levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) dissolved:

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

r_U = peak response from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Levetiracetam RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

L = label claim (mg/Tablet)

V = volume of *Medium*, 900 mL

Tolerances: NLT 70% (*Q*) of the labeled amount of levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) in 15 min for Tablets labeled to contain 250, 500, or 750 mg; NLT 80% (*Q*) of the labeled amount of levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) in 30 min for Tablets labeled to contain 1000 mg

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

Medium: Water; 900 mL, deaerate, if necessary

Apparatus 2: 50 rpm

Time: 15 min

Buffer: 1.36 g/L of monobasic potassium phosphate, adjusted with 10% potassium hydroxide to a pH of 5.0

Mobile phase: Acetonitrile and *Buffer* (10:90)

Standard solution: 54 µg/mL of USP Levetiracetam RS in *Medium*

Sample solution: Pass a portion of the solution under test through a suitable filter. Dilute an aliquot with *Medium* to obtain a concentration similar to that of the *Standard solution*.

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography ⟨621⟩, System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 210 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 15-cm; 5-µm packing L1

Column temperature: 30°

Flow rate: 1.5 mL/min

Injection volume: 20 µL

System suitability

Sample: *Standard solution*

Suitability requirements

Tailing factor: NMT 1.5

Relative standard deviation: NMT 1.0%

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) dissolved:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/L) \times D \times V \times 100$$

r_U = peak response from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Levetiracetam RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

L = label claim (mg/Tablet)

D = dilution factor of the *Sample solution*

V = volume of *Medium*, 900 mL

Tolerances: NLT 80% (*Q*) of the labeled amount of levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) is dissolved.

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

Medium: Water; 900 mL

Apparatus 2: 50 rpm

Time: 30 min

Buffer, Mobile phase, Standard solution, Sample solution, Chromatographic system, System suitability, and **Analysis:** Proceed as directed for *Test 1*.

Tolerances: NLT 80% (*Q*) of the labeled amount of levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) is dissolved.

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

Medium: Water; 900 mL

Apparatus 2: 50 rpm

Time: 30 min

Buffer: 6.8 g/L of monobasic potassium phosphate

Mobile phase: Acetonitrile and *Buffer* (15:85)

Standard solution: 0.28 mg/mL of USP Levetiracetam RS in *Medium*

Sample solution: Pass a portion of the solution under test through a suitable filter of 0.45-µm pore size, discarding the first 2 mL. Dilute an aliquot of the filtrate with *Medium*, if necessary, to obtain a concentration similar to that of the *Standard solution*.

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography ⟨621⟩, System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 210 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 5-µm packing L1

Flow rate: 1 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 µL

Run time: NLT 2 times the retention time of levetiracetam

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 levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) dissolved:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times C_S \times V \times D \times (1/L) \times 100$$

r_U = peak response from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Levetiracetam RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

V = volume of *Medium*, 900 mL

D = dilution factor of the *Sample solution*

L = label claim (mg/Tablet)

Tolerances: NLT 85% (Q) of the labeled amount of levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) is dissolved.

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

Medium: 0.1 N hydrochloric acid VS, deaerated; 500 mL

Apparatus 2: 50 rpm

Time: 30 min

Buffer: 1.36 g/L of monobasic potassium phosphate, adjusted with 10% w/v potassium hydroxide solution to a pH of 5.0

Mobile phase: Acetonitrile and *Buffer* (10:90)

Standard solution: (L/500) mg/mL in *Medium*, where L is the label claim in mg/Tablet. Sonication may be necessary for complete dissolution.

Sample solution: Pass a portion of the solution under test through a suitable filter of 0.22-µm pore size and discard the first few milliliters.

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography ⟨621⟩, System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 220 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 15-cm; 5-µm packing L1

Flow rate: 1.5 mL/min

Temperatures

Autosampler: 10°

Column: 30°

Injection volume: 5 µL

Run time: NLT 1.6 times the retention of the levetiracetam

System suitability

Sample: *Standard solution*

Suitability requirements

Tailing factor: NMT 1.5

Relative standard deviation: NMT 1.0%

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) dissolved:

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

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

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

C_S = concentration of USP Levetiracetam RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

L = label claim (mg/Tablet)

V = volume of *Medium*, 500 mL

Tolerances: NLT 80% (*Q*) of the labeled amount of levetiracetam ($C_8H_{14}N_2O_2$) is dissolved.▲ (RB 16-Jun-2022)

• **Uniformity of Dosage Units ⟨905⟩:** Meet the requirements

IMPURITIES

• **Organic Impurities**

Buffer: 6.8 g/L of monobasic potassium phosphate and 0.85 g/L of sodium 1-heptanesulfonate, adjusted with phosphoric acid to a pH of 2.8

Mobile phase: Acetonitrile and *Buffer* (5:95)

System suitability solution: 3.6 µg/mL of USP Levetiracetam RS and 3.6 µg/mL of USP Levetiracetam Related Compound B RS in *Mobile phase*

Standard solution: 3.6 µg/mL of USP Levetiracetam RS in *Mobile phase*

Sample solution: Equivalent to 1.2 mg/mL of levetiracetam from NLT 20 Tablets, finely crushed, in *Mobile phase*. [Note—Sonicate if necessary, and centrifuge the solution before passing through a suitable filter.]

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography ⟨621⟩, System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 200 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 4-µm packing L1

Flow rate: 1 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 µL

System suitability

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

Suitability requirements

Resolution: NLT 2.0 between levetiracetam related compound B and levetiracetam, *System suitability solution*

Tailing factor: NMT 2.0, *Standard solution*

Relative standard deviation: NMT 10.0%, *Standard solution*

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

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

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

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

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

C_S = concentration of USP Levetiracetam RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

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

F = relative response factor (see *Table 2*)

Acceptance criteria: See *Table 2*.

Table 2

Name	Relative Retention Time	Relative Response Factor	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Levetiracetam related compound B[a]	0.54	—	—
Levetiracetam	1.0	—	—
Levetiracetam related compound A[a,b]	1.7	—	—
Levetiracetam acid[c]	2.1	0.79	0.3
Any individual unspecified degradation product	—	1.0	0.1
Total impurities	—	—	0.6

[a] These impurities are listed for information only; they are process impurities, which are controlled in the drug substance.

[b] (*S*)-*N*-(1-Amino-1-oxobutan-2-yl)-4-chlorobutanamide.

[c] (*S*)-2-(2-Oxopyrrolidine-1-yl)butanoic acid.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Packaging and Storage:** Preserve in tight containers. Store at controlled room temperature.
- **Labeling:** When more than one *Dissolution* test is given, the labeling states the *Dissolution* test used only if *Test 1* is not used.
- **USP Reference Standards** ⟨11⟩

USP Levetiracetam RS

USP Levetiracetam Related Compound B RS

(*S*)-2-Aminobutanamide hydrochloride.
$C_4H_{10}N_2O \cdot HCl$ 138.60

Auxiliary Information - Please check for your question in the FAQs before contacting USP.

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
LEVETIRACETAM TABLETS	Documentary Standards Support	SM42020 Small Molecules 4

Chromatographic Database Information: Chromatographic Database

Most Recently Appeared In:
Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. PF 39(2)

Current DocID: GUID-CAC2588F-9536-4FBC-AA54-45C08164A379_5_en-US

DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M44660_05_01

DOI ref: wr77d