

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

r_u = peak response from the *Sample solution*

r_s = peak response from the *Standard solution*

C_s = concentration of [USP Methylphenidate Hydrochloride RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

C_u = concentration of Methylphenidate Hydrochloride in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

Acceptance criteria: 98.0%–102.0% on the dried basis

IMPURITIES

• [RESIDUE ON IGNITION \(281\)](#): NMT 0.1%

• **ORGANIC IMPURITIES, PROCEDURE 1**

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

Analysis

Sample: *Sample solution*

Identify each impurity using the relative retention times in [Table 1](#).

Calculate the percentage of each impurity in the portion of Methylphenidate Hydrochloride taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_u/r_T) \times 100$$

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

r_T = sum of the responses of all impurity peaks including the methylphenidate peak from the *Sample solution*

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

Table 1

Name	Relative Retention Time	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Erythro isomer ^a	0.58	0.15
Methylphenidate related compound A	0.85	0.5
Methylphenidate	1.0	—
Any individual unspecified impurity	—	0.10
Total impurities	—	1.0

^a (RS)-Methyl-2-phenyl-2-[(SR)-piperidin-2-yl] acetate.

• **ORGANIC IMPURITIES, PROCEDURE 2**

[NOTE—Perform this test only if ethylphenidate or *all-rac*-dimethyl 2,2'-(piperidine-1,2-diy)bis(2-phenylacetate) is a known process impurity.]

Buffer A: 5.7 g of [monobasic ammonium phosphate](#) and 1.6 g of [octanesulfonic acid sodium salt](#) in 1 L of [water](#)

Buffer B: Add 4 mL of [triethylamine](#) to 1 L of Buffer A. Adjust with [phosphoric acid](#) to a pH of 2.9.

Solution A: [Acetonitrile](#) and Buffer B (14:86)

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

Mobile phase: See [Table 2](#).

Table 2

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	90	10
7	65	35
10	50	50

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
12	50	50
13	90	10
16	90	10

[NOTE—Equilibration of the chromatographic system at the initial conditions for a minimum of 30 min is recommended before the first injection.]

System suitability solution: 0.5 mg/mL of [USP Methylphenidate Hydrochloride RS](#) and 3 µg/mL each of [USP Methylphenidate Related Compound A RS](#), [phenylacetic acid](#), and [USP Methylphenidate Hydrochloride Erythro Isomer Solution RS](#) in *Solution A*

Standard solution: 0.5 µg/mL of [USP Methylphenidate Hydrochloride RS](#) in *Solution A*

Sample solution: 0.5 mg/mL of Methylphenidate Hydrochloride in *Solution A*. [NOTE—Allow the solution to stand for at least 2 h.]

Chromatographic system

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

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 220 nm

Column: 3.9-mm × 15-cm; 5-µm packing [L7](#)

Column temperature: 40°

Flow rate: 2.8 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 µL

System suitability

Sample: System suitability solution

[NOTE—See [Table 3](#) for the relative retention times.]

Suitability requirements

Resolution: NLT 2.7 between methylphenidate related compound A and phenylacetic acid; NLT 3.6 between phenylacetic acid and erythro isomer

Tailing factor: NMT 2.0 for methylphenidate

Relative standard deviation: NMT 2.0% for methylphenidate; NMT 5.0% for methylphenidate related compound A, phenylacetic acid, and methylphenidate hydrochloride erythro isomer

Analysis

Samples: Standard solution and Sample solution

Calculate the percentage of any individual impurity in the portion of Methylphenidate Hydrochloride taken:

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

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

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

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

C_U = concentration of Methylphenidate Hydrochloride in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

F = relative response factor (see [Table 3](#))

Acceptance criteria: See [Table 3](#). The reporting threshold is 0.05%.

Table 3

Name	Relative Retention Time	Relative Response Factor	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Methylphenidate related compound A	0.55	1.1	0.2
Phenylacetic acid	0.67	1.0	0.1
Erythro isomer ^a	0.80	1.0	0.2
Methylphenidate	1.0	—	—

Name	Relative Retention Time	Relative Response Factor	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Ethylphenidate ^b	1.22	0.9	0.1
Bis-methylphenidate ^c	1.80	2.6	0.1
Any individual unspecified impurity	—	1.0	0.1
Total impurities	—	—	0.5

^a (RS)-Methyl-2-phenyl-2-[(SR)-piperidin-2-yl] acetate.

^b Ethyl(RS)-2-phenyl-2-[(RS)-piperidin-2-yl]acetate.

^c *all*-rac-Dimethyl 2,2'-(piperidine-1,2-diyl)bis(2-phenylacetate).

SPECIFIC TESTS

- **Loss on Drying (731)**

Analysis: Dry under vacuum at 60° for 4 h.

Acceptance criteria: NMT 0.5%

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

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

- **LABELING:** If a test for *Organic Impurities* other than *Procedure 1* is used, then the labeling states the procedure with which the article complies.

Change to read:

- **USP REFERENCE STANDARDS (11)**

[USP Methylphenidate Hydrochloride RS](#)

[USP Methylphenidate Hydrochloride Erythro Isomer Solution RS](#)

This solution contains 0.5 mg/mL of methylphenidate hydrochloride erythro isomer in methanol.

[USP Methylphenidate Related Compound A RS](#)

▲(RS)-2-Phenyl-2-[(RS)-piperidin-2-yl]acetic acid hydrochloride.▲ (ERR 1-Jun-2023)

$C_{13}H_{17}NO_2 \cdot HCl$ 255.74

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
METHYLPHENIDATE HYDROCHLORIDE	Documentary Standards Support	SM42020 Small Molecules 4

Chromatographic Database Information: [Chromatographic Database](#)

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