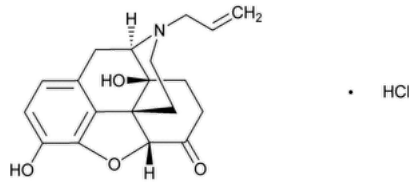


Status: Currently Official on 15-Feb-2025
Official Date: Official as of 01-Dec-2022
Document Type: USP Monographs
DocId: GUID-01E800BC-458D-4847-99F1-7B42AD6118AC_6_en-US
DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M55510_06_01
DOI Ref: xzz2y

© 2025 USPC
Do not distribute

Naloxone Hydrochloride

Change to read:



$C_{19}H_{21}NO_4 \cdot HCl$ 363.84
Morphinan-6-one, 4,5-epoxy-3,14-dihydroxy-17-(2-propenyl)-, hydrochloride, (5 α);
17-Allyl-4,5 α -epoxy-3,14-dihydroxymorphinan-6-one hydrochloride CAS RN®: 357-08-4; UNII: F850569PQR.
Dihydrate
 $C_{19}H_{21}NO_4 \cdot HCl \cdot 2H_2O$ ▲ (USP 1-Dec-2022) 399.87 CAS RN®: 51481-60-8; UNII: 5Q187997EE.

Change to read:

DEFINITION

Naloxone Hydrochloride is anhydrous or contains two molecules of water of hydration. It contains NLT 98.0% and NMT ▲102.0%▲ (USP 1-Dec-2022) of naloxone hydrochloride ($C_{19}H_{21}NO_4 \cdot HCl$), calculated on the dried basis.

IDENTIFICATION

Change to read:

- **A. SPECTROSCOPIC IDENTIFICATION TESTS (197), Infrared Spectroscopy:** 197K▲ or 197A▲ (USP 1-Dec-2022)
Sample: ▲Dissolve about 150 mg of Naloxone Hydrochloride in 25 mL of [water](#) in a small separator and add a few drops of 6 N [ammonium hydroxide](#) slowly until no more white precipitate is formed. Extract with three 5-mL portions of [chloroform](#) and pass the extracts through a dry filter, collecting the filtrate in a small flask. Evaporate the filtrate on a steam bath to dryness, and dry the residue at 105° for 1 h.▲ (USP 1-Dec-2022)
Acceptance criteria: Meets the requirements
Add the following:
▲• **B.** The retention time of the naloxone peak of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the Assay.▲ (USP 1-Dec-2022)

ASSAY

Change to read:

- **PROCEDURE**
▲**Buffer:** 0.005 M [sodium 1-octanesulfonate](#) in [water](#). Adjust with 50% (v/v) [phosphoric acid](#) solution to a pH of 2.0.
Solution A: [Acetonitrile](#), [tetrahydrofuran](#), and *Buffer* (20:40:940)
Solution B: [Acetonitrile](#), [tetrahydrofuran](#), and *Buffer* (170:40:790)
Mobile phase: See [Table 1](#).

Table 1

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	100	0
40	0	100
50	0	100

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
51	100	0
60	100	0

Standard solution: 0.225 mg/mL of [USP Naloxone RS](#) in 0.1 N [hydrochloric acid](#)

Sample solution: 0.25 mg/mL of Naloxone Hydrochloride in 0.1 N [hydrochloric acid](#)

Chromatographic system

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

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 230 nm

Column: 4.0-mm × 12.5-cm; 5-μm packing [L1](#)

Column temperature: 40°

Flow rate: 1.5 mL/min

Injection volume: 20 μL

System suitability

Sample: *Standard solution*

Suitability requirements

Tailing factor: NMT 2.0

Relative standard deviation: NMT 0.73%

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of naloxone hydrochloride ($C_{19}H_{21}NO_4 \cdot HCl$) in the portion of Naloxone Hydrochloride taken:

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

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

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

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

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

M_{r1} = molecular weight of naloxone hydrochloride, 363.84

M_{r2} = molecular weight of naloxone, 327.38

Acceptance criteria: 98.0%–102.0% on the dried basis ▲ (USP 1-Dec-2022)

OTHER COMPONENTS

• CONTENT OF CHLORIDE

Sample: About 300 mg

Analysis: Dissolve the *Sample* in 50 mL of [methanol](#) contained in a 125-mL conical flask, and add 5 mL of [glacial acetic acid](#) and 2 drops of [eosin Y TS](#). Titrate with [0.1 N silver nitrate VS](#) to a pink endpoint. Each milliliter of 0.1 N silver nitrate is equivalent to 3.545 mg of chloride.

Acceptance criteria: 9.54%–9.94% on the dried basis

IMPURITIES

Delete the following:

▲ **NOROXYMORPHONE HYDROCHLORIDE** [(–)-4,5α-EPOXY-3,14-DIHYDROXYMORPHINAN-6-ONE HYDROCHLORIDE] AND **OTHER IMPURITIES** ▲ (USP 1-DEC-2022)

Add the following:

▲ **LIMIT OF NALOXONE RELATED COMPOUND D**

Buffer: 1.58 g/L of [ammonium hydrogen carbonate](#) in [water](#) prepared as follows. Dissolve 1.58 g of ammonium hydrogen carbonate in 950 mL of [water](#), adjust with [ammonium hydroxide](#) to a pH of 9.0, and dilute with [water](#) to 1000 mL.

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

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

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

Table 2

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	100	0
50	100	0
51	0	100
60	0	100

▲▲ (ERR 1-Dec-2022)

System suitability solution: 5 mg/mL of [USP Naloxone RS](#) and 0.0025 mg/mL of [USP Naloxone Related Compound D RS](#) in 0.1 N [hydrochloric acid](#)

Standard solution: 0.00125 mg/mL of [USP Naloxone Related Compound D RS](#) in 0.1 N [hydrochloric acid](#)

Sample solution: 25 mg/mL of Naloxone Hydrochloride in 0.1 N [hydrochloric acid](#)

Chromatographic system

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

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 210 nm

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

Column temperature: 40°

Flow rate: 2.0 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 µL

System suitability

Samples: ▲▲ (ERR 1-Dec-2022) *System suitability solution and Standard solution*

Suitability requirements

Tailing factor: NMT 1.8 for naloxone related compound D, *System suitability solution*

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

▲▲ (ERR 1-Dec-2022)

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution and Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of naloxone related compound D in the portion of Naloxone Hydrochloride taken:

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

r_U = peak response of naloxone related compound D from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response of naloxone related compound D from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of [USP Naloxone Related Compound D RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

C_U = concentration of Naloxone Hydrochloride in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL), calculated on the dried basis

Acceptance criteria: NMT 0.010%▲ (USP 1-Dec-2022)

Add the following:

▲• ORGANIC IMPURITIES

Buffer, Solution A, Solution B, Mobile phase, Standard solution, and Chromatographic system: Proceed as directed in the Assay.

Sensitivity solution: 2.25 µg/mL of [USP Naloxone RS](#) in 0.1 N [hydrochloric acid](#)

System suitability solution: 4.5 mg/mL of [USP Naloxone RS](#) and 0.0245 mg/mL of [USP Naloxone Related Compound D RS](#) in 0.1 N [hydrochloric acid](#)

Sample solution: 5 mg/mL of Naloxone Hydrochloride in 0.1 N [hydrochloric acid](#)

System suitability

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

Suitability requirements

Peak-to-valley ratio: NLT 2.0, *System suitability solution*

Relative standard deviation: NMT 0.73%, *Standard solution*

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

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution and Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of each impurity other than naloxone related compound D in the portion of Naloxone Hydrochloride taken:

Result = $(r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times (M_{r1}/M_{r2}) \times (1/F) \times 100$

- r_U = peak response of each impurity from the *Sample solution*
- r_S = peak response of naloxone from the *Standard solution*
- C_S = concentration of [USP Naloxone RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)
- C_U = concentration of Naloxone Hydrochloride in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL), calculated on the dried basis
- M_{r1} = molecular weight of naloxone hydrochloride, 363.84
- M_{r2} = molecular weight of naloxone, 327.38
- 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 (%)
10 α -Hydroxynaloxone ^a	0.66	1.0	0.15
Noroxymorphone ^b	0.85	1.0	0.15
10 β -Hydroxynaloxone ^c	0.95	1.0	0.15
Naloxone hydrochloride	1.00	—	—
Naloxone related compound D ^d	1.15	—	—
2,2'-Bisnaloxone ^e	3.22	2.0	0.15
3-O-Allylnaloxone ^f	3.46	1.0	0.15
Any unspecified impurity	—	1.0	0.10
Total impurities	—	—	0.8▲ (USP 1-Dec-2022)

- ^a 4,5 α -Epoxy-3,10 α ,14-trihydroxy-17-(prop-2-enyl)morphinan-6-one.
- ^b 4,5 α -Epoxy-3,14-dihydroxymorphinan-6-one.
- ^c 4,5 α -Epoxy-3,10 β ,14-trihydroxy-17-(prop-2-enyl)morphinan-6-one.
- ^d For peak identification only. Naloxone related compound D is quantified in the *Limit of Naloxone Related Compound D* test.
- ^e 4,5 α :4',5' α -Diepoxy-3,3',14,14'-tetrahydroxy-17,17'-bis(prop-2-enyl)-2,2'-bimorphinan-6,6'-dione.
- ^f 4,5 α -Epoxy-14-hydroxy-17-(prop-2-enyl)-3-(prop-2-enyloxy)morphinan-6-one.

SPECIFIC TESTS

- OPTICAL ROTATION (781S), Procedures, Specific Rotation**
Sample solution: 25 mg/mL in [water](#)
Acceptance criteria: -170° to -181°
- LOSS ON DRYING (731)**
Analysis: Dry at 105° to constant weight.
Acceptance criteria: NMT 0.5% for the anhydrous form and NMT 11.0% for the hydrous form

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in tight, light-resistant containers. Store at 25°, with excursions permitted between 15° and 30°.
- Change to read:**
 - USP REFERENCE STANDARDS (11)**
[USP Naloxone RS](#)
▲Morphinan-6-one, 4,5-epoxy-3,14-dihydroxy-17-(2-propenyl)-, (5 α).
C₁₉H₂₁NO₄ 327.38

[USP Naloxone Related Compound D RS](#)

4,5α-Epoxy-3,14-dihydroxy-17-(prop-2-enyl)morphinan-7-ene-6-one.
C₁₉H₁₉NO₄ 325.36▲ (USP 1-Dec-2022)

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
NALOXONE HYDROCHLORIDE	Documentary Standards Support	SM22020 Small Molecules 2

Chromatographic Database Information: [Chromatographic Database](#)

Most Recently Appeared In:

Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. 46(2)

Current DocID: GUID-01E800BC-458D-4847-99F1-7B42AD6118AC_6_en-US

DOI: https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M55510_06_01

DOI ref: [xzz2y](#)

OFFICIAL