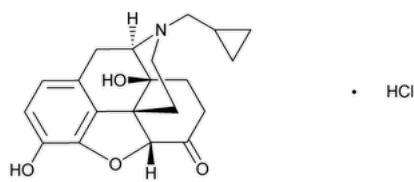


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# Naltrexone Hydrochloride



C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> · HCl 377.86  
Morphinan-6-one, 17-(cyclopropylmethyl)-4,5-epoxy-3,14- dihydroxy-, hydrochloride, (5α)-;  
17-(Cyclopropylmethyl)-4,5α-epoxy-3,14-dihydroxy morphinan-6-one hydrochloride CAS RN®: 16676-29-2; UNII: Z6375YW9SF.  
Free base  
C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 341.41 CAS RN®: 16590-41-3; UNII: 5S6W795CQM.  
Dihydrate  
C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> · HCl · 2H<sub>2</sub>O 413.89 CAS RN®: 850808-02-5; UNII: 5P80UKS30B.

## DEFINITION

Naltrexone Hydrochloride contains NLT 98.0% and NMT 102.0% of naltrexone hydrochloride (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> · HCl), calculated on the anhydrous, solvent-free basis.

## IDENTIFICATION

Change to read:

- A. ▲ **SPECTROSCOPIC IDENTIFICATION TESTS (197), Infrared Spectroscopy:** 197A or 197K▲ (CN 1-May-2020)  
**Sample:** Dissolve 150 mg of Naltrexone Hydrochloride in 25 mL of [water](#) in a small separator. 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.  
**Acceptance criteria:** Meets the requirements
- B. The retention time of the naltrexone peak of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the Assay.

## ASSAY

### PROCEDURE

- Solution A:** Dissolve about 1.08 g of [sodium 1-octanesulfonate](#) and about 23.8 g of [sodium acetate](#) in 800 mL of [water](#). Add 1.0 mL of [triethylamine](#) and 200 mL of [methanol](#), and adjust with [glacial acetic acid](#) to a pH of 6.5 ± 0.1.
- Solution B:** Dissolve about 1.08 g of [sodium 1-octanesulfonate](#) and about 23.8 g of [sodium acetate](#) in 400 mL of water. Add 1.0 mL of [triethylamine](#) and 600 mL of [methanol](#), and adjust with [glacial acetic acid](#) to a pH of 6.5 ± 0.1.
- Mobile phase:** See [Table 1](#).

Table 1

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	100	0
35	0	100
36	100	0
53	100	0

**Standard solution:** 2.25 mg/mL of [USP Naltrexone RS](#) prepared as follows. Transfer an amount of [USP Naltrexone RS](#) to a suitable volumetric flask, add 15% of the final volume of methanol and 6% of the final volume of 0.1 N hydrochloric acid, and dissolve by swirling. Dilute with 0.1 M [phosphoric acid](#) to volume.

**System suitability stock solution:** 0.3 mg/mL of [USP Naltrexone Related Compound A RS](#) prepared as follows. Transfer a quantity of [USP Naltrexone Related Compound A RS](#) to a suitable volumetric flask, add 30% of the final volume of [methanol](#), and dissolve by swirling. Dilute with 0.1 M [phosphoric acid](#) to volume.

**System suitability solution:** 1.125 mg/mL of [USP Naltrexone RS](#) and 0.015 mg/mL of [USP Naltrexone Related Compound A RS](#) prepared as follows. Transfer suitable volumes of *System suitability stock solution* and *Standard solution* to an adequate volumetric flask, and dilute with 0.1 M [phosphoric acid](#) to volume.

**Sample solution:** 2.5 mg/mL of Naltrexone Hydrochloride in 0.1 M [phosphoric acid](#)

#### Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 280 nm

**Column:** 3.9-mm × 15-cm; 4-μm packing L1

**Flow rate:** 1 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 20 μL

#### System suitability

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

[NOTE—The relative retention times for naltrexone and naltrexone related compound A are 1.0 and 1.26, respectively.]

#### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 2.0 between naltrexone and naltrexone related compound A, *System suitability solution*

**Tailing factor:** NMT 1.4, *Standard solution*

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

#### Analysis

**Samples:** *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of naltrexone hydrochloride ( $C_{20}H_{23}NO_4 \cdot HCl$ ) in the portion of Naltrexone 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 naltrexone from the *Sample solution*

$r_S$  = peak response of naltrexone from the *Standard solution*

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

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

$M_{r1}$  = molecular weight of naltrexone hydrochloride, 377.86

$M_{r2}$  = molecular weight of naltrexone, 341.41

**Acceptance criteria:** 98.0%–102.0% on the anhydrous, solvent-free basis

#### IMPURITIES

• **RESIDUE ON IGNITION (281):** NMT 0.1%

• **LIMIT OF TOTAL SOLVENTS:** The sum of water and total solvents (methanol and ethanol) is NMT 5.0% for the anhydrous form and NMT 11.0% for the dihydrate form.

• **ORGANIC IMPURITIES**

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

**Sensitivity solution:** 2.25 μg/mL of [USP Naltrexone RS](#) in 0.1 M [phosphoric acid](#) from *Standard solution*

#### System suitability

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

#### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 2.0 between naltrexone and naltrexone related compound A, *System suitability solution*

**Tailing factor:** NMT 1.4, *Standard 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 in the portion of Naltrexone Hydrochloride 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 naltrexone from the *Standard solution*
- $C_s$  = concentration of [USP Naltrexone RS](#) in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)
- $C_u$  = concentration of Naltrexone Hydrochloride 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 (%)
Noroxymorphone <sup>a</sup>	0.55	1.0	0.5
10-Hydroxynaltrexone <sup>b</sup>	0.70	1.0	0.5
Naltrexone	1.00	1.0	—
Naltrexone related compound A	1.26	1.0	0.5
2,2'-Bisnaltrexone <sup>c</sup>	1.80	2.3	0.5
10-Ketonaltrexone <sup>d</sup>	1.99	4.0	0.5
Any unspecified impurity	—	1.0	0.5
Total impurities	—	—	1.5

- <sup>a</sup> 4,5 $\alpha$ -Epoxy-3,14-dihydroxymorphinan-6-one.
- <sup>b</sup> 17-Cyclopropylmethyl-4,5 $\alpha$ -epoxy-3,10,14-trihydroxymorphinan-6-one.
- <sup>c</sup> 17,17'-Bis(cyclopropylmethyl)-4,5 $\alpha$ :4',5' $\alpha$ -diepoxy-3,3',14,14'-tetrahydroxy-2,2'-bimorphinanyl-6,6'-dione.
- <sup>d</sup> 17-Cyclopropylmethyl-4,5 $\alpha$ -epoxy-3,14-dihydroxymorphinan-6,10-dione.

**SPECIFIC TESTS**

• **CONTENT OF CHLORIDE**

- Sample solution:** Transfer about 300 mg of Naltrexone Hydrochloride to a 250-mL conical flask, add 50 mL of [methanol](#), 50 mL of [water](#), and 3 mL of [nitric acid](#). Mix to dissolve.
- Analysis:** Titrate with [0.1 N silver nitrate VS](#), determining the endpoint potentiometrically. Each milliliter of 0.1 N silver nitrate is equivalent to 3.545 mg of chloride.
- Acceptance criteria:** 9.20%–9.58%, calculated on the anhydrous, solvent-free basis
- **OPTICAL ROTATION (781S), Procedures, Specific Rotation**
- Sample solution:** 25 mg/mL of Naltrexone Hydrochloride in [water](#)
- Acceptance criteria:** –187° to –197°, calculated on the anhydrous, solvent-free basis
- **WATER DETERMINATION (921), Method I:** Determine the water content as directed. [NOTE—The result of this test is used in the calculation in the test for *Limit of Total Solvents*.]
- **CLARITY OF SOLUTION**
- Sample solution:** Dissolve 1.0 g of Naltrexone Hydrochloride in 50 mL of [water](#).
- Analysis:** Determine the turbidity of the *Sample solution* (see [Nephelometry, Turbidimetry, and Visual Comparison \(855\)](#)).
- Acceptance criteria:** NMT 3 NTUs

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

- **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in tight containers.
- **USP REFERENCE STANDARDS (11).**
- [USP Naltrexone RS](#)
- [USP Naltrexone Related Compound A RS](#)
- 17-(But-3-en-1-yl)-4,5 $\alpha$ -epoxy-3,14-dihydroxymorphinan-6-one hydrochloride.
- $C_{20}H_{23}NO_4 \cdot HCl$  377.86

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
NALTREXONE HYDROCHLORIDE	<a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>	SM22020 Small Molecules 2

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

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