

Status: Currently Official on 16-Feb-2025  
 Official Date: Official Prior to 2013  
 Document Type: USP Monographs  
 DocId: GUID-A6F82AC8-79E5-4B76-95F6-9E6EB24ADE44\_2\_en-US  
 DOI: [https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF\\_M59525\\_02\\_01](https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M59525_02_01)  
 DOI Ref: 5e16e

© 2025 USPC  
 Do not distribute

# Oxycodone and Acetaminophen Tablets

## DEFINITION

Oxycodone and Acetaminophen Tablets contain Oxycodone Hydrochloride and Acetaminophen. Tablets contain the equivalent of NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of oxycodone ( $C_{18}H_{21}NO_4$ ), and NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of acetaminophen ( $C_8H_9NO_2$ ).

## IDENTIFICATION

### • A. THIN-LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHY

**Standard solution A:** 0.5 mg/mL of [USP Oxycodone RS](#) in a mixture of methanol and water (4:1)

**Standard solution B:** 0.5J mg/mL of [USP Acetaminophen RS](#) in a mixture of methanol and water (4:1). [NOTE—J is the ratio of the labeled amount, in mg, of acetaminophen to the labeled amount, in mg, of oxycodone per Tablet.]

**Sample solution:** Nominally equivalent to 2.5 mg of oxycodone from powdered Tablets in a 5-mL mixture of methanol and water (4:1). Sonicate for 5 min, and shake by mechanical means for 15 min. Allow to settle, and use the clear supernatant.

### Chromatographic system

(See [Chromatography \(621\)](#), [Thin-Layer Chromatography](#).)

**Adsorbent:** 0.25-mm layer of silica gel mixture

**Application volume:** 20  $\mu$ L

**Developing solvent system:** Butyl alcohol, glacial acetic acid, and water (4:1:2)

### Analysis

**Samples:** *Standard solution A*, *Standard solution B*, and *Sample solution*

Proceed as directed in the chapter. Develop the chromatographic plate until the solvent front has moved about three-fourths of the length of the plate. Mark the solvent front, and allow the plate to air-dry for about 30 min. Expose the plate to iodine vapors in a closed chamber, and locate the spots.

**Acceptance criteria:** The  $R_f$  values of the principal spots from the *Sample solution* correspond to those from the respective *Standard solutions*.

• **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

**Solution A:** Methanol and 0.05 M dibasic potassium phosphate (1:9). Adjust with phosphoric acid to a pH of 4.0.

**Buffer:** 0.95 mg/mL of monobasic potassium phosphate in water, phosphoric acid, and *n*-nonylamine (1000:1:1). Prepare as follows: Add 950 mg of monobasic potassium phosphate to 1000 mL of water. Add 1 mL of phosphoric acid, and stir until dissolved. While stirring, add 1 mL of *n*-nonylamine, and stir until a clear solution is obtained. Adjust with potassium hydroxide TS to a pH of  $4.9 \pm 0.1$ .

**Mobile phase:** Methanol and *Buffer* (1:9)

**Oxycodone standard stock solution:** 0.075 mg/mL of [USP Oxycodone RS](#) in *Solution A*

**Standard stock solution:** 0.03J mg/mL of [USP Acetaminophen RS](#) and 0.03 mg/mL of [USP Oxycodone RS](#) in *Solution A*. Prepare by adding 40% of the flask volume of *Solution A* to the appropriate quantity of [USP Acetaminophen RS](#), and then adding 40% of the flask volume of *Oxycodone standard stock solution* and diluting with *Solution A* to volume. [NOTE—J is the ratio of the labeled amount, in mg, of acetaminophen to that of oxycodone equivalent.]

**Standard solution:** 0.003J mg/mL of [USP Acetaminophen RS](#) and 0.003 mg/mL of [USP Oxycodone RS](#) in *Mobile phase* from *Standard stock solution*

**Sample stock solution:** Nominal equivalent of 0.03 mg/mL of oxycodone, from powdered Tablets (NLT 20), in *Solution A* in a suitable container. Shake by mechanical means for 1 h.

**Sample solution:** 0.003 mg/mL of oxycodone in *Mobile phase* from *Sample stock solution*. Pass the resulting solution through a membrane filter of 0.5- $\mu$ m or finer pore size, discarding the first 10 mL of the filtrate.

### Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 214 nm

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

**Column temperature:** 40°

**Flow rate:** 2 mL/min

**Injection size:** 20 μL

#### System suitability

**Sample:** *Standard solution*

[NOTE—The relative retention times for oxycodone and acetaminophen are about 0.6 and 1.0, respectively.]

#### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 2.4 between acetaminophen and oxycodone

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 2.0%

#### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of oxycodone ( $C_{18}H_{21}NO_4$ ) in the portion of Tablets taken:

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

$r_U$  = peak response of oxycodone from the *Sample solution*

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

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

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

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of acetaminophen ( $C_8H_9NO_2$ ) in the portion of Tablets taken:

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

$r_U$  = peak response of acetaminophen from the *Sample solution*

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

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

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

**Acceptance criteria:** 90.0%–110.0% of the labeled amount of oxycodone ( $C_{18}H_{21}NO_4$ ), and 90.0%–110.0% of the labeled amount of acetaminophen ( $C_8H_9NO_2$ )

#### PERFORMANCE TESTS

- [DISSOLUTION, Procedure for a Pooled Sample <711>](#)

**Medium:** 0.1 N hydrochloric acid; 900 mL

**Apparatus 2:** 50 rpm

**Time:** 45 min

**Sample solution:** Sample per [Dissolution <711>](#). Dilute with *Medium* as needed.

**Analysis:** Determine the amounts of oxycodone ( $C_{18}H_{21}NO_4$ ) and acetaminophen ( $C_8H_9NO_2$ ) dissolved, using the procedure in the Assay, and making any necessary volumetric adjustments, including adjusting the solution under test to a pH of about 5.5 before injecting.

**Tolerances:** NLT 75% (Q) of the labeled amounts of oxycodone ( $C_{18}H_{21}NO_4$ ) and acetaminophen ( $C_8H_9NO_2$ ) is dissolved.

- [UNIFORMITY OF DOSAGE UNITS <905>](#): Meet the requirements

#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in tight, light-resistant containers.
- **LABELING:** The Tablets may be labeled to indicate the content of oxycodone hydrochloride ( $C_{18}H_{21}NO_4 \cdot HCl$ ) equivalent. Each mg of oxycodone is equivalent to 1.116 mg of oxycodone hydrochloride.
- [USP REFERENCE STANDARDS <11>](#)

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
OXYCODONE AND ACETAMINOPHEN TABLETS	<a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>	SM22020 Small Molecules 2
REFERENCE STANDARD SUPPORT	RS Technical Services <a href="mailto:RSTECH@usp.org">RSTECH@usp.org</a>	SM22020 Small Molecules 2

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

**Most Recently Appeared In:**  
Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. PF 37(4)

**Current DocID:** GUID-A6F82AC8-79E5-4B76-95F6-9E6EB24ADE44\_2\_en-US  
**Previous DocID:** GUID-A6F82AC8-79E5-4B76-95F6-9E6EB24ADE44\_1\_en-US  
**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF\\_M59525\\_02\\_01](https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M59525_02_01)  
**DOI ref:** [5e16e](#)

OFFICIAL