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## Pentazocine and Acetaminophen Tablets

### DEFINITION

Pentazocine and Acetaminophen Tablets contain an amount of Pentazocine Hydrochloride equivalent to NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of pentazocine ( $C_{19}H_{27}NO$ ) and NLT 90.0% and NMT 110.0% of the labeled amount of acetaminophen ( $C_8H_9NO_2$ ).

### IDENTIFICATION

• **A. [THIN-LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION TEST \(201\)](#).**

**Diluent:** Chloroform and methanol (1:1)

**Standard solution A:** 1 mg/mL of [USP Pentazocine RS](#) in *Diluent*

**Standard solution B:** 26 mg/mL of [USP Acetaminophen RS](#) in *Diluent*

**Sample solution:** Transfer a quantity of finely powdered Tablets, nominally equivalent to about 5 mg of pentazocine and 130 mg of acetaminophen, to a suitable flask. Add 5 mL of *Diluent*, shake, and allow the solids to settle. Use the supernatant.

**Chromatographic system**

**Developing solvent system:** Ethyl acetate, methanol, and formic acid (90:5:5)

**Spray reagent:** Dissolve 300 mg of platinum chloride in 100 mL of water and add 100 mL of potassium iodide solution (6 in 100).

**Analysis:** Evaporate the solvents in cool, circulating air. After developing and examining the spots, spray the plate with *Spray reagent*.

**Acceptance criteria:** The  $R_f$  values, size, and intensity of color of the two principal spots of the *Sample solution* correspond to those of *Standard solution A* and *Standard solution B*.

### ASSAY

• **PENTAZOCINE**

**Mobile phase:** Chloroform, methanol, and isopropylamine (960:40:2)

**Diluent:** Methanol and 0.035 N sulfuric acid (1:1)

**Standard stock solution:** 0.5 mg/mL of [USP Pentazocine RS](#) in *Diluent*

**Standard solution:** Transfer 10.0 mL of the *Standard stock solution* to a 125-mL separator. Add 30 mL of water and 5 mL of sodium carbonate solution (1:10). Extract with 60 mL of chloroform and pass the chloroform layer through filter paper, collecting the filtrate in a 100-mL volumetric flask. Dilute with chloroform to volume and mix.

**Sample solution:** Transfer an amount nominally equivalent to 25 mg of pentazocine, from NLT 20 finely powdered Tablets, to a 50-mL glass-stoppered cylinder. Add 50.0 mL of *Diluent* and shake intermittently for 15 min. Sonicate for about 2 min, allow the solids to settle, and transfer 10.0 mL of the supernatant to a 125-mL separator. [NOTE—Save the remainder of the supernatant for use in the Assay for *Acetaminophen*. Minimize the waiting period before this test is performed to prevent significant hydrolysis of acetaminophen to *p*-aminophenol.]

Add 30 mL of water and 5 mL of sodium carbonate solution (1:10) to the separator and mix. Extract with 60 mL of chloroform and pass the chloroform layer through filter paper, collecting the filtrate in a 100-mL volumetric flask. Dilute with chloroform to volume and mix.

**Chromatographic system**

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 280 nm

**Column:** 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 10-μm packing L3

**Flow rate:** 1.2 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 20 μL

**System suitability**

**Sample:** *Standard solution*

**Suitability requirements**

**Tailing factor:** NMT 3.0

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 2.0%

## Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of pentazocine ( $C_{19}H_{27}NO$ ) in the portion of Tablets taken:

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

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

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

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

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

**Acceptance criteria:** 90.0%–110.0%

## • ACETAMINOPHEN

[NOTE—Minimize the time between the addition of the *Diluent* and the injection of the *Sample solution* to prevent significant hydrolysis of acetaminophen to *p*-aminophenol.]

**Mobile phase:** Chloroform, methanol, and isopropylamine (960:40:2)

**Diluent:** Methanol and 0.035 N sulfuric acid (1:1)

**Standard stock solution:** 13 mg/mL of [USP Acetaminophen RS](#) in *Diluent*

**Standard solution:** Dilute 2.0 mL of the *Standard stock solution* with ethyl acetate to 200 mL.

**Sample solution:** Dilute 2.0 mL of the supernatant reserved from the Assay for *Pentazocine* immediately with ethyl acetate to volume in a 200-mL volumetric flask to minimize hydrolysis of acetaminophen to *p*-aminophenol and mix.

## Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 254 nm

**Column:** 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 10-μm packing L3

**Flow rate:** 1.4 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 10 μL

## System suitability

**Sample:** *Standard solution*

## Suitability requirements

**Tailing factor:** NMT 3.0

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 2.0%

## Analysis

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

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%

## PERFORMANCE TESTS

**Change to read:**

• [UNIFORMITY OF DOSAGE UNITS \(905\)](#): ▲Meet the requirements▲ (CN 1-Aug-2023)

## Procedure for content uniformity

**Diluent:** Acetonitrile and 0.035 N sulfuric acid (6:4)

**Mobile phase:** Tetrahydrofuran, phosphoric acid, and 0.005 M monobasic sodium phosphate (50:1:950)

**Pentazocine standard stock solution:** 0.25 mg/mL of [USP Pentazocine RS](#) in *Diluent*

**System suitability stock solution:** 0.325 mg/mL of [USP Acetaminophen RS](#) in *Diluent*

**System suitability solution:** Transfer 1.0 mL of the *System suitability stock solution* to a 100-mL volumetric flask. Add 5.0 mL of the *Pentazocine standard stock solution*, dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume, and mix.

**Standard solution:** Transfer a quantity of [USP Acetaminophen RS](#) to a suitable volumetric flask. Add a sufficient volume of *Pentazocine standard stock solution* and mix to dissolve the acetaminophen. Dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume. Mix to obtain known concentrations of 0.0125 and 0.325 mg/mL of pentazocine and acetaminophen, respectively.

**Sample stock solution:** Transfer 1 Tablet to a 100-mL volumetric flask, add 50 mL of *Diluent*, and sonicate for 30 min. Dilute with *Diluent* to volume, and mix. Pass a portion of this solution through a paper filter, covering the funnel with a watch glass and discarding the first few mL of the filtrate.

**Sample solution:** Dilute 5.0 mL of the *Sample stock solution* with *Mobile phase* to 100 mL and pass this solution through a membrane filter of 0.5-µm or finer pore size.

#### Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 220 nm

**Column:** 9.4-mm × 10-cm; 5-µm packing L1

**Flow rate:** 1.5 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 10 µL

#### System suitability

**Sample:** *System suitability solution*

[NOTE—The relative retention times for acetaminophen and pentazocine are 0.2 and 1.0, respectively.]

#### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 7 between pentazocine and acetaminophen

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 2.0% for the pentazocine and acetaminophen peaks

#### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of pentazocine (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO) and acetaminophen (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>) in the portion of Tablets taken:

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

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

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

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

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

▲ (CN 1-Aug-2023)

#### IMPURITIES

- [4-Aminophenol in Acetaminophen-Containing Drug Products \(227\)](#): Meet the requirements

#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in tight, light-resistant containers.
- [USP REFERENCE STANDARDS \(11\)](#).  
[USP Acetaminophen RS](#)  
[USP Pentazocine RS](#)

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
PENTAZOCINE 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](#)

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