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# Phenobarbital Oral Solution

» Phenobarbital Oral Solution contains not less than 90.0 percent and not more than 110.0 percent of the labeled amount of phenobarbital ( $C_{12}H_{12}N_2O_3$ ).

**Packaging and storage**—Preserve in tight, light-resistant containers.

**USP REFERENCE STANDARDS (11)**.—  
[USP Phenobarbital RS](#)

**Identification**—

- A:** Place 10 mL of Oral Solution in a separator containing 20 mL of water, add 5 mL of 1 N sodium hydroxide, and extract with two 10-mL portions of chloroform, discarding the chloroform extracts. Add 5 mL of 3 N hydrochloric acid, and extract with two 25-mL portions of chloroform, filtering the extracts through paper into a beaker. Remove the chloroform by evaporation on a steam bath, and dry the residue at 105° for 2 hours: the residue so obtained meets the requirements for *Identification* test A under [Phenobarbital](#).
- B:** The retention time of the major peak in the chromatogram of the *Assay preparation* corresponds to that in the chromatogram of the *Standard preparation*, both relative to the internal standard, as obtained in the Assay.

**ALCOHOL DETERMINATION, Method II (611)**: between 12.0% and 15.0% of  $C_2H_5OH$ .

**Assay**—

*pH 4.5 Buffer solution, Mobile phase, and Chromatographic system*—Prepare as directed in the Assay under [Phenobarbital](#).

*Diluent*—Prepare a mixture of methanol and *pH 4.5 Buffer solution* (2:1).

*Internal standard solution*—Dissolve a sufficient quantity of caffeine in *Diluent* to obtain a solution having a concentration of about 1.7 mg per mL.

*Standard preparation*—Transfer about 33 mg of [USP Phenobarbital RS](#), accurately weighed, to a 25-mL volumetric flask containing 2.0 mL of *Internal standard solution*. Dilute with *Diluent* to volume, and mix.

*Assay preparation*—Transfer a quantity of Oral Solution, equivalent to about 33 mg of phenobarbital, to a 25-mL volumetric flask containing 2.0 mL of *Internal standard solution*. Dilute with *Diluent* to volume, and mix.

*Procedure*—Proceed as directed for *Procedure* in the Assay under [Phenobarbital](#). Calculate the quantity, in mg, of phenobarbital ( $C_{12}H_{12}N_2O_3$ ) in the portion of the Oral Solution taken by the formula:

$$W(R_U/R_S)$$

in which the terms are as defined therein.

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
PHENOBARBITAL ORAL SOLUTION	<a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>	SM42020 Small Molecules 4
REFERENCE STANDARD SUPPORT	RS Technical Services <a href="mailto:RSTECH@usp.org">RSTECH@usp.org</a>	SM42020 Small Molecules 4

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

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