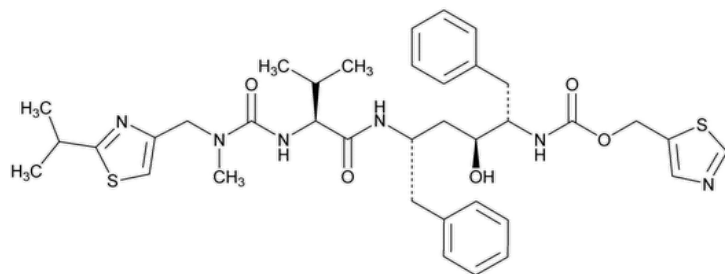


Status: Currently Official on 16-Feb-2025  
 Official Date: Official as of 01-May-2020  
 Document Type: USP Monographs  
 DocId: GUID-431197BD-CA0B-413F-A6BC-1E32EE03B216\_4\_en-US  
 DOI: [https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF\\_M73764\\_04\\_01](https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M73764_04_01)  
 DOI Ref: 47ovs

© 2025 USPC  
 Do not distribute

## Ritonavir



$C_{37}H_{48}N_6O_5S_2$  720.94

2,4,7,12-Tetraazatridecan-13-oic acid, 10-hydroxy-2-methyl-5-(1-methylethyl)-1-[2-(1-methylethyl)-4-thiazolyl]-3,6-dioxo-8,11-bis(phenylmethyl)-5-thiazolylmethyl ester [5S-(5*R*\*,8*R*\*,10*R*\*,11*R*\*)];  
 5-Thiazolylmethyl [( $\alpha$ S)- $\alpha$ -[(1*S*,3*S*)-1-hydroxy-3-[(2*S*)-2-[3-[(2-isopropyl-4-thiazolyl)methyl]-3-methylureido]3-methylbutyramido]-4-phenylbutyl]phenethyl]carbamate CAS RN®: 155213-67-5; UNII: O3J8G9O825.

### DEFINITION

Ritonavir contains NLT 97.0% and NMT 102.0% of ritonavir ( $C_{37}H_{48}N_6O_5S_2$ ), calculated on the anhydrous basis.

### IDENTIFICATION

#### Change to read:

- **A.** [▲ SPECTROSCOPIC IDENTIFICATION TESTS \(197\), Infrared Spectroscopy: 197K ▲](#) (CN 1-MAY-2020)
- **B.** The retention time of the major peak of the *Sample solution* is within 2% of the retention time of the major peak of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the Assay.

### ASSAY

#### PROCEDURE

**Solution A:** 4.1 mg/mL of monobasic potassium phosphate in water

**Solution B:** Acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran (inhibitor-free), *n*-butanol, and *Solution A* (18:8:5:69)

**Mobile phase:** *Solution B*

**Diluent:** Acetonitrile and *Solution A* (1:1)

**Standard stock solution:** 2.0 mg/mL of [USP Ritonavir RS](#) in *Diluent*. [NOTE—This solution may be kept for 5 days if refrigerated.]

**Standard solution 1:** 0.10 mg/mL of [USP Ritonavir RS](#) from the *Standard stock solution* diluted with *Diluent*

**Standard solution 2:** 0.025 mg/mL of [USP Ritonavir RS](#) from *Standard solution 1* diluted with *Diluent*

**Sample solution:** 0.025 mg/mL of Ritonavir in *Diluent*

#### Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 240 nm

**Column:** 4.6-mm × 15-cm; 3- $\mu$ m packing L26

**Column temperature:** 60°

**Flow rate:** 1 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 50  $\mu$ L

**Run time:** 40 min

#### System suitability

**Sample:** *Standard solution 2*

#### Suitability requirements

**Capacity factor,  $k'$ :** NLT 13

**Column efficiency:** NLT 5000 theoretical plates

**Tailing factor:** 0.8–1.2

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 2.0%

#### Analysis

**Samples:** *Standard solution 2* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of ritonavir ( $C_{37}H_{48}N_6O_5S_2$ ) in the portion of Ritonavir taken:

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

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

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

$C_S$  = concentration of [USP Ritonavir RS](#) in *Standard solution 2* (mg/mL)

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

**Acceptance criteria:** 97.0%–102.0% on the anhydrous basis

#### IMPURITIES

• [RESIDUE ON IGNITION \(281\)](#): NMT 0.2%, determined on 1.0 g

• **ORGANIC IMPURITIES**

Ritonavir is alkali sensitive. All glassware should be prerinsed with distilled water before use to remove residual detergent contamination.

**Solution A, Solution B, Mobile phase, Diluent, Standard stock solution, and Standard solution 1:** Prepare as directed in the Assay.

**Solution C:** Acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran (inhibitor-free), *n*-butanol, and *Solution A* (47:8:5:40)

**Mobile phase:** See [Table 1](#).

**Table 1**

| Time<br>(min) | Solution B<br>(%) | Solution C<br>(%) |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 0             | 100               | 0                 |
| 60            | 100               | 0                 |
| 120           | 0                 | 100               |
| 120.1         | 100               | 0                 |
| 155           | 100               | 0                 |

**Identity solution:** 1 mg/mL of [USP Ritonavir Related Compounds Mixture RS](#) in *Diluent*

**Standard solution 2:** 5 µg/mL of [USP Ritonavir RS](#) from *Standard solution 1* in *Diluent*. [NOTE—This is stable for 48 h.]

**Sample solution:** 1 mg/mL of Ritonavir in *Diluent*

#### Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 240 nm

**Column:** 4.6-mm × 15-cm; 3-µm packing L26

**Column temperature:** 60°

**Flow rate:** 1 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 50 µL

#### Run time

**Standard solution 2:** 40 min

#### System suitability

**Samples:** *Identity solution* and *Standard solution 2*

[NOTE—See [Table 2](#) for relative retention times.]

### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 1.0 between hydroxyritonavir and hydantoin aminoalcohol peaks, *Identity solution*

**Peak-to-valley ratio:** NLT 1 for ritonavir and the 4-hydroxy isomer, *Identity solution*

**Capacity factor,  $k'$ :** NLT 13, *Standard solution 2*

**Column efficiency:** NLT 5000 theoretical plates, *Standard solution 2*

**Tailing factor:** 0.8–1.2, *Standard solution 2*

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 3.0%, *Standard solution 2*

### Analysis

**Samples:** *Diluent, Identity solution, Standard solution 2, and Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of each impurity in the portion of Ritonavir 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 from *Standard solution 2*

$C_S$  = concentration of *Standard solution 2* (mg/mL)

$C_U$  = concentration of Ritonavir 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 (%) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Mixture of ureidovaline and <i>N</i> -deacylvaline ritonavir <sup>a</sup>   | 0.07                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| Acetamidoalcohol <sup>b</sup>                                               | 0.15                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| 2,5-Thiazolylmethyl dicarbamate <sup>c</sup>                                | 0.24                    | 1.37                     | 0.1                          |
| Hydroxyritonavir <sup>d</sup>                                               | 0.36                    | 1.0                      | 0.3                          |
| Hydantoin aminoalcohol <sup>e</sup>                                         | 0.39                    | 0.73                     | 0.1                          |
| Ritonavir hydroperoxide <sup>f</sup>                                        | 0.45                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| Hydantoin-oxazolidinone derivative <sup>g</sup>                             | 0.47                    | 0.76                     | 0.1                          |
| Ethyl analog <sup>h</sup>                                                   | 0.64                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| Mixture of BOC-aminoalcohol and isobutoxycarbonyl aminoalcohol <sup>i</sup> | 0.81                    | 0.74                     | 0.1                          |

| Name                                      | Relative Retention Time | Relative Response Factor | Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%) |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Oxazolidinone derivative <sup>j</sup>     | 0.87                    | 0.53                     | 0.1                          |
| Ureidovaline isobutyl ester <sup>k</sup>  | 0.94                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| 4-Hydroxy isomer <sup>l</sup>             | 1.05                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| 3R-Epimer <sup>m</sup>                    | 1.11                    | 1.0                      | 0.3                          |
| Aminoalcohol urea derivative <sup>n</sup> | 1.14                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| 3R,5R-Diastereomer <sup>o</sup>           | 1.23                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| 5R-Epimer <sup>p</sup>                    | 1.32                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| Diacyl valine urea <sup>q</sup>           | 1.62                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| Divalinyl analog <sup>r</sup>             | 2.87                    | 0.73                     | 0.2                          |
| O-Acyl ritonavir <sup>s</sup>             | 3.20                    | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| Any other individual impurity             | —                       | 1.0                      | 0.1                          |
| Total impurities                          | —                       | —                        | 1.0                          |

<sup>a</sup> Ureidovaline is [N-methyl[(2-isopropyl-4-thiazolyl)methyl]amino]carbonyl-L-valine and N-deacylvaline ritonavir is thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2S,3S,5S)-5-[(S)-2-amino-3-methylbutanamido]-3-hydroxy-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.

<sup>b</sup> Thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2S,3S,5S)-5-acetamido-3-hydroxy-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.

<sup>c</sup> Bis(thiazol-5-ylmethyl) (2S,3S,5S)-3-hydroxy-1,6-diphenylhexane-2,5-diyl dicarbamate.

<sup>d</sup> Thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2S,3S,5S)-3-hydroxy-5-[(S)-2-{3-[(2-(2-hydroxypropan-2-yl)thiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanamido]-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.

<sup>e</sup> Thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2S,3S,5S)-3-hydroxy-5-[(S)-4-isopropyl-2,5-dioximidazolidin-1-yl]-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.

<sup>f</sup> Thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2S,3S,5S)-5-[(S)-2-{3-[(2-(2-hydroperoxypropan-2-yl)thiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanamido]-3-hydroxy-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.

<sup>g</sup> (4S,5S)-Thiazol-5-ylmethyl 4-benzyl-5-[(S)-2-[(S)-4-isopropyl-2,5-dioximidazolidin-1-yl]-3-phenylpropyl]-2-oxooxazolidine-3-carboxylate.

<sup>h</sup> Thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2S,3S,5S)-5-[(S)-2-{3-[(2-ethylthiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanamido]-3-hydroxy-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.

<sup>i</sup> BOC-aminoalcohol is thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2S,3S,5S)-(5-*t*-butoxycarbonylamino)-3-hydroxy-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate and isobutoxycarbonyl aminoalcohol is thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2S,3S,5S)-(5-isobutoxycarbonylamino)-3-hydroxy-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.

<sup>j</sup> (S)-N-[(S)-1-[(4S,5S)-4-Benzyl-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl]-3-phenylpropan-2-yl]-2-{3-[(2-isopropylthiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanamide.

<sup>k</sup> (S)-Isobutyl 2-{3-[(2-isopropylthiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanoate.

<sup>l</sup> Thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2S,4S,5S)-4-hydroxy-5-[(S)-2-{3-[(2-isopropylthiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanamido]-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.

<sup>m</sup> Thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2S,3R,5S)-3-hydroxy-5-[(S)-2-{3-[(2-isopropylthiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanamido]-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.

<sup>n</sup> Bis(thiazol-5-ylmethyl) (2S,2'S,3S,3'S,5S,5'S)-5,5'-carbonylbis(azanediyl)bis(3-hydroxy-1,6-diphenylhexane-5,2-diyl)dicarbamate.

- Thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2*S*,3*R*,5*R*)-3-hydroxy-5-[(*S*)-2-{3-[(2-isopropylthiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanamido]-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.
- Thiazol-5-ylmethyl (2*S*,3*S*,5*R*)-3-hydroxy-5-[(*S*)-2-{3-[(2-isopropylthiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanamido]-1,6-diphenylhexan-2-ylcarbamate.
- (3*S*,4*S*,6*S*,10*S*,13*S*,15*S*,16*S*)-Bis(thiazol-5-ylmethyl)-4,15-dihydroxy-10-isopropyl-8,11-dioxo-3,6,13,16-tetrabenzyl-2,7,9,12,17-pentaazaoctadecanedioate.
- (2*S*,2'*S*)-*N,N'*-[(2*S*,3*S*,5*S*)-3-Hydroxy-1,6-diphenylhexane-2,5-diyl]bis(2-{3-[(2-isopropylthiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanamide).
- (*S*)-[(5*S*,8*S*,10*S*,11*S*)-8,11-Dibenzyl-5-isopropyl-1-(2-isopropylthiazol-4-yl)-2-methyl-3,6,13-trioxo-15-(thiazol-5-yl)-14-oxa-2,4,7,12-tetraazapentadecan-10-yl] 2-{3-[(2-isopropylthiazol-4-yl)methyl]-3-methylureido}-3-methylbutanoate.

SPECIFIC TESTS

- [WATER DETERMINATION \(921\)](#), *Method I*: NMT 0.5%, determined on 0.500 g

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in tight, light-resistant containers. Store between 5° and 30°.
- [USP REFERENCE STANDARDS \(11\)](#).  
[USP Ritonavir RS](#)  
[USP Ritonavir Related Compounds Mixture RS](#)

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

| Topic/Question             | Contact                                                                     | Expert Committee          |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| RITONAVIR                  | <a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>                               | SM12020 Small Molecules 1 |
| REFERENCE STANDARD SUPPORT | RS Technical Services<br><a href="mailto:RSTECH@usp.org">RSTECH@usp.org</a> | SM12020 Small Molecules 1 |

Chromatographic Database Information: [Chromatographic Database](#)

Most Recently Appeared In:

Pharmacopeial Forum: Volume No. PF 37(4)

Current DocID: GUID-431197BD-CA0B-413F-A6BC-1E32EE03B216\_4\_en-US

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF\\_M73764\\_04\\_01](https://doi.org/10.31003/USPNF_M73764_04_01)

DOI ref: [47ovs](#)