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## Sildenafil Tablets

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### DEFINITION

Sildenafil Tablets contain sildenafil citrate equivalent to NLT 90% and NMT 110% of the labeled amount of sildenafil ( $C_{22}H_{30}N_6O_4S$ ).

### IDENTIFICATION

- **A. [SPECTROSCOPIC IDENTIFICATION TESTS \(197\)](#), [Infrared Spectroscopy](#):** 197K

**Solution A:** [Ammonium hydroxide](#) and [water](#) (10:90)

**Standard solution:** 1.4 mg/mL of [USP Sildenafil Citrate RS](#) in *Solution A*

**Sample solution:** Grind 1 Tablet and add a sufficient amount of *Solution A* to obtain nominally 1 mg/mL of sildenafil. Sonicate for 2 min, shake well, and centrifuge. Use the supernatant.

**Analysis:** For each of the *Standard solution* and the *Sample solution*, prewash a 6-cc C18 solid phase extraction cartridge with 10 mL of [methanol](#) followed by 10 mL of *Solution A*, discarding both washings. Apply 5 mL each of the *Standard solution* and the *Sample solution* to separate prewashed cartridges and draw each solution through the cartridge. Wash each cartridge with 10 mL of [water](#) and allow the cartridge to dry under vacuum. Elute the sildenafil from each cartridge with 5 mL of [methanol](#), collecting the eluant in a suitable container. Add about 200 mg of [potassium bromide](#) to each container, mix well, and evaporate to dryness. To about 70 mg of each dried mixture, add about 140 mg of [potassium bromide](#) and mix.

**Acceptance criteria:** Meet the requirements

- **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

**Buffer:** Dilute 7 mL of [triethylamine](#) with [water](#) to 1 L. Adjust with [phosphoric acid](#) to a pH of 3.0.

**Mobile phase:** *Buffer*, [methanol](#), and [acetonitrile](#) (58:25:17)

**Diluent:** [Acetonitrile](#) and [water](#) (90:10)

**Standard solution:** 0.028 mg/mL of [USP Sildenafil Citrate RS](#) in *Mobile phase*

**Sample stock solution:** Disperse 1 Tablet in at least 5 mL of *Diluent* with the aid of sonication. Once the Tablet is fully dispersed, dilute with *Mobile phase* to 250.0 mL while swirling. Centrifuge and use the supernatant.

**Sample solution:** Nominally 0.02 mg/mL of sildenafil prepared by diluting a suitable portion of the *Sample stock solution* with *Mobile phase*

#### Chromatographic system

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

**Mode:** LC

**Detector:** UV 290 nm

**Column:** 3.9-mm × 15-cm; 5-μm packing [L1](#)

**Column temperature:** 30°

**Flow rate:** 1 mL/min

**Injection volume:** 20 μL

**Run time:** NLT 1.5 times the retention time of sildenafil

#### System suitability

**Sample:** *Standard solution*

#### Suitability requirements

**Tailing factor:** NMT 1.3

**Relative standard deviation:** NMT 3.0%

#### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of sildenafil ( $C_{22}H_{30}N_6O_4S$ ) in the portion of Tablets taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times (M_{r1}/M_{r2}) \times 100$$

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

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

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

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

$M_{r1}$  = molecular weight of sildenafil, 474.58

$M_{r2}$  = molecular weight of sildenafil citrate, 666.70

**Acceptance criteria:** 90%–110%

## PERFORMANCE TESTS

**Change to read:**

- [DISSOLUTION \(711\)](#)

### ▲Test 1▲ (RB 1-Jan-2025)

**Medium:** 0.01 N [hydrochloric acid](#); 900 mL

**Apparatus 1:** 100 rpm

**Time:** 15 min

**Standard solution:** 0.03 mg/mL of [USP Sildenafil Citrate RS](#) in *Medium*

**Sample solution:** A filtered portion of the solution under test, suitably diluted with *Medium*, if necessary

#### Instrumental conditions

**Mode:** UV-Vis

**Analytical wavelength:** Maximum at about 290 nm

#### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of sildenafil ( $C_{22}H_{30}N_6O_4S$ ) dissolved:

$$\text{Result} = (A_U/A_S) \times C_S \times D \times V \times (1/L) \times (M_{r1}/M_{r2}) \times 100$$

$A_U$  = absorbance of the *Sample solution*

$A_S$  = absorbance of the *Standard solution*

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

$D$  = dilution factor for the *Sample solution*, if needed

$V$  = volume of *Medium*, 900 mL

$L$  = label claim (mg/Tablet)

$M_{r1}$  = molecular weight of sildenafil, 474.58

$M_{r2}$  = molecular weight of sildenafil citrate, 666.70

**Tolerances:** NLT 80% (Q) of the labeled amount of sildenafil ( $C_{22}H_{30}N_6O_4S$ ) is dissolved.

### ▲Test 2: If the product complies with this test, the labeling indicates that it meets USP *Dissolution Test 2*.

**Medium:** 0.1 N [hydrochloric acid](#); 500 mL

**Apparatus 1:** 100 rpm

**Time:** 15 min

**Standard solution:** 0.03 mg/mL of [USP Sildenafil Citrate RS](#) in *Medium*. Sonicate to dissolve, if necessary.

**Sample solution:** Pass a portion of the solution under test through a suitable filter of 0.45-μm pore size, discarding an appropriate volume of filtrate so that a consistent result can be obtained. Dilute with *Medium* to a concentration similar to that of the *Standard solution*.

#### Instrumental conditions

(See [Ultraviolet-Visible Spectroscopy \(857\)](#).)

**Mode:** UV

**Analytical wavelength:** 290 nm

#### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of sildenafil ( $C_{22}H_{30}N_6O_4S$ ) dissolved:

$$\text{Result} = (A_U/A_S) \times C_S \times D \times V \times (1/L) \times (M_{r1}/M_{r2}) \times 100$$

$A_U$  = absorbance of the *Sample solution*

$A_S$  = absorbance of the *Standard solution*

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

$D$  = dilution factor for the *Sample solution*, if needed

$V$  = volume of *Medium*, 500 mL

$L$  = label claim (mg/Tablet)

$M_{r1}$  = molecular weight of sildenafil, 474.58

$M_{r2}$  = molecular weight of sildenafil citrate, 666.70

**Tolerances:** NLT 80% (Q) of the labeled amount of sildenafil ( $C_{22}H_{30}N_6O_4S$ ) is dissolved. ▲ (RB 1-Jan-2025)

- **UNIFORMITY OF DOSAGE UNITS (905):** Meet the requirements

#### IMPURITIES

##### • ORGANIC IMPURITIES

**Buffer, Mobile phase, Diluent, and Chromatographic system:** Proceed as directed in the Assay, except for *Run time*.

**Run time:** NLT 3 times the retention time of sildenafil

**System suitability solution:** A mixture of sildenafil and sildenafil *N*-oxide in *Mobile phase*, prepared as follows. Dissolve 70 mg of [USP Sildenafil Citrate RS](#) in 1 mL of a solution of [hydrogen peroxide](#) and [formic acid](#) (2:1), allow to stand for NMT 10 min, and then dilute with *Mobile phase* to 250.0 mL.

**Standard solution:** 0.0014 mg/mL of [USP Sildenafil Citrate RS](#) in *Mobile phase*

**Sensitivity solution:** 0.00035 mg/mL of [USP Sildenafil Citrate RS](#) in *Mobile phase* from the *Standard solution*

**Sample stock solution:** Transfer 5 Tablets to a 250-mL volumetric flask and disperse in 25 mL of *Diluent* with the aid of sonication. Dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume. Sonicate, if necessary. Centrifuge and use the supernatant.

**Sample solution:** Nominally 0.5 mg/mL of sildenafil prepared by diluting a suitable portion of the *Sample stock solution* with *Mobile phase*

#### System suitability

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

[NOTE—See [Table 1](#) for the relative retention times.]

#### Suitability requirements

**Resolution:** NLT 2.6 between sildenafil *N*-oxide and sildenafil, *System suitability solution*

**Tailing factor:** NMT 1.3, *Standard solution*

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

**Signal-to-noise ratio:** NLT 10, *Sensitivity solution*

#### Analysis

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

Calculate the percentage of any individual degradation product in the portion of Tablets taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times (M_{r1}/M_{r2}) \times 100$$

$r_U$  = peak response of any individual degradation product from the *Sample solution*

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

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

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

$M_{r1}$  = molecular weight of sildenafil, 474.58

$M_{r2}$  = molecular weight of sildenafil citrate, 666.70

**Acceptance criteria:** See [Table 1](#). Disregard any peak less than 0.05%.

Table 1

Name	Relative Retention Time	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Sildenafil	1.0	—
Sildenafil <i>N</i> -oxide <sup>a</sup>	1.2	0.20
Any individual degradation product	—	0.20
Total degradation products	—	0.50

<sup>a</sup> 1-[[3-[(6,7-Dihydro-1-methyl-7-oxo-3-propyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*d*]pyrimidin-5-yl)-4-ethoxyphenyl]sulfonyl]-4-methylpiperazine *N*<sup>4</sup>-oxide.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

• **PACKAGING AND STORAGE:** Preserve in well-closed containers. Store at controlled room temperature.

*Add the following:*

▲ **LABELING:** The labeling states the *Dissolution* test used only if *Test 1* is not used.▲ (RB 1-Jan-2025)

• **USP REFERENCE STANDARDS** (11).  
[USP Sildenafil Citrate RS](#)

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

Topic/Question	Contact	Expert Committee
SILDENAFIL TABLETS	<a href="#">Documentary Standards Support</a>	SM52020 Small Molecules 5
REFERENCE STANDARD SUPPORT	RS Technical Services <a href="mailto:RSTECH@usp.org">RSTECH@usp.org</a>	SM52020 Small Molecules 5

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

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