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### OXIDATIVE SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC ESTIMATION OF DRUGS USING KMnO<sub>4</sub> AND METHYL ORANGE AS DYE

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### **Keywords:**

Spectrophotometry, Drugs, KMnO4, Methyl Orange, Quantification, Validation.

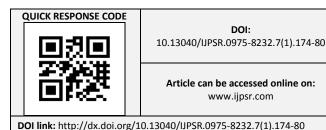
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**ABSTRACT:** Simple, sensitive and selective methods are developed for spectrophotometric determination of drugs, viz., Esmolol hydrochloride (ESM), Ramipril (RAM), Gemifloxacin (GEM), Terazosin (TRZ) and Moxifloxacin (MOX), based on their reactivity towards KMnO<sub>4</sub>. Beer's law is obeyed in the concentration of 4-28, 4-28, 2.6-18.2, 1.5-10.5 and 1-7 µg ml-1 for Esmolol hydrochloride, Ramipril, Gemifloxacin, Terazosin and Moxifloxacin. The methods involve the addition of excess KMnO<sub>4</sub> of known concentration in the presence of 2M H2SO<sub>4</sub>, reactants are allowed to react and the unreacted KMnO<sub>4</sub> is estimated with a fixed amount of Methyl Orange by measuring the absorbance at 507nm. Results of analyses were validated statistically. Statistical comparison of the results with the reference method shows excellent agreement and indicates no significant difference in accuracy and precision. These methods have been applied for the determination of drugs in their pure form as well as in tablet formulations. These methods have been validated in terms of guidelines of ICH.

**INTRODUCTION:** Esmolol hydrochloride (ESM) is a class II antiarrhythmic and is chemically known as methyl (RS)-3-{4-[2-hydroxy-3-(propan-2-ylamino) propoxy] propanoate phenyl} hydrochloride (Fig. 1). It is cardio selective beta 1 receptor blocker with rapid onset. 1 It is used in the treatment for the rapid control of heart rate. ESM decreases the force and rate of heart contractions by blocking beta-adrenergic receptors of the sympathetic nervous system. Its quantification method is reported <sup>2</sup> wherein other methods of quantification have been mentioned.



Ramipril (RAM) is chemically known as (2S, 3aS, 6aS) -1[(S)-N-[(S)] -1-Carboxy-3-phenylpropyl]alanyl] octahydrocyclopenta pyrrole-2-carboxylic acid, 1-ethyl ester (Fig. 2). It is highly lipophilic, long acting orally active angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor with antihypertensive activity. An inactive prodrug, Ramipril is converted to ramiprilat in the liver and is used to treat failure, to reduce hypertension and heart proteinuria and renal disease in patients with nephropathies, to prevent stroke, myocardial infarction and cardiac death in high-risk patients. Ramiprilat, the active metabolite, competes with angiotensin I for binding at the angiotensinconverting enzyme, blocking the conversion of angiotensin I to angiotensin II. <sup>3</sup> As angiotensin II is a vasoconstrictor and a negative feedback mediator for rennin activity, lower concentrations result in a decrease in blood pressure and an increase in plasma rennin. Ramiprilat may also act on kininase II, an enzyme identical to angiotensin-converting enzyme that degrades the vasodilator bradykinin. Recent determination method <sup>4</sup> is preceded by many methods cited therein.

Gemifloxacin (GEM) is chemically known as 7-[(4Z)-3-(Amino methyl)-4- methoxyimino-pyrrolidin-1-yl]-1 -cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-4-oxo-1, 8-naphthyridine-3- carboxylic acid (**Fig. 3**). It is used to treat a variety of bacterial infections. This medication belongs to a class of drugs called quinolone antibiotics. It works by stopping the growth of bacteria. This antibiotic treats only bacterial infections. <sup>5</sup> It will not work for virus infections. Determination of Gemifloxacin reported in which past methods are reviewed. <sup>6</sup>

7-dimethoxy-2-[4-Terazosin, (TRZ) 6. (tetrahydrofuran-2-ylcarbonyl) piperazin-1-yl] quinazolin-4- amine, (Fig. 4) is a selective potent α1 adreno-receptor antagonist. It is an effective drug for hypertension and benign prostatic hyperplasia. It is used in men to treat the symptoms of an enlarged prostate (benign prostatic hyperplasia or BPH), which include difficulty urinating (hesitation, dribbling, weak stream, and incomplete bladder emptying), painful urination, and urinary frequency and urgency. It also is used alone or in combination with other medications to treat high blood pressure. Terazosin is in a class of medications called alpha-blockers. It relieves the symptoms of BPH by relaxing the muscles of the bladder and prostate. It lowers blood pressure by relaxing the blood vessels so that blood can flow more easily through the body. It is recently quantified by UV spectrophotometric method. The report includes past quantification references on the drug.

Moxifloxacin (MOX) is a new fourth generation 8-methoxy fluoroquinolone. Its chemical name is [1-cyclopropyl-7-(S,S)-2,8-diazabicyclo(4.3.0)-non-8-yl-6-fluoro-8-methoxy-1,4-dihydro - 4- oxo - 3-quinoline carboxylic acid hydrochloride] (**Fig. 5**). The drug was developed primarily for the treatment of community acquired pneumonia and upper respiratory tract infections. It is active against Gram negative pathogens, Gram positive cocci, aerobic intracellular bacteria, atypical organisms

and anaerobic bacteria <sup>8</sup>. A recent method <sup>9</sup> in which various earlier methods of quantification has been reviewed.

Thorough survey of literature on the above mentioned drugs revealed that quantification using KMnO<sub>4</sub> as oxidizing reagent has not been reported yet although the reagent is common, known to offer simple, sensitive method of quantification for drugs <sup>10-12</sup>. This prompted the authors to develop quantification methods for the above cited drugs, using KMnO<sub>4</sub> as an oxidizing agent and Methyl Orange as analytical reagent.

### **Structures of the drugs:**

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS:**

### **Instrument:**

All absorbance measurements were recorded on Shimadzu 140 double beam spectrophotometer as well as on Elico 210 UV- Visible double beam & Elico 159 UV- Visible single beam spectrophotometers using matched pair of Quartz cells of 10mm path length.

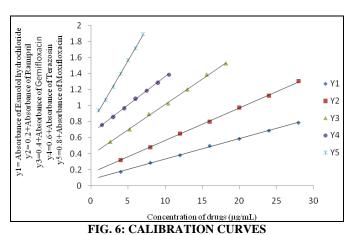
### **Materials:**

KMnO<sub>4</sub> stock solution (0.001 mol L<sup>-1</sup>) was prepared by dissolving 0.0158gm Potassium Permanganate (KMnO<sub>4</sub>) (S.D. Fine Chem Limited, Mumbai) in 100mL standard flask with double distilled water. Stock solution of KMnO<sub>4</sub> was further diluted to get the working concentration of

63.2μg mL<sup>-1</sup>. A stock solution of Methyl Orange (160 μg mL<sup>-1</sup>) was prepared by dissolving the dye (Himedia Laboratories Pvt, Limited, Mumbai) in distilled water. The dye solution was diluted to 80μg mL<sup>-1</sup>. Concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (S.D. Fine Chem Limited, Mumbai) diluted appropriately with distilled water to get 2*M* acid solution. The pharmaceutical grade drugs were supplied by Arabindo pharmaceuticals and Hetero drugs Pvt. Limited. Hyderabad. A stock standard solution of drugs was prepared by dissolving accurately weighed 20mg of pure drug in water and diluting to 100mL in a calibrated flask with distilled water. The solution was diluted stepwise to get working concentrations.

**Assay Procedure:** Aliquots of pure drug solution (1 to 7mL) were transferred into a series of 10mL

calibrated flask. To each flask, 1mL of 2M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> was added, followed by 1mL of KMnO<sub>4</sub> solution (63.2 ug mL<sup>-1</sup>). The contents were mixed and the flasks were set aside for 15 min under occasional shaking. Finally, 1mL of 80µg mL<sup>-1</sup> Methyl Orange solution was added to each flask, diluted to the mark with water and the absorbance of solution was measured at 507nm against a reagent blank. Calibration curves were constructed for all the drugs by plotting the absorbance versus the concentration of drugs. The absorbance data was collected for six replicate experiments and absorbance to concentration ratio called the relative response was determined. The relative responses from 95% to 105% of average only are considered for construction of the Calibration curves shown in Fig. 6.



### **Procedure for Assay of Pure Drug:**

Sample solutions of each drug in the beer's law limits were chosen and recovery experiments were performed to check the accuracy and precision. The concentration chosen and recovery are tabulated in **Table 2**. For this purpose standard deviation method also adapted. Excellent recovery and %RSD being less than 2 speaks about the precision and accuracy of the method.

## Procedure For Tablets: 1. Esmolol hydrochloride:

Five tablets (Cardesmo, 100mg), were grounded and the powder equivalent to 20 mg of Esmolol hydrochloride was weighed, taken into 25mL of methanol, sonicated for 20min and filtered through Whatmann filter paper No 42. The residue was washed twice with methanol for complete recovery of drug and methanol was evaporated. The residue

was dissolved in 100mL of distilled water .It was used as stock sample solution and was further diluted with the same solvent to get working standard solution.

Ramipril: Ten tablets (Acepril, 5mg) were weighed and grounded. A quantity equivalent to 20mg of Ramipril was dissolved in methanol and sonicated for 30min. Then filtered using a Whatman No. 42 filter paper. The residue was washed twice with methanol for complete recovery of drug and methanol was evaporated. The residue was dissolved in 100mL of distilled water and the assay was completed according to the procedure described above.

**Gemifloxacin:** Two tablets (Ad Gem, 320mg) of drug were weighed and grounded and transferred into a 100mL calibrated flask and added 30mL of

distilled water followed by sonnication for 15 minutes. The solution was finally made up to 100mL. It was used as stock sample solution and was further diluted with the distilled water to get working concentration solution for assay

Terazosin: About twenty tablets (Terazen, 2mg) were weighed and grounded. The powder equivalent to 200 mg Terazosin was stirred well with methanol, sonicated about 30 minutes. The solution was filtered through Whatmann filter paper and the residue was washed well with methanol for complete recovery of the drug and methanol was evaporated. The residue was dissolved in 100 mL of distilled water and it was further diluted to get required concentration for the analysis of the drug.

Moxifloxacin: Two tablets (Crosmox, 400mg) were powdered and equivalent to about 20mg of Moxifloxacin had been taken in to a100mL of volumetric flask and added about 30mL of methanol, sonicated for 30 min and filtered through Whatmann filter paper No 42. The residue was washed thrice with methanol for complete recovery of drug and methanol was evaporated. The residue was dissolved in 100mL of distilled water .It was used as stock sample solution .The aliquot portions of this stock solution were further diluted with distilled water to get the final concentration required for the determination of the drug.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:** Method Development:

The proposed spectrophotometric methods are indirect and are based on the determination of the excess of KMnO<sub>4</sub> after allowing the reaction between drug and a measured amount of KMnO<sub>4</sub> to be complete. The excess of KMnO<sub>4</sub> was determined by reacting it with a fixed amount of Methyl Orange dye. The methods make use of bleaching action of KMnO<sub>4</sub> on the dye, the decolouration being caused by the oxidative destruction of the dyes. Drug when added in increasing concentrations to a fixed concentration of KMnO<sub>4</sub>, consumes the latter proportionally and there occurs a concomitant fall in the concentration of KMnO<sub>4</sub>. When a fixed concentration of dye is added to decreasing concentrations of KMnO<sub>4</sub>, a concomitant increase in the concentration of dye is obtained. Consequently, a proportional increase in the absorbance at the respective  $\lambda$ max is observed with increasing concentration of drug.

Preliminary experiments were conducted to determine the maximum concentrations of Methyl Orange spectrophotometrically by measuring the absorbance of their acidic solutions at their respective  $\lambda$ max and the upper limits were found to be  $8\mu g$  mL<sup>-1</sup> for Methyl Orange. KMnO<sub>4</sub> concentration of  $6.32\mu g$  mL<sup>-1</sup> was found to bleach the color due to  $8\mu g$  mL<sup>-1</sup> Methyl Orange. Hence different amounts of drug reacted with  $6.32\mu g$  mL<sup>-1</sup> KMnO<sub>4</sub> in this method before determining the residual KMnO<sub>4</sub> as described under the respective procedure.

Sulphuric acid was found to be a convenient medium for these methods. For a quantitative reaction between drug and KMnO<sub>4</sub>, a contact time of 15min was found sufficient.

### **Analytical Data:**

A linear correlation was found between absorbance at  $\lambda_{max}$  and concentration of all drugs in the ranges given in **Table 1**. Regression analysis of the Beer's law data using the method of least squares was made to evaluate the slope (b), intercept (a) and correlation coefficient (r) for each system and the values are presented in **Table 1**. The optical characteristics such as Beer's law limits and Sandell sensitivity values for these methods are given in **Table 1**. The limits of detection (LOD) and quantitation (LOQ) calculated according to ICH guidelines <sup>13</sup> are also presented in **Table 1** and reveal the very high sensitivity of the methods.

$$LOD = 3.3S_a/b$$

$$LOQ = 10S_a/b.$$

Where

 $S_a$ = standard deviation of the intercept (n = 6) b = slope of Calibration plot.

### **Precision and Accuracy:**

Intra-day precision was assessed from the results of six replicate analyses on pure drug solution. The mean values and relative standard deviation (RSD) values for replicate analyses at three different levels (amounts/concentrations) were calculated. To evaluate the inter-day precision, analysis was performed over a period of five days, preparing all

solutions afresh each day. The accuracy of the methods was determined by calculating the percentage deviation observed in the analysis of pure drug solution and expressed as the relative error. **Table 2** summarizes the intra-day precision and accuracy data for the assay of pure drugs solution by the proposed methods.

### **Robustness and Ruggedness:**

To evaluate the robustness of the methods, volume of Sulphuric acid was slightly altered. The reaction time (after adding KMnO<sub>4</sub>, time varied was 15  $\pm$  2min) and the time after addition of dye is slightly changed. To check the ruggedness, analysis was performed by three different analysts and on three different spectrophotometers by the same analyst.

### **Application to Formulations:**

The proposed methods are applied to the determination of drugs in tablets. The results in **Table 3** showed that the methods are successful for the determination of drugs and that the excipients in the dosage forms do not interfere. The results are compared to the available validated reported <sup>14-18</sup> methods on each drug and the results agree well with the claim and also are in agreement with the results obtained by the literature method. Statistical analysis of the results using Student's t-test for accuracy and F-test for precision revealed no significant difference between the proposed methods and the literature method with respect to accuracy and precision.

TABLE 1: ANALYTICAL AND REGRESSION PARAMETERS OF SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC METHOD

Parameter	ESM	RAM	GEM	TRZ	MOX
λmax, nm	507	507	507	507	507
Beer's law limits µg mL <sup>-1</sup>	4-28	4-28	2.6-18.2	1.5-10.5	1-7
Molar absorptivity, L mol <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup>	$1.435 \times 10^4$	$1.284 \times 10^4$	$2.213 \times 10^4$	$4.080 \times 10^4$	$6.117 \times 10^4$
Sandell sensitivity* µg cm <sup>-2</sup>	0.0393	0.0246	0.0157	0.0141	0.0062
Limit of detection µg mL <sup>-1</sup>	2.117	1.259	2.403	0.6917	0.4194
Limit of quantification µg mL <sup>-1</sup>	6.417	3.817	7.282	2.096	1.2711
Regression equation, Y**					
Intercept, (a)	0.0798	-0.0412	-0.0178	0.0521	-0.0390
Slope, (b)	0.0254	0.0406	0.0633	0.0706	0.1597
Correlation coefficient, (r)	0.9995	0.9997	0.9992	0.9995	0.9994
Standard deviation of intercept (Sa)	0.0163	0.0155	0.0461	0.0148	0.0203
Standard deviation of slope (Sb)	0.0026	0.0037	0.0064	0.0063	0.0169

<sup>\*</sup>Limit of determination as the weight in  $\mu$ g per mL of solution, which corresponds to an absorbance of A = 0.001 measured in a cuvette of cross-sectional area 1 cm<sup>2</sup> and path length of 1 cm. Y\*\* = a+bX, where Y is the absorbance and X concentration of drugs in  $\mu$ g per mL

TABLE 2; DETERMINATION OF ACCURACY AND PRECISION OF THE METHODS ON PURE DRUG SAMPLES

Drug	Taken	Found	er	Recovery	RSD(%)	Proposed method
_	(µg/ml)	(µg/ml)	(%)	(%)		Mean ± SD
ESM	5.0	5.02	0.40	100.40	0.2849	$100.12 \pm 0.2853$
	6.0	5.99	0.16	99.83		
	7.0	7.01	0.14	100.14		
RAM	5.0	5.02	0.40	100.40	0.4292	$100.20 \pm 0.4301$
	6.0	6.03	0.50	100.50		
	7.0	6.98	0.28	99.71		
GEM	4.5	4.49	0.22	99.77	0.2455	$100.05 \pm 0.2457$
	6.5	6.51	0.15	100.15		
	8.5	8.52	0.23	100.23		
TRZ	3.0	2.99	0.33	99.66	0.2896	$99.87 \pm 0.2893$
	4.0	3.99	0.25	99.75		
	5.0	5.01	0.20	100.20		
MOX	2.0	1.99	0.50	99.50	0.5874	$100.13 \pm 0.5882$
	3.0	3.02	0.66	100.66		
	4.0	4.01	0.25	100.25		

TABLE 3: RESULTS OF ASSAY OF TABLETS BY THE PROPOSED METHOD AND STATISTICAL EVALUATION

Tablets	Taken	Found	er	Recovery	RSD	Reference	Proposed	Student's t-	F-test
	$(\mu g \ mL^{-1})$	$(\mu g \ mL^{-1})$	(%)	(%)	(%)	method	method mean	test	
						Mean± SD	± SD		
ESM	5.0	5.00	0.00	100.00	0.0691	100.45	100.04	2.1381	0.0145
	8.0	8.01	0.12	100.12		$\pm 0.573$	$\pm 0.0692$		
	10.0	10.0	0.00	100.00					
RAM	6.0	5.99	0.16	99.83	0.1835	97.30	99.89	0.7077	2.3332
	8.0	7.98	0.25	99.75		$\pm 0.12$	$\pm 0.1833$		
	10.0	10.01	0.10	100.10					
GEM	3.5	3.51	0.28	100.28	0.2927	99.90	100.06	1.3459	0.1654
	5.5	5.51	0.18	100.18		$\pm 0.72$	$\pm 0.2929$		
	7.5	7.48	0.26	99.73					
TRZ	4.0	4.02	0.50	100.50	0.8505	99.94	100.41	1.8688	0.0479
	5.0	5.02	0.40	100.40		±0.39	$\pm 0.0854$		
	6.0	6.02	0.33	100.33					
MOX	2.0	2.01	0.50	100.50	0.4838	99.67	100.22	1.5631	0.0776
	4.0	4.02	0.50	100.50		$\pm 1.74$	$\pm 0.4849$		
	6.0	5.98	0.33	99.66					

**CONCLUSION:** These are simple, rapid, and cost-effective methods for the determination of drugs have been developed and validated. The proposed methods are more sensitive methods and the methods rely on the use of simple and cheap chemicals and techniques but provide sensitivity comparable to that achieved by sophisticated and expensive technique like HPLC. Thus, they can be used as alternatives for rapid and routine determination of bulk sample and tablets.

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