



**A STUDY OF DEGRADATIVE EFFECT USING VALIDATED LC-PDA METHOD FOR
COMBINED DOSAGE FORM OF PARACETAMOL, TIZANDINE HCL AND
ACECLOFENAC**

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ABSTRACT

To optimise a sensitive, robust and reliable HPLC technique for quantification of PAR, TZN and ACE in the presence of degradants and validate in accordance with ICH guidelines. Isocratic elution using mobile phase ratio of 0.1mM phosphate buffer pH 7.00:Acetonitrile (65:35) and phenomenex C₁₈ (250 × 4.5 cm, 5μ) column used for chromatographic separation and the solvent delivery was 1.0mL/min and UV detection was programmed at 280 nm for 0-4 mins, 320nm for 4.01-10 mins and 280 nm for 10.01-45 mins. Retention time of PAR, TZN and ACE was 3.8 min, 5.6 min and 12.0 min respectively. The applied HPLC technique showed good linearity across the range of 250-750μg/ml concentration for PAR, 50-150μg/ml for ACE and 0.50-1.50μg/ml for TZN. The recoveries accomplished for PAR, TZN and ACE were 100.12, 99.78, and 100.78 respectively. The three drugs were subjected to acid, alkali, oxidation, sunlight and thermal degradation. The degradation products formed in all stress condition were separated from the principal peaks and the % RSD was found to be less than 2% which indicate that the method is highly specific and had excellent reproducibility. The proposed and validated technique can be efficiently applied for regular analysis of PAR, TZN and ACE in formulation.

KEYWORDS: RP-HPLC, PAR-Paracetamol, TZN-Tizanidine hydrochloride, ACE- Aceclofenac, stability indicating, Validation.

INTRODUCTION

PAR is chemically N-(4-hydroxyphenyl) acetamide "Fig. 1" and is an active metabolite of phenacetin. Generally it is safe at the recommended doses; on higher doses it may leads to toxicity, including liver toxicity.^[1] TZN is an imadazoline derivative and chemically named as 5-chloro-N-(4, 5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-2-yl)-2, 1, 3-benzothiadiazol-4-amine hydrochloride "Fig. 2", a muscle relaxant and alpha-2-adrenergic agonist². ACE is chemically [{"2-(2, 6 dichlorophenyl) amino} phenylaceto-oxyacetic acid] "Fig. 3" and is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID). It is weak acidic drug. ACE is highly soluble in alkaline solutions, less soluble in water and acidic solutions.^[3]

Extensive review of literature revealed distinct analytical techniques were reported for the combination of PAR, TZN and ACE in pure form or in formulations either separately or in combined dosage forms with other drugs. Reported techniques include UV-visible spectroscopy^[4-18] and chromatographic techniques like HPLC^[19-33] and HPTLC.^[34] Stability-indicating assay for concurrent determination of PAR, TZN and ACE in solid

formulation has not been published. The current research work focused at establishing a simple, specific, accurate stability indicating RP-HPLC technique for the concurrent quantification of PAR, TZN and ACE in formulation. Validation of the proposed technique was in accordance with parameters of ICH recommendations such as accuracy, precision, linearity, range, robustness³⁵ and specificity (forced degradation).^[36]

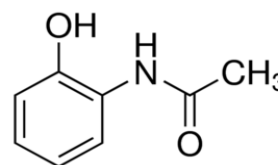


Fig. 1 N-(4-hydroxyphenyl) acetamide.

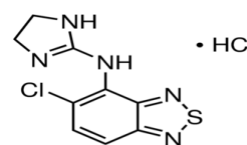


Fig. 2 5-chloro-N-(4, 5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-2-yl)-2, 1, 3-benzothiadiazol-4-amine hydrochloride.

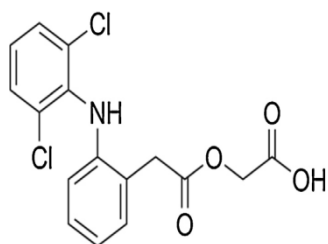


Fig. 3 [[2-(2, 6 dichlorophenyl) amino] phenylacetoxyacetic acid].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Chemicals and reagents

PAR, TZN and ACE were procured from Sri Krishna Pharmaceuticals., Chennai. Potassium dihydrogen orthophosphate (A.R. grade) and Acetonitrile of HPLC grade was purchased from Rankem., India. MilliQ water from Millipore Ltd., Bangalore, India. Analytical grade reagents for stress studies purchased from Rankem., India. The tablet Gopayn MR PAR, TZN and ACE (500, 100 and 1 mg) was obtained from Sai Mirra Innoform Pvt Limited, Chennai, India.

Instrumentation

The HPLC system consists of a Waters 2695 Separation Module connected with photodiode array detector. The data was acquired by Empower software. Analytical balance (Shimadzu AUW220D), Ultra-sonicator (Spectrum Tek LMUC-12), Digital pH meter (Spectrum Tek), Hot air oven (In lab equipment Pvt. Ltd.) were used.

Chromatographic conditions

Chromatographic separation was done using Phenomenex C₁₈ (250 x 4.6mm, 5 μ .) and mobile phase was buffer:Acetonitrile (0.1mM phosphate pH 7.00) in the proportion of 65:35. The solvent delivery was 1.0ml/min. Sample volume at 20 μ L. UV detection was performed at 280 nm for 0-4 mins, 320nm for 4.01-10 mins and 280 nm for 10.01-45 mins at ambient temperature.

Working standard solution

Standard stock solution of ACE 1000 μ g/ml in methanol and TZN 10 μ g/ml in mobile phase were prepared. PAR 50 mg was accurately weighed, and 10 ml of ACE stock and 10 ml of TZN stock was added and diluted to obtain PAR, TZN and ACE concentration of 500, 1 and 100 μ g/ml respectively.

Sample stock preparation

Average weight of twenty tablets was estimated and tablets were pounded to powder and pulverised powder corresponding to average tablet weight was taken and dissolved with sufficient mobile phase, sonicated the solution for 20 minutes and made the volume with mobile phase to 100 ml.

Working sample preparation

The above sample stock solution was diluted with mobile phase to get desired concentration of PAR, TZN and ACE, 500, 1 and 100 μ g/ml respectively.

Forced Degradation studies

Forced degradation study involves exposure of drug product to thermal, light, oxidation, hydrolysis (acid, alkali). The forced degradation process is used to evaluate the interference of potential degradants during stability testing. The results help in investigating the mechanism of degradation of drug products on storage.

Stress degradation of formulation

Acid degradation

To 5 ml of the sample stock solution, 5 mL of 1M HCl was mixed and this was maintained at 60°C for 2 hours and subsequently neutralised with base then made up with mobile phase to required concentration.

Alkali degradation

To 5 ml of the sample stock solution, 5 mL 1M NaOH was mixed and this was maintained at 60°C for 2 hours and subsequently was neutralised with acid then made up with mobile phase to required concentration.

Oxidative degradation

To 5 ml of sample stock solution, 5ml of hydrogen peroxide (10% v/v) was mixed and this was maintained at 60°C for 2 hours and made up with mobile phase to required concentration.

Photolytic degradation

The powdered tablets are placed in the UV light for 2 hours, sample of desired concentration of PAR, TZN and ACE (500, 1, 100 μ g/mL) was prepared with mobile phase and analysed.

Thermal degradation

The powdered tablets are placed in the Hot air oven for 2 hours at 60°C sample solution of desired concentration of PAR, TZN and ACE (500, 1, 100 μ g/mL) was prepared with mobile phase and analysed.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Method development

During escalation of the proposed RP-HPLC method, various chromatographic conditions were scrutinized. Different trials were taken with different composition of water:acetonitrile, at ratio of 90:10 of water:acetonitrile resulted in poor peak shape of PAR and poor retention of TZN and ACE. During another trial, ratio of water:acetonitrile (70:30), resulted in defective peak shape of PAR, longer retention of ACE and no elution of TZN. Trials were taken with various buffers such as acetate and orthophosphate and ortho phosphoric acid with pH range of 3.5-7.5. The final mobile phase composition was fixed with phosphate buffer pH 7.00 (adjusted using orthophosphoric acid) at the concentration of 0.1mM phosphate buffer and

acetonitrile (65:35) which resulted in good peak of PAR, better retention of ACE. The detection wavelength of PAR and ACE was 280nm based on isobestic point of UV spectra. TZN was detected only at 320 nm, at this wavelength PAR and ACE were poorly detected. For this purpose, UV detection was programmed at 280 nm for 0-4 mins, 320 nm for 4.01-10 mins and 280 nm for 10.01-45 mins.

The last trial condition was optimised, the retention time of PAR, TZN and ACE was at 3.8 min, 5.6 min and 12.0

min. The optimised parameter of the HPLC technique was validated in accordance with ICH and regulatory recommendations.

Method validation

System suitability

System suitability was estimated by six replicated injection of working standard solution at 100% concentration. The result obtained for the system suitability parameters are summarised in the “Table 1” and the standard chromatogram in “Fig. 4”.

Table.1 Parameters of system suitability for PAR, TZN and ACE.

PARAMETER	RESPONSE		
	PAR	TZN	ACE
RT(min)	3.81	5.62	12.07
Relative standard deviation(% RSD)	1.23	1.30	1.69
Theoretical plates	3257.8	7911.1	10811.2
Tailing factor	0.95	1.5	1.6

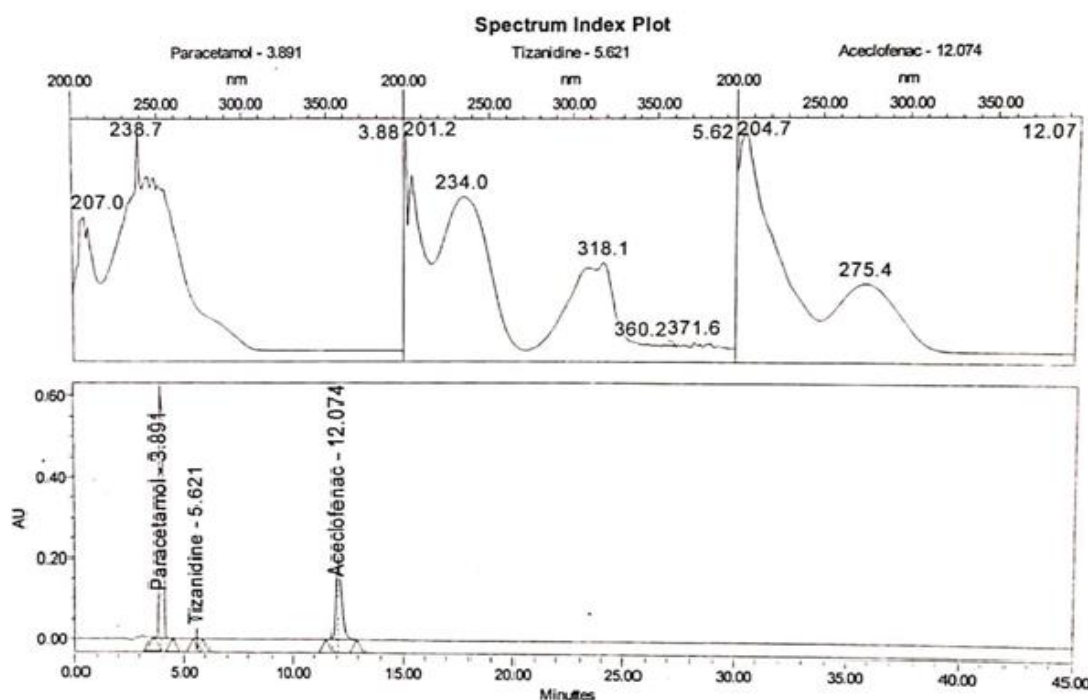


Fig. 4 Chromatogram of standard.

Linearity & Range

Linearity was found in the range of 250-750µg/mL for PAR, 0.5-1.5µg/mL for TZN and 50-150µg/ml for ACE. The peak area and concentration is subjected to statistical

analysis to calculate the regression parameters and correlation coefficients. Results were presented in the “Table 2”.

Table.2 Regression values for PAR, TZN and ACE.

PARAMETERS	RESPONSE		
	PAR	TZN	ACE
LINEARITY			
Range	250.0-750.0µg/ml	50.0-150.0µg/mL	0.50-1.50µg/mL
Slope	186071.1	38893.3	108559.1
Intercept	352331.5793	126492.1931	5332.062069
r ²	0.9998	0.9998	0.9998

Precision

Repeatability was performed by injecting six replicate injections of PAR, TZN and ACE standard and sample (500µg/mL, 1µg/mL and 100µg/mL) on the same day as

intraday precision study and on a different day for inter day precision. The results are reported in the "Table 3" which reflects that the % RSD is less than 2%.

Table.3 Precision for PAR, TZN and ACE.

DRUG		MEAN (ASSAY) ± SD	% RSD
Intra –day Precision (n=6)	PAR	99.74±0.23	0.235
	TZN	99.10±0.57	0.580
	ACE	99.13±0.59	0.591
Inter-day precision (n=6)	PAR	98.08±0.87	0.886
	TZN	99.02±0.59	0.591
	ACE	98.04±0.88	0.893

Accuracy (%Recovery)

The accuracy was demonstrated by calculating % recovery of PAR, ACE and TZN by standard addition method. The known concentration of standard solutions consisting 250, 0.5 & 50µg/ml, 500, 1 & 100µg/ml and

750, 1.5 & 150µg/ml of PAR, TZN and ACE denoting 50%, 100% and 150% as working solution. Above prepared solution were injected in triplicate manner and the results were reported in the "Table 4".

Table.4 Accuracy for PAR, TZN and ACE.

DRUG	RECOVERY LEVEL	AMOUNT ADDED (MCG)	AMOUNT FOUND(MCG)	ABSOLUTE MEAN	%RECOVERY ± SD (N=3)
PAR	50%	250.45	249.12	250.04±0.44	101.57±0.94
	100%	499.14	488.45	499.77±0.55	100.13±0.78
	150%	749.45	749.01	749.45±0.22	100.12±0.17
TZN	50%	0.49	0.46	0.48±0.01	99.52±1.07
	100%	0.98	0.95	0.96±0.02	100.71±1.23
	150%	1.49	1.43	1.49±0.03	99.10±0.41
ACE	50%	49.65	48.45	49.55±0.10	101.57±0.94
	100%	99.56	98.67	99.41±0.16	100.13±0.78
	150%	149.33	149.11	149.40±0.32	100.12±0.17

Robustness

The optimised HPLC technique showed robustness when purposeful changes in the solvent delivery (± 0.2 ml/min) and pH from the optimised chromatographic condition (±

0.2 unit) of the buffer did not show any change in elution time of the analyte peaks. The results are discussed in the "Table 5".

Table. 5 Robustness for PAR, TZN and ACE.

VARIATION PARAMETERS	ACCURACY % ^a ± SD			RELATIVE STANDARD DEVIATION (%RSD)		
	PAR	TZN	ACE	PAR	TZN	ACE
<i>Solvent delivery rate (±0.2 ml/min)</i>						
0.9mL/min	99.86±1.2	98.12±0.4	97.32±0.6	0.15	1.35	0.84
1.1mL/min	100.04±0.7	99.43±0.8	99.23±1.3	0.92	1.48	0.20
<i>Changes in pH (± 2.0%)</i>						
pH6.95	96.93±1.1	95.67±1.4	97.13±0.9	0.06	1.14	0.46
PH7.05	97.45±0.9	98.34±0.5	99.56±0.4	0.30	1.04	0.27

^a=shows the accuracy of 3 times of injection

Solution stability

The stability in analytical solution was determined by analyzing both the control and the sample solution over a period of 24 hrs kept over a table top. The retention time and peak area of PAR, TZN and ACE did not show any significant changes. (% RSD less than 2.0). This indicates the solutions were stable for 24 hrs, which was

sufficient to complete whole analytical process without any stability issues.

Specificity (forced degradation studies)

A stability-indicating method evaluates the active pharmaceutical ingredients, without the intrusion from excipients, potential impurities and degradation products. And also to determine the inherent stability nature of the

raw material and dosage form. Stress study confesses the mechanistic approach of degradation products and its pathway.^[36, 37]

“Table 6” provides the percentage degradation of analyte molecule and its recovery during stress condition. There was no interference of placebo and blank during stress studies. Among the various stress conditions, PAR degraded in acidic environment about 3.32% with a recovery of 96.68% and stable in all other conditions.

TZN degraded highly in oxidative condition about 10.05% with a recovery of 89.95%. ACE degraded highly in acidic environment about 13.42% with the recovery of 86.58% and moderate degradation in alkaline condition about 7.12% with the recovery of 93.88%. The degradants were well separated from the three main peaks. The chromatogram of degraded peaks was fetched in the “Fig. 5”. The peak purity data conveys that the degraded peaks does not disturb the purity of significant main peaks of the three analytes.

Table.6 Specificity (Forced degradation study).

DEGRADATION CONDITION	DEGRADATION % ^a			PEAK PURITY			PEAK THRESHOLD		
	PAR	TZN	ACE	PAR	TZN	ACE	PAR	TZN	ACE
Acid hydrolysis	3.32	4.58	13.42	2.191	0.501	0.087	37.057	0.572	0.289
Alkali hydrolysis	2.33	2.09	7.12	1.802	0.456	0.624	9.602	0.612	0.765
Oxidative degradation	3.19	10.97	2.99	2.004	0.608	0.077	21.431	0.900	0.282
Thermal degradation	2.99	1.99	1.99	2.224	0.19	0.082	14.983	0.609	0.288
Photolysis degradation	1.65	3.46	0.90	2.491	0.368	0.082	31.302	0.567	0.282

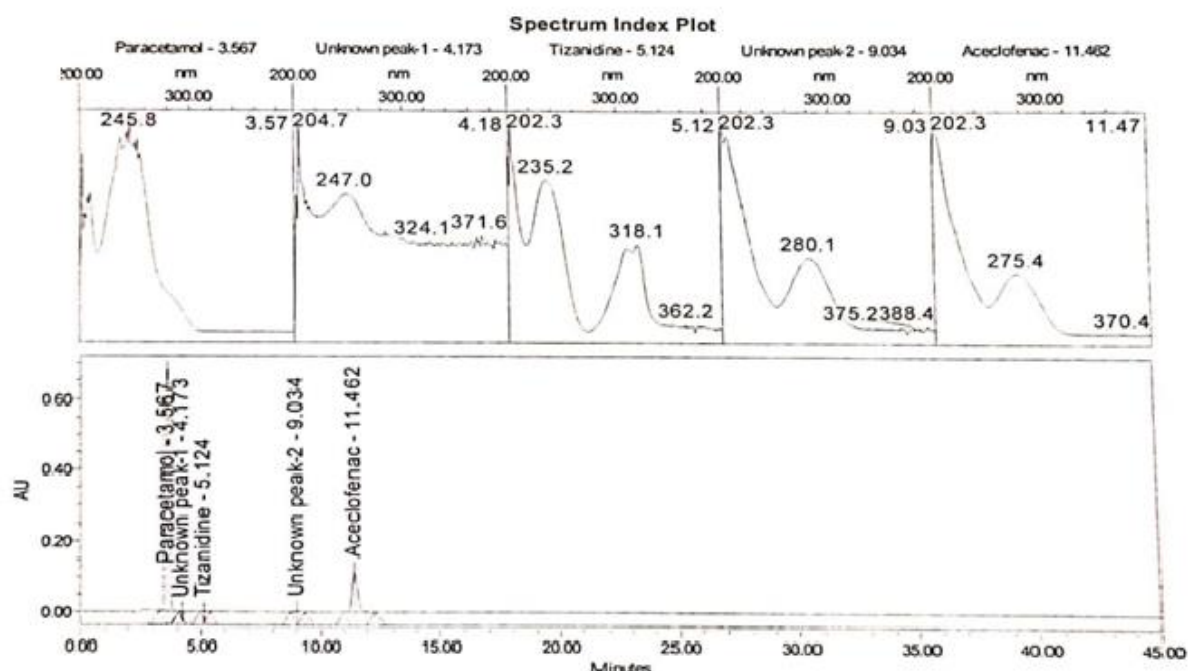


Fig. 5 Chromatogram of sample.

Filter integrity

Filter integrity testing was used to persuade the filters are integral and fulfil their intended properties. Filters such as Polyvinylidene fluoride, nylon membrane filter, Teflon filter and Polytetrafluoroethylene membrane filters were used for sample preparation. Percentage deviation where within 2% and it shows that there no interference was observed.

CONCLUSION

The developed stability indicating assay technique has been validated in accordance with regulatory and ICH recommendations. The optimised technique is linear, specific, robust and stability indicating to quantify PAR, TZN and ACE in formulation. Stress studies

accomplished for the three analytes in different condition such as thermal, photolytic, oxidation, hydrolysis (acid and alkali). The stress studies showed that degradation was within the limits and degraded peaks were well resolved from the principal peaks. The significant main peaks were attaining good peak purity based on the PDA detection. The developed assay method is assessment for quantitative estimation of PAR, TZN and ACE in formulations.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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