

## Development and Validation of First Order Derivative Spectrophotometric Methods for the Assay of Prucalopride Succinate

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Received: April 19, 2020

Published: May 04, 2020

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### Abstract

Prucalopride succinate is an orally active and selective, high affinity 5-HT<sub>4</sub> receptor agonist which targets the impaired motility associated with chronic constipation and thus normalizing bowel movements. It is used for the treatment of chronic constipation. Four new first order derivative spectrophotometric methods have been developed for the assay of Prucalopride succinate in pharmaceutical formulations. Prucalopride succinate was estimated using reagents such as 0.1N HCl (Method A), phosphate buffer (pH 2.0) (Method B), acetate buffer (pH 5.0) (Method C) and 0.1N NaOH (Method D). Beer-Lambert's law was obeyed over the concentration range 5 - 60 µg/ml in Method A and B and 5 - 50 µg/ml in Method C and D. The methods were found to be simple, precise, accurate, economical and the methods were validated as per ICH guidelines. These methods can be successfully applied for the determination of Ketorolac tromethamine in pharmaceutical dosage forms.

**Keywords:** First Derivative Spectroscopy; Prucalopride Succinate; Spectroscopy; Phosphate Buffer; Acetate Buffer; Sodium Hydroxide; HCl; Validation

### Introduction

Prucalopride is used to treat chronic constipation and it also facilitates cholinergic and excitatory non-adrenergic, noncholinergic neurotransmission [1,2]. Prucalopride (Figure 1) stimulates colonic mass movements and provides the main propulsive force for defecation. Prucalopride succinate (C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>32</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>; Mol. Wt. 485.96 g/mol) is benzo furan carboxamide butanedioic acid derivative. Prucalopride acts via a systemic mechanism initiating high amplitude propagated contractions in the colon [3]. Prucalopride enhances colonic propulsion and accelerates right colon emptying. Prucalopride also accelerates gastric emptying and small bowel transit [4-6].

Sun Z., *et al.* UHPLC-MS/MS method in rat plasma [7] for the quantitation of Prucalopride and Mahamuni., *et al.* separated and characterised the stress degradation products and process impurities of Prucalopride by LC-QTOF-MS/MS [8]. Virag., *et al.* established HPLC [9] and Buiters., *et al.* evaluated the preclinical evaluation of [11C] Prucalopride as a potential agonist PET ligand for the 5-HT<sub>4</sub> receptor using radiosynthesis [10] At present four new UV spectrophotometric methods have been proposed for the determination of Prucalopride succinate in pharmaceutical formulations and the method was validated as per ICH guidelines [11].

### Materials and Methods

Prucalopride succinate is available as film coated tablets (2 mg) with brand name RESOLOR (2 mg) (Shire Biotech India Pvt Ltd) and PRUEASE™ (SUN Pharma), PRUCAPLA (Cipla Ltd.). Prucalo-

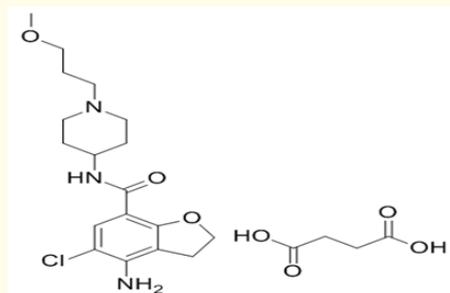


Figure 1: Structure of prucalopride succinate.

pride succinate was obtained as a gift sample from SYMED LABS Ltd (India). Double beam spectrophotometer (SHIMADZU Model No. UV - 1800) with quartz cells was used for the present study. All the solutions were scanned at 200 - 400 nm range. Reagents such as 0.1N HCl (Method A), phosphate buffer (pH 2.0) (Method B), acetate buffer (pH 5.0) (Method C) and 0.1N NaOH (Method D) were prepared as per IP 2010.

### Method validation

#### Procedure

Stock solution of Prucalopride succinate was prepared by dissolving 25 mg of drug in a 25 ml volumetric flask in methanol (1000 µg/ml) and diluted solutions were prepared from the stock solution with 0.1N HCl (Method A), phosphate buffer (pH 2.0) (Method B), acetate buffer (pH 5.0) (Method C) and 0.1N NaOH (Method D) as per the requirement.

A series of Prucalopride succinate solutions (5 - 60 µg/ml) were prepared using 0.1N HCl (Method A), phosphate buffer pH 2 (Method II) and (5 - 50 µg/ml) using acetate buffer pH 5.0 (Method III) and NaOH (Method IV) and scanned (200 - 400 nm) against their reagent blank. The individual zero order spectra of Prucalopride succinate so obtained in the above reagents were transferred into the first order derivative spectra with the help of inbuilt software of the instrument, SHIMADZU Model No. UV - 1800 double beam spectrophotometer. The resultant first order derivative spectrum has shown both maxima and minima in all the four reagents and therefore the amplitude was chosen for the construction of calibration curve and other calculation purpose for all the methods. Calibration curves were drawn by taking the concentration on the x-axis and the corresponding amplitude on the y-axis for all the methods.

Precision was studied by measuring the derivative absorbance (amplitude) of 6 solutions of the same concentration (n = 6) for all the methods and there by mean, standard deviation and relative standard deviation were calculated. Accuracy was studied by spiking the formulation solution of a fixed concentration with pure drug solution (50%, 100% and 150%) by standard addition method and there by percentage recovery and relative standard deviation were calculated.

#### Assay of prucalopride succinate tablets

20 tablets of Prucalopride succinate of two different brands were procured from the local pharmacy store and tablet powder consisting of 25 mg of Prucalopride succinate was accurately weighed and extracted with methanol. The contents were sonicated well, filtered and dilutions were made with respective buffers for Method A, B, C and D and assay was performed.

#### Results and Discussion

Prucalopride succinate assay was performed in reagents such as 0.1N HCl (Method A), phosphate buffer (pH 2.0) (Method B), acetate buffer (pH 5.0) (Method C) and 0.1N NaOH (Method D) using first derivative spectrophotometric technique in the present study. Table 1 shows the analytical details of the present proposed methods with the previously published spectrophotometric methods in the literature.

The first order derivative absorption spectra of Prucalopride succinate were shown in figure 2 and the calibration curves were shown in figure 3. Beer-Lambert's law was obeyed over the concentration range 5-60 µg/ml for Method A and B and 5 - 50 µg/ml for Method C and D (Table 2). The calibration curves obtained were shown in figure 3. All the four methods were precise (Table 3) and accurate (Table 4) as the %RSD was found to be less than 2. The assay was performed for two different brands of Prucalopride succinate available in the Indian market and percentage of purity was calculated from the regression equations obtained from the calibration curves and the results were shown in table 5 and no interference of excipients was observed.

Method	Mobile Phase/ Reagents	Linearity (µg/mL)	Ref
UHPLC-MS/ MS	Acetonitrile: 0.1% Formic acid	1.1 100 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> ng/mL	7 Rat Plasma
LC-QTOF-MS/ MS	20 mM Ammonium bicarbonate buffer and acetonitrile: methanol (80:20 v/v)	-	8 Impurities
RP-HPLC	10 mM Potassium dihydrogen phosphate buffer (pH 2.0): methanol (50:50)	50 - 150	9

Table 1: Review of prucalopride succinate.

Figure 2: Overlay first order derivative spectra of prucalopride succinate (D<sub>1</sub>).

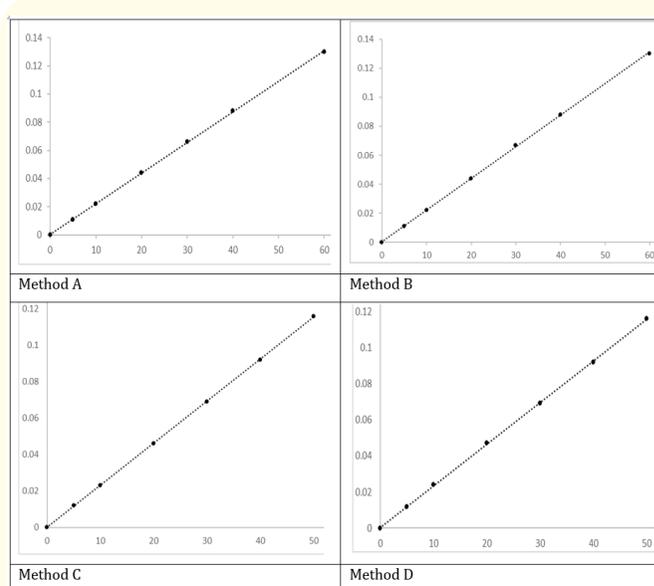


Figure 3: Calibration curves of prucalopride succinate (First derivative spectroscopy).

Conc. (µg/ml)	Method A			Method B		
	*Maxima	*Minima	*Amplitude	*Maxima	*Minima	*Amplitude
5	0.006	0.005	0.011	0.006	0.005	0.011
10	0.012	0.011	0.023	0.012	0.010	0.022
20	0.024	0.021	0.043	0.024	0.020	0.044
30	0.036	0.030	0.066	0.035	0.032	0.067
40	0.048	0.040	0.088	0.048	0.043	0.091
60	0.070	0.062	0.132	0.068	0.059	0.127
Conc. (µg/ml)	Method C			Method D		
	*Maxima	*Minima	*Amplitude	*Maxima	*Minima	*Amplitude
5	0.006	0.006	0.012	0.006	0.006	0.012
10	0.012	0.011	0.023	0.012	0.012	0.024
20	0.024	0.021	0.045	0.024	0.022	0.042
30	0.036	0.033	0.069	0.036	0.032	0.068
40	0.046	0.045	0.091	0.046	0.046	0.092
50	0.058	0.064	0.112	0.056	0.060	0.116

**Table 2:** Linearity (First derivative spectroscopy) (Max: Maxima; Min: Minima).

\*Mean of three replicates.

Conc. (µg/ml)	Statistical parameters: Mean ± SD (% RSD)			
	Method A	Method B	Method C	Method D
10	0.023 ± 0.0368	0.022 ± 0.0462	0.023 ± 0.0414	0.024 ± 0.0744
10	(0.016)	(0.021)	(0.018)	(0.031)
10				
10				
10				
10				

**Table 3:** Precision study of prucalopride succinate.

\*Mean of three replicates.

Spiked Conc.	Formulation	Total Conc.	Conc. obtained (% Recovery)			
			Method A	Method B	Method C	Method D
5	10	15	14.89 (99.27)	14.91 (99.4)	14.99 (99.93)	14.96 (99.73)
5	10	15				
5	10	15				
10	10	20	19.92	19.97 (99.85)	19.94 (99.7)	19.84 (99.2)
10	10	20	(99.6)			
10	10	20				
15	10	25	24.97 (99.88)	24.92 (99.68)	24.93 (99.72)	24.96 (99.84)
15	10	25				
15	10	25				

**Table 4:** Accuracy study of prucalopride succinate (Conc. µg/ml).

\*Mean of three replicates.

Brand	Method A		Method B		Method C		Method D	
	Observed amount (mg)	% Recovery						
I	1.987	99.35	1.979	98.95	1.972	98.60	1.991	99.55
II	1.983	99.15	1.981	99.05	1.978	98.9	1.989	99.45

**Table 5:** Assay of prucalopride succinate (Label claim: 2 mg).

\*Mean of three replicates.

## Conclusion

The four validated first order derivative spectrophotometric methods so developed are simple, precise, accurate and economical. The methods can be successfully applied for the determination of Prucalopride succinate in pharmaceutical dosage forms.

## Acknowledgment

The authors are grateful to M/s GITAM (Deemed to be University), Visakhapatnam for providing the research facilities and to SYMED LABS Ltd (India) for providing the gift samples of Prucalopride succinate.

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