



New Spectrophotometric Determination of Chloramphenicol in Pharmaceutical Preparations Based on Condensation Reaction with 1,2-Naphthoquinone-4-Sulfonic Acid (1,2 NQS) as Reagent

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Abstract: A new simple, rapid, sensitive, selective, and accurate method for the spectrophotometric determination of Chloramphenicol (CAP) in different pharmaceutical preparations. Chloramphenicol as active antibiotic is widely used in the treatment of diseases. The spectrophotometric method is based on the condensation reaction between CAP and 1,2-naphthoquinone-4-sulfonic(1,2 NQS) as reagent to form an orange-red product after reducing the nitro group in the drug into an amino group by using concentrated HCl and zinc dust. The orange-red product showed a maximum absorption at 489 nm. Beer's law was obeyed in the concentration range of $1-9 \mu\text{g} \cdot \text{mL}^{-1}$ with a molar absorptivity ($1.86 \times 10^4 \text{ L} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-1}$), and Sandell's sensitivity ($1.73 \times 10^{-2} \mu\text{g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$), respectively. The analytical parameters were optimized as follows: It was found that the time for completed reaction was (10 min) at temperature (70°C) in bicarbonate solution, and the best volume of $0.01 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ of 1,2 NQS solution is 1 mL. Limit of detection (LOD), and limit of quantification (LOQ) are 0.068 ppm, and 0.207 ppm, respectively, the recoveries range 98.52%-100.66%. The method was successfully applied to the analysis of CAP in its pharmaceutical preparations (Eye drops, Ointments and Capsules).

Key words: Drugs, Chloramphenicol (CAP), 1,2-naphthoquinone-4-sulfonic(1,2 NQS), condensation reaction, Pharmaceutical preparation.