



## Separation and Pre-Concentration for the Spectrophotometric Determination of Chloramphenicol in Pharmaceutical Preparations

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**Abstract:** A new simple, rapid, sensitive, selective, and accurate cloud point extraction 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 compound after reducing the nitro group in the drug into an amino group by using concentrated HCl and zinc dust. The product was extracted with Triton X 114 by cloud point extraction technique to increase the sensitivity of the method. The orange-red compound showed a maximum absorption at 489 nm. Beer's law was obeyed in the concentration range of 0.1–6  $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$  with a molar absorptivity ( $7.49 \times 10^4$ )  $\text{L}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}\cdot\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and Sandell's sensitivity ( $4.31 \times 10^{-3}$ )  $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$ , respectively. The analytical parameters were optimized as follows: The best temperature is (1–60 °C), the reaction is completed directly with the addition of NQS to the drug and the best volume of NQS solution is 1 mL. Limit of detection (LOD) and limit of quantification (LOQ) are 0.032 ppm and 0.097 ppm, respectively.  $E\%$ ,  $R_v$  and  $f_c$  were 99.92, 0.3, and 3.33333, respectively. The recoveries range from 98.53% to 103.37%. The method was successfully applied to the analysis of CAP in various pharmaceutical preparations (eye drops, ointments, and capsules).

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