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Estimation of Atenolol by Reverse Phase High Performance Liquid Chromatography

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Abstract: A simple, precise, sensitive, fast and accurate high performance liquid chromatography method has been developed for the determination of atenolol using mixture of phosphate buffer and acetonitrile (53:47 v/v) as mobile phase. Buffer was prepared by mixing 0.02 M K₂PO₄ and 0.003 M KH₂PO₄ in equal proportion. Detection was carried out using UV detector at λ_{\max} 230 nm. Column was ODS and dimensions of column was 25 mm x 4.6 mm. Atenolol was eluted out at retention time of 2.1 min. Method was validated at 1.2 mL/min flow rate. Calibration curve was linear between ranges of 40 to 200 mcg concentration. The limit of detection was calculates 120 nano gram and limit of quantitation is 510 nano gram. The relative standard deviation (RSD) of atenolol was 0.6. The percentage recovery of atenolol was 99.6%.

Keywords: HPLC, ODS, Validation, Atenolol.

Introduction

HPLC is high performance liquid chromatography. It can be used for qualitative and quantitative analysis. HPLC is very sophisticated instrument and widely used in analysis¹⁻⁴. Atenolol is well known drug widely used in the treatment of hypertension. Atenolol (ATL), chemically is known as (*R, S*)-4-(2-hydroxy-3-isopropyl-aminopropoxy) phenyl acetamide, is a *beta*-adrenoceptor antagonist. It is official in the Indian Pharmacopoeia^{4,6} and the British Pharmacopoeia. Literature reveals that there are few methods for estimation of atenolol in bulk and its dosage form. Several works have been reported on atenolol determination in plasma, formulations adopting gas chromatographic techniques with an electron capture detector or HPLC, using reverse phase columns and UV or fluorometric detection⁶⁻¹⁰. These methods can be used successfully for quality control testing of the drugs from single and combined dosage form.

Experimental

Standard bulk drug sample of atenolol is procured from Unicare (India) Pvt. Ltd., Noida (U.P.) India. All other reagents used were of analytical grade for spectroscopic method and HPLC grade for HPLC method.

HPLC is shimadzu SPD 10 a modal system with 1 cm matched quartz cell was used for spectrophotometric method. Spectra were recorded using specific program of apparatus, having specifications as follows: Spectral bandwidth 3 nm, wavelength accuracy ± 0.5 nm and wavelength readability 0.1 nm increments. Acetonitrile is HPLC grade from Rankem which is already passed through 0.2 micron pore size filter paper. Water is triple distilled that used in this experiment and passed through 0.45 micron filter paper with help of vacuum pump. K_2HPO_4 and KH_2PO_4 were also GR grade which used in HPLC analysis and they are both from Rankem. All the glass wares are made up of borosilicate glass.

Chromatographic conditions

Chromatographic separations were achieved using an Inertsil ODS C_{18} (250 x 4.6 mm, 5 μ) analytical column. The mobile phase consisting of acetonitrile and phosphate buffer (47:53 v/v) was passed through 0.45 μ membrane filter and degas by ultrasonications. The flow rate was maintained at 1.2 mL /min and the measurements were made at 230 nm. The column and the HPLC system were kept in ambient temperature

Preparation of buffer solution

Phosphate buffer pH 7 was prepared by dissolving 136 mg of potassium dihydrogen phosphate in 100 mL of water and 0.52 mg of dipotassium hydrozen phosphate in 100 mL of water. The above solutions are mixed in 1:1 ratio to get pH 7.

Preparation of mobile phase

Prepared buffer and acetonitrile were mixed in 53:47 (v/v) ratios. The solution was sonicated to degas mixture. Mobile phase was passed through 0.45 μ m pore size filter paper.

Standard solution

Atenolol standard solution was prepared by separately dissolving 25 mg of pure drug in 25 mL of mobile phase. Standard atenolol was dissolved in 15 mL of mobile phase and sonicated for 5 min. Then diluted to 25 mL with mobile phase to get 100 μ g mL⁻¹ for atenolol and passed through 0.45 μ m membrane filter. Mixture was degas by ultrasonications. At first, a blank solution (mobile phase) was injected and chromatogram was recorded. Before injection of these solutions into injector loop, it passed through 0.45 μ m filter. Chromatogram of atenolol was recorded as given in Figure 1.

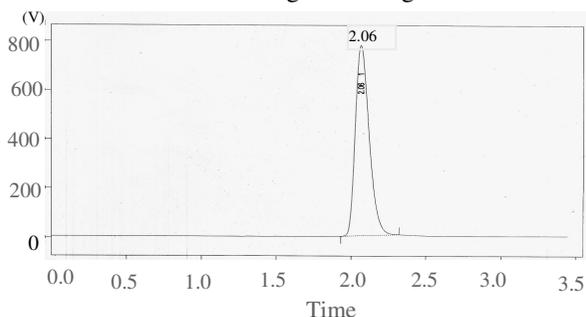


Figure 1. Typical chromatogram of standard atenolol.

*Method validation*¹¹⁻¹³

Linearity and range of method was determined on standard solution by analyzing 40 to 200 mcg/mL concentration of test concentration and the calibration curve was plotted using AUC *versus* concentration of standard solution (Figure 2). Accuracy of method was ascertained by recovery study by adding a known amount of standard drug ($\pm 20\%$ of test concentration) to pre-analysed sample and reanalyzing the samples by the proposed method. Precision was studied by analyzing six replicates of standard solution. Specificity was carried out by injecting placebo solution. The chromatographic parameters were also validated by system suitability studies (Table 1) which were carried out on freshly prepared standard stock solution.

Table 1. System suitability.

S. No.	Parameters	Obtained values
1	Retention time, min	2.096
2	Area	2072.2
3	S.D	7.5
4	RSD	0.3

Results and Discussion*Linearity*

A linear relationship should be evaluated across the range of the analytical procedure. It is demonstrated directly on the substance (by the dilution of standard stock solution) and separate weighing of synthetic mixture of the product component, using the proposed procedure. The latter aspect can be studied during investigation of range.

Linearity should be evaluated by the visual inspection of a plot of signals as a function of compound concentration content. If there is a linear relationship, test results should be evaluated by appropriate statistical methods, for example- calculation of a regression line by the method of least square. In some cases, to obtain linearity between assay and sample concentration, the test data need to be subjected to a mathematical transformation prior to regression analysis. Data from the regression line itself may be helpful to provide mathematical estimates of the degree of linearity.

Calibration curves were constructed using three series of standard atenolol solution in the range of 40.0-200.0 $\mu\text{g/mL}$. The equation of linear regression and statistical data are presented in Figure 2. The linearity of the calibration curve was validated by the high value of the correlation coefficient. They were represented by the linear regression equation

$$Y_{\text{AT}} = 652.44x + 95.726 \text{ and } R^2 = 0.9996.$$

Precision

Intra day precision was performed for six replicate for drug in method under the limit of ICH guideline. Relative standard deviation of atenolol is 0.64. The assays gave satisfactory results; the relative standard deviations (RSD.) were less than 2. This level of precision of the proposed method was adequate for the quality control analysis of atenolol in its pharmaceutical formulations.

Accuracy test

The accuracy of the method was checked by recovery study using standard addition method at three different concentration levels, *i.e.*, multilevel recovery study. The preanalyzed samples were spiked with extra 80, 100 and 120% of the standard atenolol and the mixtures

were analyzed by proposed method. Recovery of standard drugs added was found to be 98.3 - 101% with the value of %RSD less than 1.0 indicating that the proposed method was accurate. Results of recovery study are shown in Table 2.

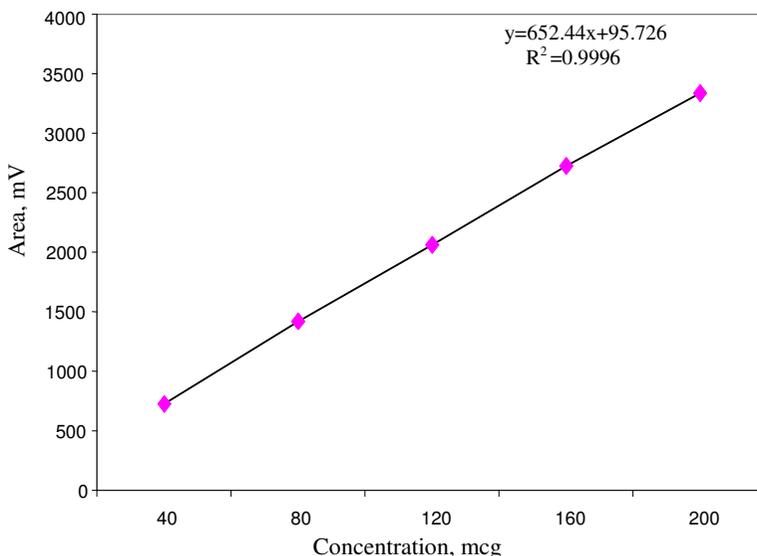


Figure 2. Linearity graph of atenolol.

Table 2. Recovery data for the proposed RP-HPLC method (n=3).

S. No.	Concentration added, mcg/mL	Recovered, mg	% Recovered	Mean	RSD
1	80	81.1	101.3	101.3	0.38
2	80	80.8	101		
3	80	81.3	101.6		
4	100	100.2	100	100	0.35
5	100	99.9	100		
6	100	99.7	100		
7	120	118.2	98.3	98.5	0.16
8	120	118.2	98.5		
9	120	118.5	98.7		

Conclusion

Reversed phase method was developed for estimation of atenolol. The developed method was accurate, precise, sensitive and fast and could estimate atenolol. The developed method is economic and efficient as compared to other methods. This method could be utilized in quantitative analysis of drugs in pharmaceutical formulations. Atenolol was taken for the study. The drug eluted successfully at specific times. Chromatogram of the drug showed good peak shape and resolution. Developed method was validated. Validation indicated the potential of developed method. The developed method proved its suitability as it could successfully analyzed the drug in marketed products and this can be used for routine analysis of two drugs.

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