

Novel Analytical Techniques used in Identification and Isolation of Impurities in Pharmaceuticals an Overview

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Abstract:

In pharmaceutical sciences, drug impurity profiling has become an important aspect in view of quality, safety and efficacy of drugs. Drug impurity profiling i.e. identification, structure elucidation and quantitative determination of impurities and degraded products in bulk and pharmaceutical dosage forms is one of the most important fields of activities in modern pharmaceutical analysis. It has become most important because unidentified, potential toxic impurities are hazardous to human life and in order to increase safety of drug therapy, impurities in the drug sample must be identified and quantified. Most of the papers are dealing with drug impurity profiling and it is increasing day by day. The aim of this review article is to focus on various hyphenated techniques used to study impurity profiling of drugs and their structure elucidation, such as LC-MS-MS, UPLC, GC-MS, LC-NMR-DAD-MS, etc. and ICH Guidelines to check the impurity.

Keywords: Impurity profiling, ICH Guidelines, hyphenated techniques

INTRODUCTION:

According to ICH tips impurity profile of drug material could be a description of known and unidentified impurities gift in new drug substances and API. it's any part or substance apart from drug substance and excipients.[1]

Sources of Impurities:

There are numerous sources of impurities gift within the active pharmaceutical ingredients and through formulation i.e. Process development, synthesis of medicine. throughout the drug synthesis development method impurities are often generated from artificial method or degradation of product. throughout drug formulation, impurities are often generated from drug excipient interaction or interaction of formulation with machineries or equipment's used throughout producing method.[4]

Impurities are often classified into numerous ways that such as:[2]

According to ICH tips, impurities related to Apis are classified as:

1) Organic Impurities:

Organic impurities are impurities that are derived from beginning material, intermediates, degradation of product, chemical reaction of drug substances, breakdown of bonds between the molecules of medicine and enantiomer impurities.

2) Inorganic Impurities:

Inorganic Impurities could also be derived from producing processes used for bulk medication. Reagents used throughout producing, Ligands and catalyst, significant metals and different materials like charcoal, filter aids and conjointly beginning material, by merchandise.

3) In method Impurities:

Impurities generated throughout in process producing of medicine like crystallization, solvents stay when process. There are numerous combined techniques that are primarily used for structure elucidation and impurity identification of prescribed drugs. like GC-MS, LC-IR, LC-MS, LC-NMR.

A) GC-MS:

With MS because the most popular detection technique, and single- and triple quadrupole, particle lure and time-of-flight (TOF) mass spectrometers because the instruments most often used, each LC-MS and GC-MS are the foremost common combined techniques in use these days. GC-MS, that could be a combined technique developed from the coupling of rate and MS, was the primary of its kind to become helpful for analysis and development functions. Mass spectra obtained by this combined technique supply additional structural data supported the interpretation of fragmentations. The fragment ions with completely different relative abundances are often compared with library spectra. Compounds that are adequately volatile, small, and stable in heat in rate conditions are often simply analyzed by GC-MS. Sometimes, polar compounds, particularly those with variety of hydroxyl radical teams, got to be derivatized for GC-MS analysis. the foremost common derivatization technique is that the conversion of the analyte to its trimethylsilyl by-product. In GC-MS, a sample is injected into the injection port of rate device, vaporized, separated within the rate column, analyzed by MS detector, and recorded.(Fig.1) The time advance between injection and extraction is termed "retention time" (Rt). The instrumentality used for GC-MS usually consists of AN injection port at one finish of a metal column (often full of a sand-like material to market most separation) and a detector (MS) at the opposite finish of the column.[13]

A carrier gas (argon, helium, nitrogen, hydrogen, to call a few) propels the sample down the column. The rate separates the parts of a combination in time and therefore the MS detector provides data that aids within the structural identification of every part.

The GC-MS columns are often of 2 types: capillary columns, and macrobore and packed columns. the subsequent points got to be thought-about fastidiously concerning the GC-MS interface.

- The interface transports with efficiency the effluent from the rate to MS.
- The analyte should not condense within the interface.
- The analyte should not decompose before getting into the MS particle supply.
- The gas load getting into the particle supply should be inside the pumping capability of the MS.

The most extensively used interfaces for a GC-MS are lepton impact ionization (EI) and chemical ionization (CI) modes. However, in fashionable GC-MS systems, numerous different sorts are often used that permit identification of molecular particle. as an example, AN orthogonal TOF mass qualitative analysis not to mention rate is employed for confirmation of purity and identity of the parts by activity actual mass and shrewd elemental composition. Nowadays, a GC-MS is integrated with numerous on-line MS databases for many reference compounds with search capabilities that might be helpful for spectra match for the identification of separated parts.[13]

B)LC-IR:

The combined technique developed from the coupling of AN LC and therefore the detection technique infrared qualitative analysis (IR) or FTIR is understood as LC-IR or HPLC-IR. whereas HPLC is one among the foremost powerful separation techniques offered these days, the IR or FTIR could be a helpful chemical analysis technique for the identification of organic compounds and structure elucidation, as a result of within the mid-IR region the structures of organic compounds have several absorption bands that are characteristic of explicit functionalities, e.g., -OH, -COOH, and so on. However, combination of HPLC and IR is troublesome and therefore the progress during this combined technique is extraordinarily slow as a result of the combined technique's 237 absorption bands of the mobile section therefore ventur so large within the mid-IR region that they typically obscure the little signal generated by the sample parts.[6]

In addition, as a detection technique, IR is way less sensitive compared to numerous different detection techniques, e.g., UV and MS. The recent developments in HPLC-IR technology have incorporated 2 basic approaches supported interfaces applied in HPLC-IR or HPLC-FTIR. One could be a flow-cell approach and therefore the different could be a solvent-elimination approach. The approach used with the flow cell in LC-IR is analogous to it utilized in UV-vis and different typical HPLC detectors. during this case, absorption of the mobile section induces the interference of the detection of sample part absorption bands, however some clear region of the mid-IR vary produces detection risk. as an example, if one uses a mobile section of a deuterated solvent like moderator or perdeuterated wood alcohol, IR will monitor several organic compounds that have C-H structures within the molecules. The solvent-elimination approach is that the most popular possibility in most of the LC-IR operations. when the mobile section solvent is eliminated, IR detection is administered in some medium that includes a transparency for IR lightweight.[6]

A carrier gas (argon, helium, nitrogen, hydrogen, to call a few) propels the sample down the column. The gigahertz separates the parts of a mix in time and therefore the MS detector provides data that aids within the structural identification of every part.

The GC-MS columns may be of 2 types: capillary columns, and macrobore and packed columns. the subsequent points have to be compelled to be thought-about rigorously relating to the GC-MS interface.

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2) LC-MS:

LC-MS or HPLC-MS refers to the coupling of AN LC with a prism spectroscope (MS) [Fig.2]. The separated sample rising from the column may be known on the premise of its mass spectral knowledge. A shift valve will facilitate create a operating combination of the 2 techniques. A typical automatic LC-MS system consists of double trilateral diverter in-line with AN autosampler, AN LC system, and therefore the prism spectroscope. The diverter typically operates as AN automatic shift valve to divert unsought parts of the solution from the LC system to waste before the sample enters the MS.

Schematic of AN LC-MS (electrospray ionization interface) system

An LC-MS combines the chemical separating power of LC with the power of AN MS to by selection notice and make sure molecular identity. MS is one among the foremost sensitive and extremely selective ways of molecular analysis, and provides data on the mass additionally because the fragmentation pattern of the analyte molecule. the knowledge obtained from MS is valuable for confirming the identities of the analyte molecules.[9]

This {qualitative Analysis chemical analysis makes it doable to reconstruct an unknown compound from MS knowledge. The particleization techniques employed in LC-MS are typically soft ionization techniques that principally show the molecular ion species with solely some fragment ions. Hence, the knowledge obtained from one LC-MS run, on the structure of the compound, is very poor. However, this drawback has currently been tackled by the introduction of bicycle mass spectrum analysis (MS-MS), that provides fragments through collision-induced dissociation of the molecular ions created.[19] the utilization of LC-MS-MS is increasing apace. combined techniques like HPLC coupled to UV and mass spectrum analysis (LC-UV-MS) have verified to be extraordinarily helpful together with biological screening for a fast survey of natural product.[20]

Nowadays, varied forms of LC-MS systems incorporating differing kinds of interfaces are offered commercially. The interfaces are designed in such the way that they provide adequate nebulization and vaporization of the liquid, ionization of the sample, removal of the surplus solvent

vapor, and extraction of the ions into the mass analyser. the 2 most generally used interfaces, particularly in respect to natural product analysis, are electrospray ionization (ESI) and gas pressure chemical ionization (APCI). The latter is taken into account as “the chromatographer’s LC-MS interface” as a result of its high solvent rate of flow capability, sensitivity, response one-dimensionality, and fields of pertinence. With these interfaces, varied forms of analyzers, e.g., quadrupole, ion trap, or TOF, are often used. every of those analyzers, however, offers variable degree of mass accuracy and determination. within the LC-UV-MS mode, thermo spray (LC-TSP-MS) and continuous-flow fabulous (LC-CF-FAB) interfaces also can be applied. For phytochemical analysis, the TSP has been found to be the foremost appropriate interface because it permits introduction of liquid section into MS system at a rate of flow (1–2 ml/min) compatible therewith typically employed in phytochemical analysis.[7]

In LC operation for LC-MS, the popular possibility could be a reversed-phase system employing a gradient or isocratic solvent mixture of water, ACN, or MeOH. little amounts of ethanoic acid, acid, ammonia hydroxide/ammonia answer, or ammonia acetate also can be employed in the mobile section. In conjunction with these interfaces, differing kinds of analyzers, e.g., quadrupole, ion trap, or TOF, are often used, and that they provide varied degrees of mass accuracy and MS-MS prospects. LC-MS systems don’t permit an entire and unambiguous on-line identification of a element, unless it’s a well-known natural product, and complementary on-line spectroscopically info is obtainable in databases. one in every of the most issues related to LC-MS is that the standard of response powerfully depends on varied factors, e.g., nature of the compounds to be analyzed, the solvent and buffer used because the mobile section, the rate of flow and, of course, the kind of interface used. as an example, a crude natural product extract typically contains variety of varied forms of compounds that disagree significantly in their chemistry properties, solubilities, molecular size and stability. it’s thus very troublesome, if not not possible, to optimize the ionization conditions that may be appropriate for all those differing kinds of compounds. a method to urge around this problem is to investigate the extract in several ionization modes.[12]

1) LC-NMR:

Among the spectroscopically techniques offered so far, nuclear magnetic resonance is maybe the smallest amount sensitive, and nonetheless it provides the foremost helpful structural info toward the structure elucidation of natural merchandise. Technological developments have allowed the direct parallel coupling of HPLC systems to nuclear magnetic resonance, giving rise to the new sensible technique HPLC-NMR or LC-NMR, that has been wide illustrious for over last fifteen years. the primary on-line HPLC-NMR experiment victimization superconducting magnets was rumored within the early Nineteen Eighties. However, the utilization of this combined technique within the analytical laboratories started in the latter a part of the Nineties solely. LC-NMR guarantees to be of nice price

within the analysis of complicated mixtures of all kinds, notably the analysis of natural merchandise and drug-related metabolites in biofluids.[12]

LC-NMR experiments are often performed in each continuous-flow and stop-flow modes. a good vary of bioanalytical issues are often self-addressed victimization five hundred, 600, and 800 megacycle systems with ^1H , ^{13}C , ^2H , ^{19}F , and ^{31}P probes. the most conditions for on-line LC-NMR, additionally to the nuclear magnetic resonance and HPLC instrumentation, are the continuous-flow probe and a valve put in before the searched for recording either continuous-flow or stopped-flow nuclear magnetic resonance spectra.[12] A UV-vis detector is additionally used as a primary detector for LC operation. magnetic flux strengths beyond nine.4 T are suggested, i.e., ^1H resonance frequency of four hundred megacycle for a typical HPLC-NMR coupling. The analytical flow cell was at the start made for continuous-flow nuclear magnetic resonance acquisition. However, the necessity for full structural assignment of unknown compounds, particularly novel natural merchandise, has semiconductor diode to the appliance within the stopped-flow mode.[18] In fact, the advantages of the closed-loop separation-identification circuit, alongside the prospect of victimization all presently offered second and 3D nuclear magnetic resonance techniques in an exceedingly totally automatic manner, have prompted the event of stopped-flow modes, e.g., time-slice mode. A typical experimental arrangement of LC-NMR is shown in [Fig:3]

A typical LC-NMR system

Generally, in LC-NMR system, the LC unit includes automotive vehicle sampler, LC pump, column and a non-NMR detector (e.g., UV, DAD, EC, index of refraction, or radioactivity). From this detector, the flow is guided into the LC-NMR interface, which might be equipped with further loops for the intermediate storage of hand-picked LC peaks. The ensue the LC-NMR interface is then guided either to the flow-cell nuclear magnetic resonance probe-head or to the waste receptacle. Following passage through the probe-head, the flow is routed to a fraction collector for recovery and any investigation of the assorted fractions analyzed by nuclear magnetic resonance. AN MS also can be hooked up to the system via a splitter at the output of the LC-NMR interface.[18]

In most of the LC-NMR operations, reversed-phase columns are used, using a binary or tertiary solvent mixture with isocratic or gradient extraction. The protons of the solvents of the mobile section cause severe issues for getting associate degree adequate nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum. The receiver of the nuclear magnetic resonance prism spectroscopy isn't quite able to handle the extreme solvent signals and also the weak substance signals at an equivalent time: presaturation, soft-pulse multiple irradiation or water suppression improvement through T1 effects (WET) presaturation using a z-gradient.[12] This drawback may be decreased by considering the subsequent guidelines:

- mistreatment eluents that have as few ^1H nuclear magnetic resonance resonances as doable, e.g., H_2O , ACN, or MeOH..
- mistreatment a minimum of one deuterated solvent, e.g., D_2O (approx \$290/L), ACN- d_3 (approx \$1600/L), or MeOD (approx \$3000/L).
- mistreatment buffers that have as few ^1H nuclear magnetic resonance resonances as doable, e.g., TFA or ammonia acetate.

- mistreatment ionpair reagents that have as few ^1H nuclear magnetic resonance resonances as doable, e.g., ionpairs with t-butyl teams produce an extra resonance.

To date, 3 main varieties of information acquisition modes are introduced: continuous-flow acquisition, stopped-flow acquisition, and time-sliced acquisition.[12] no matter could also be the acquisition mode, associate degree optimized HPLC separation is crucial to any LC-NMR analysis. because the sensitivity of LC-NMR is way but alternative combined techniques, e.g., LC-MS, or LC-PDA, it's imperative to develop an appropriate LC separation wherever the amount of the accessible separated compound is targeted within the smallest available extraction volume. LC-NMR represents a probably attention-grabbing complementary technique to LC-UV-MS for elaborate on-line structural analysis. Indeed, recent progress in nuclear magnetic resonance technology has given a brand new impulse to LC-NMR, that is currently rising as a robust analytical tool. the event of economical solvent suppression techniques permits the measuring of high-quality LC- ^1H -NMR spectra, each on-flow and stop-flow, with reversed-phase HPLC conditions. Nondeuterated solvents like MeOH or MeCN may be used, whereas water is replaced by D_2O .[11]

Recent advances in each hardware and computer code for the direct coupling of LC and nuclear magnetic resonance have given a brand new life to the present combined technique. As a result, this technique could be a powerful tool utilized in several areas like natural merchandise, organic molecules, biomolecules, drug impurities, by-products, reaction mixtures, and drug degradation merchandise. The potential of HPLC-NMR for the investigation and structural elucidation of novel natural merchandise has been staggeringly extended by the appearance of powerful solvent suppression schemes, and their combination with a series of homo- and heteronuclear 2nd nuclear magnetic resonance experiments like 2nd total correlation spectroscopy (TOCSY) or 2nd nuclear Overhauser improvement spectroscopy (NOESY). LC-NMR, despite being notable for concerning last twenty years, has virtually become a wide accepted technique, in the main owing to its lower level of sensitivity and better value compared to alternative accessible combined techniques. However, the recent advances in Analysis includes purity determination, assays, technology, particularly in respect to the developments in pulse field gradients and solvent suppressions ways, the advance in probe technology, and also the introduction of high-field magnets (800–900 MHz) have offered new impetus to the present technique.[11]

1) CE-MS:

Capillary Electrophoresis is an automatic separation technique introduced within the early Nineteen Nineties. atomic number 58 analysis is driven by an electrical field, performed in slender tubes, and may lead to the speedy separation of the many many completely different compounds. the flexibility and also the many ways that atomic number 58 may be used mean that nearly all molecules can be separated mistreatment this powerful technique.. The solutes are seen as peaks as they meet up with the detector and also the space of every peak is proportional to their concentration, that permits quantitative determinations. 1[Figure 4].[13]

High Voltage Supply; two.Capillary tube; three.UV-Vis or personal organizer Detector; four.MS Detector ;5.Buffer Solution;6.PC Control

Separation is achieved through channels imprinted on the surface of the capillary (connected to associate degree external high-voltage power supply) that delivers sample to ESIMS. this system runs fully automation and offers high degree of sensitivity and property. a brand new kind of interface, called homocentric sheath liquid CE-MS interface has been developed recently that permits the utilization of each LC-MS and CE-MS as an alternative on an equivalent spectrometer. the mandatory sheath liquid is delivered by a pump that floats on the particle sprayer of

the MS, avoiding any current flow toward ground. LC-MS and CE-MS modes may be switched among minutes. to get a stable particle spray and to avoid electrical issues, the atomic number 58 power supply is employed to provide the potential for the atomic number 58 separation and also the ESI sprayer tip at the same time. ESIMS detection technique is usually utilized in most of the CE-MS systems as a result of ESI is taken into account to be one among the foremost powerful on-line tools for the analysis of bio-molecules, together with natural merchandise, providing each the relative molecular mass and structural characterization of analytes. The optimisation of the interfacing of atomic number 58 with MS may be a true challenge owing to the low flow rates (10–100 ml/min) needed in atomic number 58, that is achieved by a make-up liquid.[14]

Limits for impurities:

According to the ICH guidelines on impurities in new drug products, identification of impurities below 0.1% level is not considered to be necessary, unless potential impurities are expected to be unusually potent or toxic. According to the ICH, the maximum daily dose qualification threshold to be considered is as follows:[4,5,6]

TABLE 01: Thresholds for degradation products in drug products:

Maximum daily dose	Reporting threshold
≤1 g	>1 g
0.1%	0.05%
Maximum daily dose	Identification threshold
<1 mg	1.0% or 5 ug TDI, whichever is lower
1mg – 10 mg	0.5% or 20 ug TDI, whichever is lower
>10 mg- 2 g	0.2% or 2 mg TDI, whichever is lower
>2 g	0.10%
Maximum daily dose	Qualification threshold
<10 mg	1.0% or 50 ug TDI, whichever is lower
10mg – 100 mg	0.5% or 200 ug TDI, whichever is lower
>100 mg- 2 g	0.2% or 3 mg TDI, whichever is lower
>2 g	0.15%

TDI-Total Daily Intake

TABLE 02: List of Drugs and its related impurities is as follows:

Drug	Impurity	Analysis Method
Amphotericin B	Tetraene	UV Spectroscopy
Cloxacillin	N,N-Dimethylaniline	Gas Chromatography
Mercaptopurine	Hypoxanthine	UV Spectroscopy
Ethambutol HCL	2-aminobutanol0	Thin Layer Chromatography
Morphine sulphate	5-(hydroxymethyl)2-furfural	HPLC

TABLE 03 : Regulatory Guidelines on Impurity[4]

Q1A	(R2) Stability Testing of New Drug Substances and Products	ICH
Q3A	(R2) Impurities in New Drug Substances	ICH
Q3B	Impurities in Drug Products	ICH
Q3C	Impurities in Residual Solvents	ICH
NDA:	Impurities in Drug Substances	FDA
ANDA	:Impurities in Drug Substances	FDA

Regulatory Guidelines on impurity:

International Conference on Harmonization Guidance of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use is prescribed by The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The FDA has the assigned responsibility of ensuring the safety and efficacy of drugs. The various regulatory guidelines [2] regarding impurities are as follows:

1. ICH guidelines —Stability Testing of New Drug Substances and Products- Q1A (R2)
2. ICH guidelines —Impurities in New Drug Substances- Q3A (R2)
3. ICH guidelines —Impurities in New Drug Products- Q3B (R2)
4. ICH guidelines —Impurities: Guidelines for residual solvents- Q3C (R7)
5. US-FDA guidelines —NDAs -Impurities in New Drug Substances
6. US-FDA guidelines —ANDAs – Impurities in New Drug Substances
7. Australian regulatory guideline for prescription medicines, Therapeutic Governance Authority (TGA), Australia [4]

CONCLUSION:

Nowadays it's become essential for identification and isolation of impurities from APIs and producing merchandise of prescribed drugs for safety, effectualness and purity, quality of prescribed drugs to make sure standards of medicine and safety of patients. A top quality drug helps in client protection thence distinguishing impurities throughout the organic process stages ought to be one amongst the first agenda of producing corporations. Identification of impurities establishes Associate in Nursing overall profile of a drug which has its toxicity and safety limits, limits of quantisation and detection. Identification and isolation of impurities ought to begin right from victimization API until the finished indefinite quantity style of a drug.

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