

СИНТЕЗ ТА АНАЛІЗ БІОЛОГІЧНО АКТИВНИХ РЕЧОВИН

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DETERMINATION OF THE CONTENT OF BENZOCAINE AND PENICILLIN-G-PROCAINE IN COMBINED FINISHED DOSAGE FORMS USING TROPAEOLIN O AZO DYE

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Key words: benzocaine; penicillin-G-procaine; tropaeolin O; spectrophotometry; combined medicines

The paper presents the results of developing the method for quantitative determination of benzocaine and penicillin-G-procaine in seven combined medicines and veterinary medicinal products of different dosage forms – ointments, suppositories and tablets. The content of the medicinal substances was determined spectrophotometrically according to the absorbance intensity of the coloured product of diazotized amine azocoupling with the acid monoazo dye tropaeolin O. The presence of other biologically active substances (streptomycin, neomycin, prednisolone, nitrofurantoin, chloramphenicol, bismuth subgallate, papaverine, extracts of buckthorn and belladonna, vitamin A, menthol, xeroform, and zinc oxide), which are often found in medicines, does not prevent determination of benzocaine and penicillin-G-procaine by the method developed. The results obtained using the method developed are consistent with those received by the direct UV-spectrophotometry and nitritometric titration after the preliminary extraction separation of the components.

The complexity of the analysis of medicines containing more than one medicinal substance is often caused by the necessity of a quite complicated sample preparation and/or the use of the appropriate selective methods. The application of high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) in most cases allows determining medicines without any special difficulties. However, in Ukraine, there has still been a problem of availability of HPLC equipment for industrial and control laboratories. In such cases, the spectrophotometric method may be an alternative if there are the methods that use selective reagents to obtain the coloured analytical form of the substance to be determined.

In medical and veterinary practice to treat infectious diseases the combined medicines (CM) are widely used, they contain derivatives of *p*-aminobenzoic acid and some more medicines of different nature, such as antibiotics, vitamins, plant extracts, etc. In particular, benzocaine (BC) and penicillin-G-procaine (PGP) are used in such medicines. The former is used as a local anesthetic, while the latter – as an antibiotic in the form of an associate with anesthetic procaine [1, 5].

There are publications, which describe methods of spectrophotometric determination of BC [7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15] and PGP according to procaine [6, 12, 13] in the presence of other components of the medicine. At the same time, the effect on the analytical response of these components, including medicinal substances, has not been studied so far. The current normative documents regulating determination of the content for BC and PGP in

CM involve HPLC methods, direct spectrophotometry or titrimetric analysis. In these cases, the measurement is always preceded by the implementation of the appropriate procedures of separation of drug components. In 2015 we developed the method for determination of amide and ester of aminobenzoic acid in liquid medicinal forms by the spectrophotometric method. In this method the acid monoazo dye tropaeolin O (TrO) is used in the azocoupling reaction with analytes in the form of diazotized amines to obtain the analytical form, namely a coloured diazo compound [4]. Earlier, the similar approach was successfully used to the selective determination of sulfonamides in the drug tablet form [9].

The aim of our study was to determine the content of BC and PGP in CM according to the method based on diazotization of aromatic amines followed by azocoupling of the diazo salt formed with TrO. The resulting blue coloured product has the absorbance maximum at the wavelength of $\lambda_{\max} = 595\text{--}600\text{ nm}$ and the molar absorptivity of $\epsilon_{\lambda} \approx 10^4\text{ M}^{-1}\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (Fig.).

The optimal conditions for obtaining the coloured product of the azocoupling reaction of BC and PGP diazo salt with the azo dye TrO, namely nitroso diazo dye, as well as the spectrophotometric specifications and validation parameters of the method are presented in Tab. 1 [4].

Materials and Methods

As the objects of the study the following CM were used: “Mastivil” ointment, Vilsan, Turkey (veterinary medicinal product); “Multidject IMM” ointment, Norbrook Laboratories Ltd., Northern Ireland (veterinary medicinal

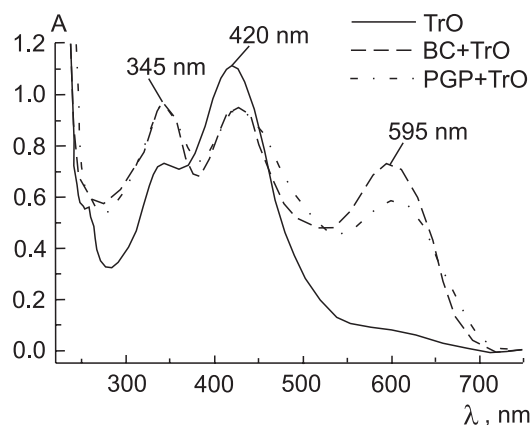


Fig. Absorption spectra of TrO solution and solutions of the products of TrO interaction with BC and PGP.

product); “Protective ointment Forte” LLC “Farmaton” Firm, Rivne, Ukraine (veterinary medicinal product); “Dyvoprayd” rectal suppositories PLS MSE “Ukrzoo-vetprompostach” Kyiv, Ukraine (veterinary medicinal product); “Fastin” ointment PJSC “Lubnyfarm” Lubny, Ukraine; “Anestezol” rectal suppositories JSC “Lekhim-Kharkiv” Kharkiv, Ukraine; “Bellasthesin” tablets PJSC SIC “Borshchahivskiy CPP”, Kyiv, Ukraine.

The substances of BK and PGP (Sigma, USA, the content of the active substance was not less than 99%) were used as a standard sample (SS) to prepare the corresponding solution of the working standard (WS).

The biologically active substances of streptomycin, neomycin, prednisolone, nitrofurantoin, chloramphenicol, bismuth subgallate, papaverine, extracts of buckthorn

and belladonna, vitamin A, menthol, xeroform, and zinc oxide (the content of the active substance was not less than 99%) were used for preparation of mixtures with BC and PGP when studying selective interactions.

Highly purified water [3] was used for preparation of aqueous solutions and aqueous mixtures, and a folded filter of the “White Ribbon” filter paper was used for their filtration.

As a reagent the solution of TrO (Merck, Germany) was used; it was prepared by dissolving an accurate weight of the reagent of the analytical grade purity (the content of the active substance was not less than 88%) in distilled water.

The solutions of sodium nitrite, hydrochloric acid, sodium hydroxide, and sodium tetraborate were prepared from the reagents of the analytical grade purity by dissolving in distilled water.

UV-VIS measurements were performed with a scanning spectrophotometer (CARY.WIN UV-VIS-50, Varian, USA) using 1 cm cells. All absorbance measurements were performed at 20-25°C. The pH value was measured by the RV 11 pH-meter (Sartorius, Germany) equipped with a combined electrode incorporating both glass and reference silver chloride electrodes into one body. The required pH of each solution was adjusted using HCl and NaOH solutions.

Preparation of the working test sample (WTS) solution for PGP determination in the ointment

Place an accurately weighed sample of the ointment containing 45 mg of PGP into a chemical glass, and add 50 ml of water. Heat the mixture on a water bath at the

Table 1

Description of the methods of determination of BC and PGP with TrO

The optimal conditions for obtaining the maximum analytical signal		
Characteristic	BC	PGP
Diazotization		
Concentration of HCl	0.5-1.0 Mol·l ⁻¹	
Concentration of NaNO ₂	≥4.0·10 ⁻³ Mol·l ⁻¹ (~100-fold excess)	
The order of addition of reagents	[HCl+BC (PGP)+NaNO ₂]	
Reaction time	20 min at 20°C (10 min at 0°C)	
Azocoupling		
Amount of TrO	2-fold excess	
Concentration of Na ₂ B ₄ O ₇	0.01 Mol·l ⁻¹	
pH	10-11.5	
The order of addition of reagents	[BC _{diaz.} (PGP _{diaz.})+TrO+Na ₂ B ₄ O ₇ +NaOH] pH	
Stability	1 h	
Spectrophotometric characteristics of the method of determination		
λ _{max}	595	595
ε ₅₉₅ ·10 ⁻⁴ , M ⁻¹ cm ⁻¹	1.98	1.59
Metrological characteristics of the method of determination		
Optimum photometric linear range, μg·ml ⁻¹	0.4-8.0	2.0-35.4
Calibration equation, μg·ml ⁻¹	ΔA = 0.013+0.120·C	ΔA = -0.008+0.028·C
Limit of Detection, μg·ml ⁻¹	0.14	0.57
Limit of Quantification, μg·ml ⁻¹	0.42	1.71
R ²	0.9993	0.9993

temperature of approximately 80°C to complete the melting of the ointment. Filter the mixture obtained into a 100 mL volumetric flask (keep the glass with the mixture in hot water bath to prevent solidification of the sample till completion of filtration). Then wash the filter 3-4 times with hot water. Cool the filtrate, dilute the flask to the volume with the same solvent and mix thoroughly.

Preparation of WTS solution for BC determination in tablets

Place an accurately weighed sample of powdered tablets containing 125 mg of BC into a 100 mL volumetric flask and dissolve in 50 mL of ethanol for at least 10 min to obtain the BC extract, and dilute the content of the flask to the volume with the same solvent. Mix thoroughly the solution obtained, filter it into a conical flask, discard the first 10-15 ml of the filtrate. Place 5.0 mL of the filtrate into a 25 mL volumetric flask; dilute the flask to the volume with ethanol and mix thoroughly.

Preparation of WTS solution for BC determination in the ointment or suppositories

Place an accurately weighed sample of the ointment or suppositories containing 125 mg of BC into a 100 mL volumetric flask and dilute to the volume with ethanol. Mix thoroughly the solution obtained and filter into a conical flask, discard the first 10-15 ml of the filtrate. Dilute the filtrate 5 times as in the case of sample preparation for tablets.

Preparation of WSS solution for PGP determination

Place 22 mg of SS of PGP (accurate weight) into a 50 mL volumetric flask and dissolve in 30 mL of water, dilute the content of the flask to the volume with the same solvent and mix thoroughly.

Preparation of WSS solution for BC determination

Place 31 mg of SS of BC (accurate weight) into a 25 mL volumetric flask and dissolve in 15 mL of water, dilute the content of the flask to the volume with the same solvent and mix thoroughly. Dilute the filtrate 5 times with the same solvent.

The general procedure of PGP or BC determination with TrO

Place sequentially 5.0 ml of 0.5 M hydrochloric acid solution, 0.5 ml of WSS solution (WTS solution), and 0.5 ml of 0.15 M sodium nitrite solution into a 25 mL volumetric flask. Stir and cool the solution obtained on an ice bath for 10 min. Then add 0.5 ml of $3.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$ M TrO solution and 2.5 ml of 0.1 M sodium tetraborate solution into the flask. Neutralize the mixture obtained by adding the sodium hydroxide solution adjusting the pH value to 10.5. Dilute to the volume of 25 ml with distilled water. Then mix the solution thoroughly and measure the intensity of light absorption (at the room temperature ~ 293 K) for all blank solutions of the corresponding reagents at $\lambda = 595$ nm, $l = 1.0$ cm.

The content of PGP (X) in the ointment test sample (mg/g) was calculated using the formula:

$$X = \frac{E_1 \cdot m_2 \cdot P_1 \cdot 100}{E_2 \cdot m_1 \cdot 100\% \cdot 50} = \frac{E_1 \cdot m_2 \cdot P_1}{E_2 \cdot m_1 \cdot 50}, \quad (1)$$

where: E_1 – is the absorbance value of WTS solution of the ointment; E_2 – is the absorbance value of WSS

solution of SS of PGP; m_1 – is the test sample weight of the ointment containing PGP, g; m_2 – is the standard sample weight of PGP, mg; P_1 – is the content of the active substance in SS of PGP according to the quality certificate of the manufacturer, %; 100 – is the dilution factor of the test sample of the ointment; 50 – is the dilution factor of SS of PGP; 100% – is the conversion factor of percentage in unit fraction.

The content of BC (Y) in the ointment test sample (mg/g) was calculated using the formula:

$$Y = \frac{E_1 \cdot m_2 \cdot P_2 \cdot 500}{E_2 \cdot m_1 \cdot 100\% \cdot 125} = \frac{E_1 \cdot m_2 \cdot P_2}{E_2 \cdot m_1 \cdot 25}, \quad (2)$$

where: E_1 – is the absorbance value of WTS solution of the ointment; E_2 – is the absorbance value of WSS solution of SS of BC; m_1 – is the test sample weight of the ointment containing BC, g; m_2 – is the standard sample weight of BC, mg; P_2 – is the content of the active substance in SS of BC according to the quality certificate of the manufacturer, %; 500 – is the dilution factor of the test sample of the ointment; 125 – is the dilution factor of SS of BC; 100% – is the conversion factor of percentage in unit fraction.

The content of BC (Z) in a tablet (mg/tbl) or in a suppository (mg/sps) was calculated using the formula:

$$Z = \frac{E_1 \cdot m_2 \cdot P_2 \cdot m_3 \cdot 500}{E_2 \cdot m_1 \cdot 100\% \cdot 125} = \frac{E_1 \cdot m_2 \cdot P_2 \cdot m_3}{E_2 \cdot m_1 \cdot 25}, \quad (3)$$

where: E_1 – is the absorbance value of WTS solution of the tablet powder or suppositories; E_2 – is the absorbance value of WSS solution of SS of BC; m_1 – is the test sample weight of the tablet powder or suppositories containing BC, g; m_2 – is the standard sample weight of BC, mg; P_2 – is the content of the active substance in SS of BC according to the quality certificate of the manufacturer, %; m_3 – is the average weight of a tablet (g/tbl), or a suppository (g/sps); 500 – is the dilution factor of the test sample of the tablet powder or suppositories; 125 – is the dilution factor of SS of BC; 100% – is the conversion factor of percentage in unit fraction.

The research results were processed in accordance with the recommendations of the State Pharmacopoeia of Ukraine [2] using the methods of mathematical statistics. The study of selectivity was conducted on the model solutions by the “introduced – found” method. The content of BC and PGP in the finished dosage forms was determined by the method of standard.

Results and Discussion

Since CM containing BC and PGP include one or more medicinal substances in addition to the excipients, their effect on determination of aromatic amines with TrO was studied. The selectivity of the methods developed for mixtures containing additional medicinal substances in amounts that greatly exceeded their possible content in the medicine was analysed. The permanence of absorbance of the solutions of the coloured products formed within 5% was chosen to be the criterion for the selectivity of determination. The research results are given in Tab. 2.

Table 2

The results of determination of BC and PGP with TrO in the presence of various amounts of additional medicinal substances (AMS) in the samples studied

Medicines determined	AMS	m(BC (PGP)) : m(AMS)*	m(BC (PGP)) : m(AMS)**	% The content of BC (PGP) found, $\bar{x} \pm S \cdot t_{\alpha} / \sqrt{n}$
BC	Vitamin A	1:0.2	1:1	99.8±1.1
	zinc oxide	1:2	1:25	101.8±1.5
	xeroform	1:0.4	1:10	99.1±1.6
	menthol	1:0.08	1:1	100.5±1.4
	nitrofurantoin	1:0.67	1:5	95.3±2.1
	chloramphenicol	1:0.5	1:1	95.4±1.9
	bismuth subgallate	1:0.4	1:10	97.4±2.2
	buckthorn extract	1:1	1:2	96.0±2.1
	belladonna extract	1:0.05	1:1	95.8±2.3
	papaverine	1:0.17	1:2	98.1±2.2
PGP	streptomycin	1:1	1:10	97.0±1.3
	neomycin	1:1	1:5	95.2±1.6
	prednisolone	1:0.1	1:1	97.5±1.4

Note: * – the mass ratios of BC (PGP) and AMS, which are present in the medicines tested; ** – the maximum mass ratios of BC (PGP) and AMS modelled to study.

The results of our study show that the hindering effect of additional medicinal substances appears only when they are used in much larger quantities than those typically found in medicines and veterinary medicinal

products. Therefore, it is arguable that the additional medicinal substances studied do not prevent the interaction of PGP or BC with TrO when forming coloured analytical forms.

Table 3

The results of spectrophotometric determination of BC and PGP with TrO in the CM studied

Obtained by the method, described in the regulations	Determined by the spectrophotometric method developed						
\bar{x}	\bar{x}	S^2	$S_{\bar{x}}$	$\Delta\bar{x}$	RSD, %	ϵ , %	δ , %
1. "Mastivil" ointment, Vilsan, Turkey (PGP (20±10 mg/g), streptomycin (20 mg/g), neomycin (20 mg/g), prednisolone (2 mg/g), sorbitan monostearate, liquid paraffin)							
9.42	19.90	0.3323	0.2572	0.71	2.89	3.57	+2.58
2. "Multidject IMM" ointment, Norbrook Laboratories Ltd., Northern Ireland (PGP (22±2 mg/g), streptomycin (20 mg/g), neomycin (22 mg/g), prednisolone (2,2 mg/g), liquid paraffin, white soft paraffin)							
21.81	21.53	0.1696	0.1842	0.51	1.91	2.37	-1.24
3. "Protective ointment Forte" LLC "Farmaton" Firm, Rivne, Ukraine (BC (25±2.5 mg/g), vitamin A (5 mg/g), zinc oxide (50 mg/g), anthracin, sodium dodecyl, PEG-1500, PEG-400)							
24.83	24.27	0.2290	0.2140	0.59	1.97	2.45	-2.26
4. "Fastin" ointment PJSC "Lubnyfarm" Lubny, Ukraine (BC (30±3 mg/g), nitrofurantoin (5 mg/g), chloramphenicol (5 mg/g), lanoline, vaseline, stearic acid, water)							
29.65	29.32	0.1079	0.1469	0.41	1.12	1.40	-1.13
5. "Dyvoprayd" rectal suppositories PLS MSE "Ukrzoovetprompostach" Kyiv, Ukraine (BC (14.7±1 mg/g), buckthorn extract (50 mg/g), xeroform (20 mg/g), zinc oxide (20 mg/g), menthol (4 mg/g), PEG-400, PEG-1500)							
31.11	31.00	0.1923	0.1961	0.54	1.41	1.8	-0.32
6. "Anestezol" rectal suppositories JSC "Lekhim-Kharkiv" Kharkiv, Ukraine (BC (100±10 mg/sps), bismuth subgallate (40 mg/sps), menthol (4 mg/sps), zinc oxide (20 mg/sps), PEG-400, PEG-1500)							
97.74	99.00	2.4655	0.7022	1.95	1.59	1.97	+1.23
7. "Bellasthesin" tablets PJSC SIC "Borshchahivskiy CPP", Kyiv, Ukraine (BC (300±30 mg/tbl), belladonna extract (15 mg/tbl), menthol (4 mg/tbl), zinc oxide (20 mg/tbl), microcrystalline cellulose, sodium croscarmellose, calcium stearate, copovidone, mannitol)							
298.6	301.40	42.825	2.9273	8.10	2.17	2.69	+0.94

The results obtained allowed us to apply the method developed to the analysis of the PGP and BC content in combined medicines and veterinary medicinal products. In parallel, the content of BC and PGP was determined by the methods described in the current regulations, namely nitritometric titration and direct UV spectrophotometric determination after the previous separation of the drug components. The results are shown in Tab. 3.

According to Tab. 3 the results of BC and PGP determination with TrO are consistent with the results obtained by the methods described in the regulations for the medicines studied. The method developed is highly selective towards the medicinal substances determined; it is simple and rapid as it does not require prior separation of additional medicinal substances in contrast to nitritometric titration, UV spectrophotometry and other methods of determination described in the literature.

CONCLUSIONS

1. A rapid and selective method for the spectrophotometric determination of BC and PGP in combined medicines and veterinary medicinal products has been developed; it is based on measurements of absorbance intensity of coloured products of azocoupling of their diazo salts with acid monoazo dye TrO.

2. The effect of some common medicinal substances and excipients on determination of BC and PGP using azo dye TrO applied in the method developed has been studied. It has been found that medicinal substances and excipients studied, which are part of the registered medicines, do not interfere with determination.

3. Seven combined medicines and veterinary medicinal products (ointments, suppositories and tablets) have been analyzed to determine the content of BC and PGP. The results are consistent with the ones obtained by the methods described in the regulations.

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ВИЗНАЧЕННЯ ВМІСТУ БЕНЗОКАЇНУ ТА ПЕНІЦИЛІН-Г-ПРОКАЇНУ У СКЛАДІ КОМБІНОВАНИХ ГОТОВИХ ЛІКАРСЬКИХ ФОРМ З ВИКОРИСТАННЯМ АЗОБАРВНИКА ТРОПЕОЛІНУ О

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Ключові слова: бензокаїн; пеніцилін-Г-прокаїн; тропеолін О; спектрофотометрія; комбіновані лікарські препарати

Викладені результати розробки методики кількісного визначення бензокаїну та пеніцилін-Г-прокаїну за прокаїном у семи комбінованих лікарських препаратах різних лікарських форм – мазях, супозиторіях і таблетках. Вміст цих лікарських речовин визначали спектрофотометричним методом за інтенсивністю світлопоглинання кольорових продуктів їх діазосолей з кислотним моноазобарвником тропеоліном О. Визначенню бензокаїну та пеніцилін-Г-прокаїну за розробленою методикою не перешкоджає присутність інших біологічно активних речовин (стрептоміцину, неоміцину, преднізолону, нітрофурану, хлорамфеніколу, вісмуту субгалату, папаверину, екстрактів обліпихи і красавки, вітаміну А, ментолу, ксероформу, цинку оксиду), що входять у багатьох випадках до складу лікарських препаратів. Результати, одержані за допомогою розробленої методики, узгоджуються з результатами, отриманими методами прямої УФ-спектрофотометрії та нітриметрії після попередньо проведеного екстракційного розділення компонентів препаратів.

ОПРЕДЕЛЕНИЕ СОДЕРЖАНИЯ БЕНЗОКАИНА И ПЕНИЦИЛЛИН-Г-ПРОКАИНА В СОСТАВЕ КОМБИНИРОВАННЫХ ГОТОВЫХ ЛЕКАРСТВЕННЫХ ФОРМ С ИСПОЛЬЗОВАНИЕМ АЗОКРАСИТЕЛЯ ТРОПЕОЛИНА О**М.Я.Смолинская, И.Я.Коцюмбас, Г.Ю.Тесляр, М.В.Юркевич****Ключевые слова:** бензокаин; пенициллин-Г-прокаин; тропеолин О; спектрофотометрия; комбинированные лекарственные препараты

Изложены результаты разработки методики количественного определения бензокаина и пенициллин-Г-прокаина по прокаину в семи комбинированных лекарственных и ветеринарных препаратах разных лекарственных форм – мазях, суппозиториях и таблетках. Содержание указанных лекарственных веществ определяли спектрофотометрическим методом по интенсивности светопоглощения окрашенного продукта азосочетания диазотированного амина с кислотным моноазокрасителем тропеолином О. Определению бензокаина и пенициллин-Г-прокаина по разработанной методике не препятствует наличие других биологически активных веществ (стрептомицина, неомицина, преднизолон, нитрофурана, хлорамфеникола, висмута субгалата, папаверина, экстрактов облепихи и красавки, витамина А, ментола, ксероформа, цинка оксида), входящих во многих случаях в состав лекарственных препаратов. Результаты, полученные с помощью разработанной методики, согласуются с результатами, полученными методами прямой УФ-спектрофотометрии и нитритометрии после предварительно проведенного экстракционного разделения компонентов.