

Application Note AN-C-197

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Method validation according to the U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP)

Potassium citrate and citric acid oral solutions are systemic alkalizers beneficial for health conditions where long-term maintenance of alkaline urine is desirable, and administration of sodium salts is contraindicated [1,2]. To comply with the strict quality standards for pharmaceutical products, validated methods such as those from the United States Pharmacopeia – National Formulary (USP-NF) are mandatory for manufacturers and laboratories. As part of the USP modernization initiative, the potassium monograph was updated, replacing the previous identification procedure of titration with ion chromatographic (IC) analysis [3]. For quality control, the USP specifies ion chromatography using a cation-exchange column with L76 column material and nonsuppressed conductivity detection to quantify the potassium content [3].

The present IC method uses the Metrosep C 6 -150/4.0 column (L76) to separate potassium from other potentially present ions. This method has been validated according to USP General Chapters <621> Chromatography [4] and <1225> Validation of Compendial Procedures [5]. All acceptance criteria for the potassium assay of the USP monograph «Potassium Citrate and Citric Acid Oral Solution» are fulfilled [3].



SAMPLE AND SAMPLE PREPARATION

The sample solutions are made using two distinct commercially available oral solutions of potassium citrate and citric acid. The labeled content was 1100 mg/334 mg potassium citrate monohydrate/citric acid monohydrate per 5 mL solution. For a sample stock solution (1000 mg/mL of potassium from potassium citrate and citric acid oral solutions), 1.26 mL of sample are transferred quantitatively to a 100 mL

EXPERIMENTAL

An 858 Professional Sample Processor with a peristaltic pump is used to aspirate samples or standard solutions into a 20 μ L loop for direct injection (**Figure 1**). Cations are separated using the Metrosep C 6 - 150/4.0 column (L76) with a nitric acid eluent and detected with non-suppressed conductivity (**Table 1**).

The IC system is calibrated with a 6-point linear calibration fit in the concentration range of 3.0 to 22.5 μ g/mL potassium. System suitability tests and solution stability tests are done with a working standard of 15.0 μ g/mL potassium. Spiking recoveries are evaluated as triplicates. Repeatability studies are done with a 6-fold injection.

volumetric flask, then diluted to volume with ultrapure water and mixed well. For a sample solution (nominally 15.0 μ g/mL of potassium), 1.5 mL of sample stock solution are added to a 100 mL volumetric flask, diluted to volume with ultrapure water, and mixed well.

The USP Reference Standard Potassium Citrate monohydrate (Cat#1548225 RS) is used as a standard solution.



Figure 1. Instrumental setup including a 930 Compact IC Flex Oven/Deg and an 858 Professional Sample Processor.

Column with L76 packing	Metrosep C 6 - 150/4.0	
Eluent	4 mmol/L nitric acid	
Flow rate	0.9 mL/min	
Temperature	30° C	
Injection volume	20 μL	
Detection	Direct conductivity	

Table 1. Parameters for the IC method as per USP Monograph «Potassium Citrate and Citric Acid Oral Solution» [3].



RESULTS

The IC method validation for the potassium assay in potassium citrate and citric acid oral solution was carried out according to the USP Monograph «Potassium Citrate and Citric Acid Oral Solution» [**3**]. The potassium peak was well resolved from other typical cations. The tailing factor was 1.3. Recovery results for samples spiked at three different levels were 99.2% (**Table 2** and **Figure 2**).

Replicate tests for standards and samples always reached relative standard deviations (RSD) of less than 0.4%. Six standard solutions ranging from 3 – 22.5 mg/L potassium showed correlation coefficients of 0.99999 with a linear curve fit (only 0.999 was required). Intermediate precision was tested with two independent systems and analysts. The average results for the first and the second analyst did not differ by more than 0.5% (2% deviation was allowed) (Table 2).



Figure 2. Chromatogram of a potassium citrate and citric acid oral solution containing 19 μ g/mL potassium.

 Table 2. Exemplary results and USP requirements from the IC method validation for potassium in potassium citrate and citric acid oral solution as per USP [3].

Parameter	Result	USP requirement
Tailing factor	1.3	NMT 2.0
Resolution K ⁺ /Mg ²⁺	4.6	NLT 2.0
RSD % (n = 6)	<0.4%	NMT 0.5%
Linear correlation coefficient R	0.99999	NLT 0.999
Spiking recovery	99.2%	100 ± 3%
Intermediate precision	0.5%	NMT 2%



CONCLUSION

As per USP «Potassium Citrate and Citric Acid Oral Solution» [**3**], the assay for potassium is carried out with an IC using a Metrosep C 6 separation column (packing material L76). All validation results fulfilled the requirements of the monograph and followed the guidelines of the USP General Chapters <621> [4] and <1225> [5]. The presented IC method is suitable to quantify potassium in potassium citrate and citric acid oral solutions.

REFERENCES

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CONTACT

瑞士万通中国 北京市海淀区上地路1号院 1号楼7702 100085 北京

marketing@metrohm.co m.cn



CONFIGURATION



Metrosep C 6 - 150/4.0 高容量的 C 6 材料使分柱 Metrosep C 6 - 150/4.0 成在度差很高的正常保留内分准子的解决方法。可用 此柱定含量很高的用水。



930 Compact IC Flex Oven/Deg

930 Compact IC Flex Oven/Deg 是智能型**柱加炉** 、**无抑制**的 Compact IC 器,并且内置**脱气装置**。 器 可使用各分和方法。

典型的用范:

- 子和子定,无抑制的
- 使用 UV-VIS 或安培的用



858 Professional Sample Processor – Pump

858 Professional Sample Processor – Pump 可理 体在 500 μL 至 500 mL 之的品。行品移,既可以使 用内置的双向双通道蠕、也可通 800 Dosino 来行。



IC Conductivity Detector

用于智能型子色的智能型高性能器。不凡的温度定性,受保的器端子板内的整个信号理程以及新一代的 DSP(数字式信号理)均能保量的准性。功于工作范,无 需行范更(也不是自行)。

