



## A VALIDATED RP – HPLC METHOD FOR SIMULTANEOUS ESTIMATION OF DIACERINE AND ACECLOFENAC IN TABLET DOSAGE FORM

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### Abstract

A simple, rapid reverse-phase high performance liquid chromatographic method has been developed and validated for the simultaneous estimation of Diacrine and Aceclofenacin in tablet dosage form. The estimation was carried out on a Phenomenax Luna C<sub>18</sub> (150mmx 4.6 mm i.d, particle size 5 μm ) column with a mixture of acetonitrile: methanol: buffer( potassium dihydrogen ortho phosphate PH 3.0) in the ratio of 35:20:45 (v/v) as mobile phase. UV detection was performed at 270nm. The flow rate was 2ml/min The method was validated for linearity, accuracy, precision, specificity and sensitivity as per ICH norms. The retention time was 6.3 and 3.6 minute for Diacrine and Aceclofenac respectively. The flow rate was 2.0ml/min. The calibration curve was linear over the concentration range of 80-120mcg /ml for Diacrine and 160-240mcg /ml for Aceclofenac. The LOD and LOQ values were found to be 0.490 and 1.485 mcg/ml for Diacrine and 5.129 and 15.542mcg/ml for Aceclofenac respectively. The developed and validated method was successfully used for the quantitative analysis of commercially available dosage form. The developed method has required accuracy and precision for routine analysis of Diacrine and Aceclofenac in tablet dosage form.

**Keywords:** Diacrine, Aceclofenac, RP- HPLC.

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### Introduction

Aceclofenac (ACE) is used mainly in the treatment of anti inflammatory<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Chemically it is 2[(2,6 Dichlorophenyl) amino] acetyl oxy acetic acid. Diacrine (DIC) is chemically 1,8 diacetoxy 3 carboxy anthroquinone . It is mainly used for the anti inflammatory activity.<sup>1,2</sup> Literature survey reveals that RP-HPLC<sup>4</sup> and UV<sup>6, 7, 8, 13</sup> methods have been

reported for the estimation of DIC alone in pharmaceutical formulation. Stability indicating HPLC<sup>4</sup> method has also been reported. Similarly determination of ACE in human plasma by HPLC<sup>5</sup> RP-HPLC<sup>10</sup> and UV<sup>12</sup> method has also been reported. Simultaneous estimation of ACE with other analgesic<sup>11</sup>. Simultaneous spectrophotometric estimation of DIC and ACE in pharmaceutical formulation.<sup>9,14,15,16</sup> simultaneous estimation of

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DIC and ACE by RP-HPLC<sup>17, 18</sup>. Stability indicating HPLC<sup>19</sup> The purpose of this study was to develop a shorter run time. And also to maintain a lower PH 3.0. for reducing the retention. Thus the peak tailing is minimised. So that it is a simple, rapid, precise and accurate RP- HPLC method for the simultaneous estimation of both the drug in combined tablet dosage form.

## Materials and Methods

Chromatographic separation was carried out on Shimadzu LC-10 AT<sub>VP</sub> solvent delivery system, with Shimadzu SPD-10 A<sub>VP</sub> UV – Visible detector and Rheodyne 7725i universal loop injector of injection capacity 20mL. The equipment was controlled by a PC workstation with Winchrom software. Ultra -sonicator, Model Soltec -2200 MH was used. Reference standards of DIC and ACE were obtained as gift samples from Arthi drugs LTD and used as such, Pondicherry. The Tablet dosage form was procured from the local pharmacy, (Label claim : DIC 50mg and ACE 100mg),. All the chemicals and reagents used were of HPLC grade or Analytical Reagent grade purchased from Qualigens, Fine Chemicals, Mumbai, India.

## Experiments and results:

### Chromatographic Condition:

Column : Phenomenex Luna C<sub>18</sub> column (150mm x4.6mm i.d, 5mm particle)

Mobile phase : Acetonitrile: Methanol: buffer ( potassium dihydrogen ortho phosphate PH - 3.0) in the ratio of 35:20:45 % [v/v] was prepared and degassed with Ultra-sonicator. Filtered through 0.45µ membrane.

Detector wavelength : 270 nm  
Injection volume : 20 µl  
Temperature : Ambient

**Construction of calibration curve:** Standard stock solution of DIC and ACE were prepared separately in 50ml of mobile phase to get the concentration of 50mcg/ml and 500mcg/ml respectively. From the standard stock solution of drugs, different dilutions were prepared, injected and their peak area was measured and calibration curves were constructed. (Fig 3.)

**Physical mixture:** From the standard stock solution of the drugs, physical mixtures containing DIC and ACE in the ratio of 2:12, 4:10, 6:8, 8:6, 10:4, 12:2 respectively were prepared and analysed and the results are given in Table 1.

**Sample Preparation:** Average weight of the tablet was determined by weighing twenty tablets. The tablets were crushed to a fine powder and the tablet powder equivalent to 100mg of ACE was transferred to 100ml volumetric flask, dissolved in about 60ml of methanol by sonication for 15 minutes and made up to the volume with methanol. The solution was filtered through Whatman filter paper#41. This filtrate was further diluted with mobile phase to get the final concentration of 80mcg/ml for DIC and 160mcg /ml for ACE. The resulting solution was injected for quantitative analysis. The amount of DIC and ACE was calculated by using the calibration curve. The results are reported in Table 2.

## Validation of the developed method

### Specificity

To evaluate the specificity solution of DIC, solution of ACE and solution of placebo, all

prepared in mobile phase individually, were injected in to the system and it was observed that DIC and ACE peaks were well separated and there was no interference from placebo (Fig 2)

### System suitability

Solution containing both DIC and ACE in the mobile phase was injected and the system suitability parameters were determined. The results are given in Table: 3

### Linearity

Linearity was evaluated from the calibration curve data and linear response was observed between 80 to 120 mcg/ml for DIC and 160 to 240 mcg/ml for ACE with a correlation coefficient of 0.996 for DIC and 0.999 for ACE. Regression equations were constructed for both the drug and given below

$$Y_{DIC} = 53.71X_{DIC} + 82.615 \quad [r^2 = 0.996]$$

$$Y_{ACE} = 22.0752X_{ACE} - 228.808 \quad [r^2 = 0.999]$$

Where  $Y_{DIC}$  and  $Y_{ACE}$  are response [peak area] for DIC and ACE respectively and  $X_{DIC}$  and  $X_{ACE}$  are the concentration of DIC and ACE respectively.

### Accuracy

Accuracy of developed method was confirmed by doing recovery study at three different concentration levels 80%, 100% and 120% each in triplicate. The result of accuracy study is reported in Table.4

### Precision

The tablet formulation was analysed for the content of DIC and ACE six times on the same day to determine intra day precision. The results are given in Table: 2 and analysed on three different days to determine inter-day precision. The results are given Table: 5

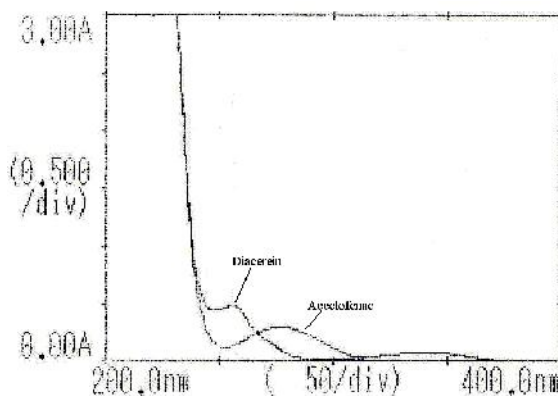


Figure 01: Overlain Spectra of DIC and ACE

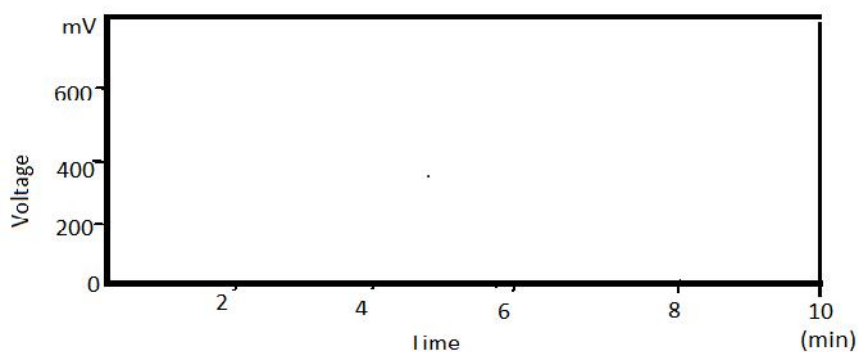


Figure 02: Chromatogram of Placebo

**Table 01: Analysis of Physical Mixture**

| Theoretical Concentration of (mcg/ml) |      | Experimental values for (mcg/ml) |         | % of theoretical value |        |
|---------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------|---------|------------------------|--------|
| DIC                                   | ACE  | DIC                              | ACE     | DIC                    | ACE    |
| 160                                   | 1920 | 159.04                           | 1934.10 | 99.40                  | 100.50 |
| 320                                   | 1600 | 316.18                           | 1570.80 | 98.80                  | 98.27  |
| 480                                   | 1280 | 472.00                           | 1275.21 | 98.33                  | 99.62  |
| 640                                   | 960  | 630.28                           | 967.41  | 98.40                  | 100.70 |
| 800                                   | 640  | 794.12                           | 638.12  | 99.26                  | 99.71  |
| 960                                   | 320  | 968.20                           | 315.90  | 100.80                 | 98.73  |
| <b>Mean</b>                           |      |                                  |         | 99.18                  | 99.56  |
| <b>Standard Deviation</b>             |      |                                  |         | 0.7681                 | 0.8712 |

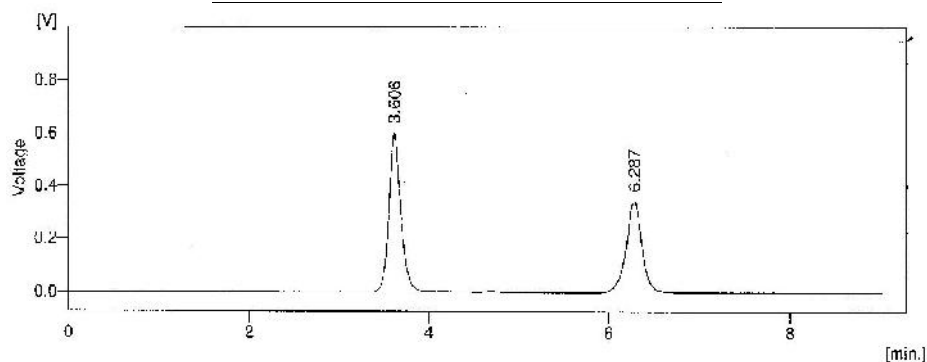
**Table 02: Assay of Tablet Formulation**

| Replicate | AMOUNT found (mg) |        | % label claim |        |
|-----------|-------------------|--------|---------------|--------|
|           | DIC               | ACE    | DIC           | ACE    |
| 01        | 50.32             | 100.41 | 100.64        | 100.86 |
| 02        | 50.26             | 99.06  | 100.52        | 98.93  |
| 03        | 49.85             | 99.29  | 99.70         | 98.40  |
| 04        | 50.65             | 101.30 | 101.30        | 99.60  |
| 05        | 49.29             | 98.58  | 98.58         | 100.40 |
| 06        | 50.52             | 101.04 | 101.04        | 100.83 |
| SD        |                   |        | 0.5901        | 0.5789 |
| %COV      |                   |        | 0.595         | 0.5815 |
| SE        |                   |        | 0.3515        | 0.3950 |

Label claim: DIC 50mg/tablet and ACE 100mg/tablet. SD: standard deviation, COV: coefficient of variance, SE: standard error.

**Table 03: System suitability parameters**

| Property                     | DIC   | ACE   |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Retention time               | 6.287 | 3.606 |
| Tailing factor               | 1.263 | 0.917 |
| Capacity factor              | 2.160 | 2.124 |
| Number of theoretical plates | 3830  | 6722  |
| Resolution                   | 9.948 |       |

**Figure 03: Chromatogram of DIC and ACE in mixed standard solutions**

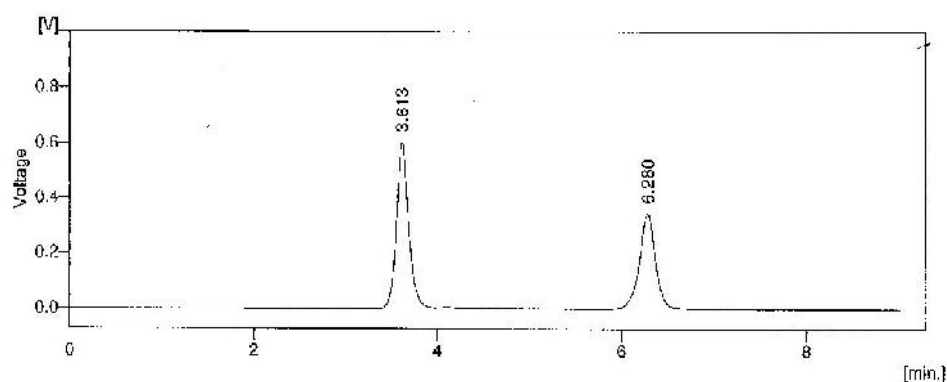


Figure 04: Chromatogram of DIC and ACE in sample solution with their retention time

Table 04: Recovery Studies

| Drug | Amount Added (mg) |         | Amount found |             | % recovery |        |
|------|-------------------|---------|--------------|-------------|------------|--------|
|      | DIC               | ACE     | DIC          | ACE         | DIC        | ACE    |
| 80%  | 39.123            | 79.451  | 39.316       | 79.021      | 100.49     | 99.45  |
|      | 39.594            | 80.034  | 39.054       | 79.512      | 98.63      | 99.33  |
|      | 40.256            | 79.812  | 40.126       | 80.042      | 99.67      | 100.20 |
| 100% | 50.854            | 99.464  | 50.364       | 99.360      | 99.01      | 99.89  |
|      | 49.694            | 99.742  | 50.014       | 99.442      | 100.61     | 100.86 |
|      | 49.952            | 99.455  | 49.746       | 99.211      | 99.58      | 100.12 |
| 120% | 59.918            | 119.246 | 59.840       | 119.960     | 99.86      | 100.59 |
|      | 59.105            | 120.081 | 59.464       | 119.246     | 100.60     | 99.30  |
|      | 60.515            | 120.142 | 60.024       | 119.061     | 99.18      | 101.01 |
|      |                   |         |              | <b>Mean</b> | 99.76      | 100.09 |
|      |                   |         |              | <b>%COV</b> | 0.6481     | 0.5796 |

Table 05: Inter Day Precision

|             | Amount found (mg) |        | % label claim |        |
|-------------|-------------------|--------|---------------|--------|
|             | DIC               | ACE    | DIC           | ACE    |
| Day-1       | 50.32             | 99.61  | 100.64        | 99.61  |
|             | 50.80             | 99.12  | 101.60        | 99.12  |
|             | 49.42             | 98.46  | 98.82         | 98.46  |
| Day-2       | 49.66             | 100.34 | 99.32         | 100.34 |
|             | 50.45             | 99.80  | 100.90        | 99.80  |
|             | 49.40             | 98.94  | 98.80         | 98.94  |
| Day-3       | 50.60             | 99.20  | 101.20        | 99.20  |
|             | 50.24             | 101.15 | 100.48        | 101.15 |
|             | 49.20             | 98.85  | 98.40         | 98.85  |
| <b>SD</b>   |                   |        | 0.792         | 1.1185 |
| <b>%COV</b> |                   |        | 0.8002        | 1.1184 |

Label claim: DIC 50mg/tablet and ACE 100mg/tablet. SD: standard deviation, COV: coefficient of variance

**Table 06: Robustness for flow rate studies (temperature)**

| Temperature (°C) | Area (DIC) * | Area(ACE)* |
|------------------|--------------|------------|
| 30               | 5317509      | 4152287    |
| %RSD             | 0.4142       | 0.4896     |
| 25               | 5316879      | 4151672    |
| %RSD             | 0.6927       | 0.7971     |
| 35               | 5315468      | 4152329    |
| %RSD             | 0.9657       | 0.6058     |

\* mean of three readings.

**Table 07: Robustness for PH studies**

| pH   | Area (DIC) * | Area (ACE) * |
|------|--------------|--------------|
| 2.9  | 5318760      | 4153468      |
| %RSD | 0.6502       | 0.3750       |
| 3.0  | 5317654      | 4152659      |
| %RSD | 0.3547       | 0.4524       |
| 3.1  | 5316549      | 4153469      |
| %RSD | 0.6992       | 0.5984       |

\* mean of three readings.

**Table 08: Robustness for Flow rate Studies**

| Flow rate (ml./mt) | Area (TAD) * | Area (DAP) * |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1.8                | 5318654      | 4153607      |
| %RSD               | 0.0854       | 0.5624       |
| 2.0                | 5318990      | 4152697      |
| %RSD               | 0.3451       | 0.2435       |
| 2.2                | 5317236      | 4151683      |
| %RSD               | 0.0947       | 0.3462       |

\*mean of three readings.

**Limit of Detection and Limit of Quantization**

The proposed method was estimated in terms of limit of quantification (LOQ) and the lowest concentration detected under the chromatographic conditions as the limit of detection (LOD). The LOD and LOQ were calculated by the use of the equation  $LOD = 3.3X N/B$  and  $LOQ = 10XN/B$  where N is the standard deviation of the peak areas of the corresponding drug sample, taken as the measure of the noise, and B is the slope of the corresponding calibration plot.

The LOD was found to be 0.490 mcg/ml, 5.129mcg/ml for DIC and ACE respectively where as the LOQ was found to be 1.485 mcg/ml, 15.542 mcg/ml for DIC and ACE respectively

**Robustness**

Robustness was established in a triplicate by analyzing system suitability standard and

sample at 25° and 35°C (nominal temperature 30 C ) at flow rates of 1.8 and 2.2 (nominal flow rate 2mL/min ) and pH 2.9 and 3.1 (nominal pH 3.0) and the % RSD of peak area was calculated. The results are reported in (Table 6, 7, 8)

**Discussion**

HPLC method development and optimization Preliminary study on column selection revealed that C<sub>18</sub> column gave a better resolution and run time than C<sub>8</sub> and hence C<sub>18</sub> column was used for further study. Mobile phase and flow rate selection was based on the peak parameters [height, area, tailing, theoretical plates, capacity factor and resolution] and run time. Good separation could be obtained by use of 35: 20: 45 [v/v] ratio of acetonitrile, methanol : buffer (potassium dihydrogen ortho phosphate PH 3.0) with 2.0mL/min. UV spectrum of DIC exhibited absorption maximum at about 258

nm where as ACE exhibited absorption maximum at about 275nm Considering the absorptivity of the drugs and their relative quantity in the formulation , 270 nm was selected as detector wavelength.. From the overlain UV spectra [Shimadzu-1700], suitable wave length considered for monitoring the drugs was 270 nm. [Fig 1] Under the optimized chromatographic conditions the drug peaks are well separated and there was no interfering peak from placebo, thus the method has required specificity. The retention time obtained for DIC and ACE were 6.287 and 3.606, respectively ( Fig 4).

The capacity factor, tailing factor, theoretical plates count and resolution are within the acceptance criteria (Table-3). From the physical mixture analysis, the Statistical results were found to be within the range of acceptance ie . %COV < 2 .0 and S.D. < 1.0 (Table 1).

The mean recovery was 99.76 and 100.09% for DIC and ACE respectively which confirms the accuracy of the method. (Table 4).

Small change in the experimental parameters did not affect the chromatographic behaviour indicating the robustness of the method .( Table 6,7,8).

### Conclusion

A new, reversed –phase HPLC method has been developed for simultaneous analysis of DIC and ACE in a tablet formulations. It has been shown that, the method is, accurate, precise and specific proving the reliability of the method. The run time is relatively short , i.e, 7 min., which enable rapid determination of any samples in routine quality control analysis of tablet formulations.. Hence the

proposed method is suitable for routine analysis of the tablet formulation containing DIC and ACE.

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