



## New assay method UV spectroscopy for determination of Indomethacin in pharmaceutical formulation

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### ABSTRACT

New, simple and rapid method indicating UV spectroscopy was developed and validated for the estimation of Indomethacin(IND) in pure form, and in respective formulations. (0.1N) KOH solution was used as a solvent to decompose IND to p-Chlorobenzoic acid and 5-methoxy-2-methyl-3-indoleacetic acid. The adequate drug solubility and maximum assay sensitivity was found asp-Chlorobenzoic acid, the maximum absorbance of p-Chlorobenzoic acid was measured at (228nm) in the wavelength range of (200-650 nm), the linear calibration curve was obeyed in the concentration range of (1-10 ppm) show regression equation ( $Y = 0.1263X - 0.002$ ), and correlation Coefficient ( $R^2 = 0.9949$ ). This method was validated and applied to the determination of IND in capsules from different companies in Iraqi market, no interference was found from capsule excipients at the selected wavelength and analysis conditions. It was concluded that the developed method is accurate, sensitive, precise, and reproducible; as well as it can be applied directly for the estimation of p-Chlorobenzoic acid and indirectly for the estimation of IND content in pharmaceutical formulations.

**Key words:** UV Spectroscopy, Indomethacin (IND), p-Chlorobenzoic acid, Calibration curve method.

### INTRODUCTION

Indomethacin is a nonsteroidal, anti-inflammatory agent with antipyretic, analgesic properties and is an indole derivative designated chemically as 1-(p-chlorobenzoyl)-5-methoxy-2-methyl-1H-indole-3-acetic acid. IND is an odorless, pale yellow to yellow tan crystalline substance. It is lipid-soluble, practically insoluble in water and sparingly soluble in alcohol. IND has a pKa of 4.5 and is stable in neutral or slightly acidic media and decomposes in strong alkali. The suspension has a pH of 4.0–5.0 and it has a melting point between 155°C and 161°C and has molecular weight of 357.8. IND has a molecular formula of  $C_{18}H_{16}ClNO_4$ <sup>[1]</sup>

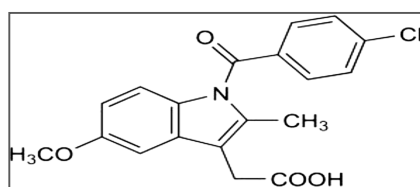


Fig. 1 Chemical structure of indomethacin



sampling interval: disabled, scan mode: single, measuring mode: absorbance, slit width: 2.0 nm, light source change wavelength 340.8 nm, S/R exchange: normal, and software name: UV Probe, digital electric balance and micropipette.

#### Standard stock and standard solutions preparation:

Stock solution ( $0.250\text{g.L}^{-1}$ ) of IND was prepared by dissolving (25mg) of pure IND with KOH(0.1N) in(100 mL) volumetric flask, then diluting with KOH (0.1N) to the mark. Six different standard solutions ( $2.5\text{-}6.375\mu\text{g.mL}^{-1}$ ) were prepared by transferring (0.500-1.275 mL) of stock solution into (50mL) volumetric flasks by micropipette, then diluting with KOH (0.1N) to the mark; the series of standard solutions was shown in (Table.2).

#### Sample solutions preparation:

IND capsules were used from different companies in the Iraqi market shown in (Table1), twenty capsules of each source of drugs were weighed, an average amount of equivalent to (25mg) of IND dissolved with KOH (0.1N) in (100 mL) volumetric flask, then diluting with KOH (0.1N) to the mark (sample solution).

Table 1: IND (Indocin) 25 mg capsules in the Iraqi market

No	Trade name	Company	M.D.	E.D.	Batch No.	*Average Caps Wt.(gm)
1	INDYON 25	MEDOCHEMIE LTD-CYPRUS (EUROPE)	12/2012	12/ 2018	----	0.17128
2	INDOMETHACIN 25mg	TROGE MEDICAL GMBH (Germany)	8/2011	8/ 2015	10718-01	0.14751
3	INDOSAM-25	S.D.I. IRAQ	1/2012	1/ 2017	----	0.17486
4	Indogesic 25	Dar Al- Dawa (Jordan)	2/2010	2/ 2015	LOT 356F	0.22602
5	INDOFLAM-25	Ajantapharma Limited (India)	10/2012	9/ 2019	C0822J	0.28706
6	Indomethacin 25mg	Beistol Laboratories Ltd. (U.K.)	10/2007	10/2016	----	0.2008

\*Average weight twenty capsules

Then for assay, six solutions prepared from sample solution by transferring (0.600mL) of sample to (50.0mL) volumetric flask by micropipette, then diluted with KOH (0.1N) to the mark ( $\approx 3.0\mu\text{g.mL}^{-1}$ ).

#### Absorbance spectrum of IND:

Transfer (0.700mL) of stock solution ( $0.250\text{g.L}^{-1}$ ) by micropipette up to (50mL) volumetric flask, then diluted with KOH (0.1N) to the mark ( $3.5\mu\text{g.mL}^{-1}$ ), the absorbance of the solution measured at range (200-650 nm), show the absorbance spectrum and  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  at (228nm) as in Fig.3.

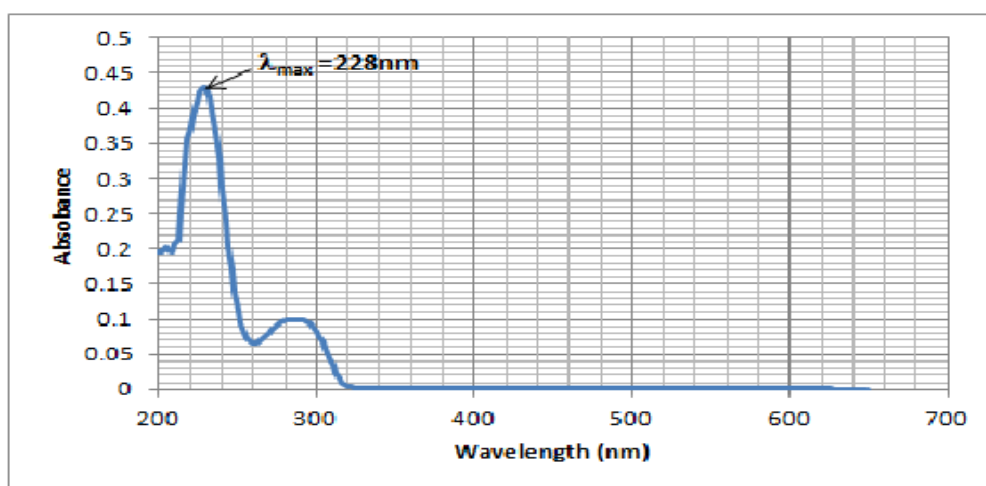


Fig. 3 Absorbance spectrum of IND ( $\lambda_{\text{max}} 228\text{ nm}$ )

#### Calibration curve:

The method was determined at six concentration levels ranging ( $2.5\text{-}6.5\mu\text{g/mL}$ ) for IND, the calibration curve was constructed by plotting absorbance versus concentrations of IND ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ), and the regression equation was calculated, each absorbance was the average of six determinations, linear absorbance data for calibration curve was shown in Table.2, and .Fig.4:

Table.2: Standard solutions (Concentration and Absorbance)

Concentration (mg.L <sup>-1</sup> )	Absorbance	Notes
0.000	-0.001	$y = 0.1263x - 0.002$
2.550	0.325	Correlation Coefficient $R^2 = 0.9949$
3.188	0.384	Chi Square = 0.00927
3.825	0.469	Standard Error of Estimate = 0.019748
4.681	0.566	Residual Standard Deviation = 0.02794
5.100	0.638	Multiple Correlation Coefficient $R^2 = 0.99254$
6.375	0.837	Slope = 0.128778
		Intercept = - 0.01358

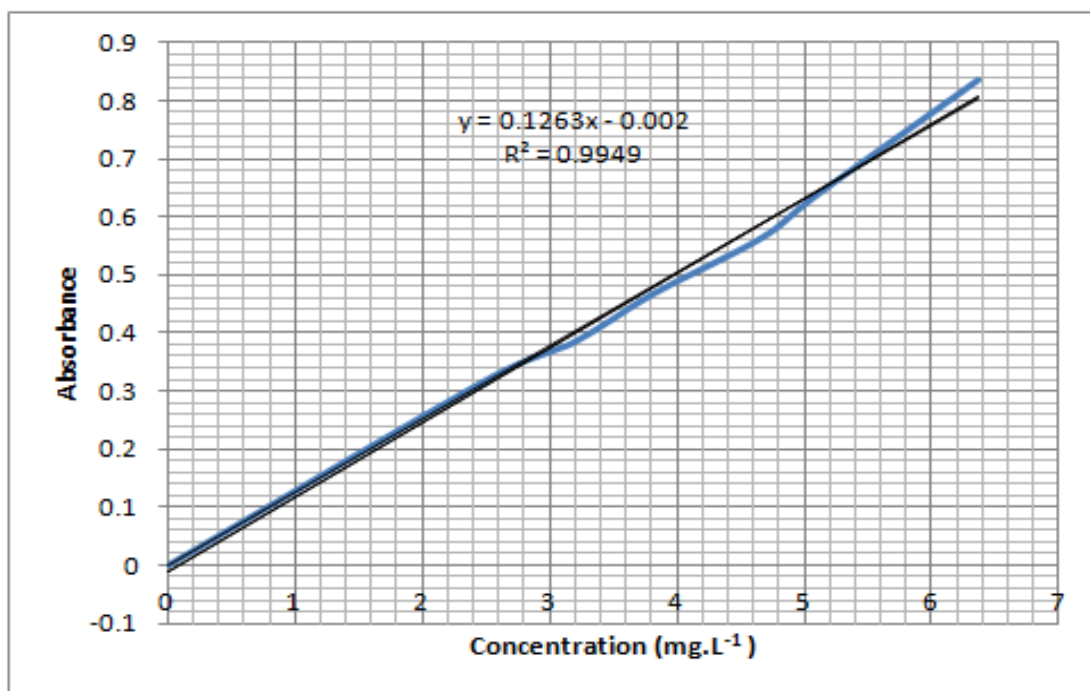


Fig. 4 Calibration curve

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Linearity:

The linearity of the drug was obtained for (1-10ppm) concentration range of IND, the regression analysis was performed for line equation, the linear equation was found to be ( $y = 0.1263x - 0.002$ ) and correlation coefficient ( $R^2$ ) 0.9949 (Table.2), the calibration curve was found to be linear in the above stated concentration, and Slope (0.128778), Intercept (- 0.01358), Chi Square (0.00927), Standard Error of Estimate (0.019748), Residual Standard Deviation (0.02794), and Multiple Correlation Coefficient  $R^2$ (0.99254).

### Precision and Accuracy:

The precision of the analytical system was investigated by performing six consecutive replicate solution of the same standard solution, the standard deviation (SD) and relative standard deviation (RSD) obtained are listed in (Table3), the low RSD values indicated that the method is precise.

The accuracy of the method (recovery) was investigated by determination of in IND, a solution containing IND ( $C = 2.55$ - $6.375$  mg/L) with no detectable impurities was spiked with the reference substances at appropriate concentrations, the recovery and relative standard deviations (RSD) obtained are listed (Table.3) confirmed the satisfactory accuracy of the method.

**Table.3: Precision and accuracy**

Concentration of IND (ppm)		Recovery * %	SD	R.S.D * %	Error * %	LOQ	LOD
Taken	Found*						
2.55	2.5141	99.804	0.0235	0.921	-1.408	1.825	0.602
3.188	3.1885	100.016	0.0050	0.157	0.016	0.390	0.129
3.825	3.8245	99.987	0.0062	0.163	-0.013	0.484	0.160
4.681	4.6831	100.046	0.0062	0.133	0.046	0.483	0.160
5.100	5.0816	99.997	0.0093	0.183	-0.003	0.726	0.240
6.375	6.389	100.222	0.0147	0.231	0.222	1.147	0.379

\* Six consecutive replicate solution of standard solution.

**Limit of quantification (LOQ), and limit of detection (LOD)**

The LOQ and LOD were calculated from the standard deviation (SD) of responses and slope ( $m = 0.12849$ ), as shown in table 3, the LOQ for IND was up to  $(1.825 - 0.390 \text{ mg.L}^{-1})$ , while LOD were  $(0.602 - 0.129 \text{ mg.L}^{-1})$  as calculated by the below equations:

$$\text{LOQ} = 10(\text{SD}/m)$$

$$\text{LOD} = 3.3 (\text{SD}/m)$$

**Method validation:**

The method was validated through linearity, sensitivity, precision and accuracy, as shown in Table.4.

The results were checked by UV-Vis. spectroscopy method measure the absorbance at (318.4 nm) of the solution IND diluting with (9:1) methanol: hydrochloric acid (0.1N) solvent<sup>[18]</sup> the results are in good agreement with this method.

**Table.4: Optical characteristics, parameters of the method**

No.	Parameters	Result
1	Absorption maxima ( $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ )	228 nm
2	Linear equation	$Y = 0.1263 x - 0.002$
3	Regression co-efficient	0.9947
4	Linearity	1-10 mg/L
5	LOD (mg/L)	0.602- 0.129
6	LOQ (mg/L)	1.825 - 0.390

**Determination of active IND capsules in the Iraqi market:**

This validated method was used to analyze commercially available different brands of IND capsules manufactured by six different companies in Iraqi market. The results revealed that the six marketed brands are compliance with the amount requirement (90-110%) with respect to the labeled claim in Table.5, it was found that IND from TROGE MEDICAL GMBH company had higher Wt.% than others while Ajanta pharma Limited company had lower concentration, in which concentration of each absorbance was determined for six sample solutions of each samples compared to the standard calibration curve in this method, then calculate recovery percent and standard deviation, the validity of the method could be proved by analyzing authentic samples of the drug

**Table.5: Determination of IND from Indomethacin capsules companies**

No	Trade name	Company	Found* (mg/L)	SD	Wt.%
1	INDYON 25	MEDOCHEMIE LTD-CYPRUS (EUROPE)	2.982	0.0673	99.4%
2	INDOMETHACIN 25mg	TROGE-MEDICAL GMBH (Germany)	3.291	0.0890	109.7%
3	INDOSAM-25	S.D.I. IRAQ	2.736	0.0808	91.2%
4	Indogesic 25	Dar Al Dawa (Jordan)	2.755	0.0389	91.83%
5	INDOFLAM-25	Ajantapharma Limited (India)	2.674	0.0676	89.13%
6	Indomethacin 25mg	Beistol Laboratories Ltd. (U.K.)	2.712	0.0816	90.4%

\* Average of six consecutive replicate solution of sample solution.

### CONCLUSION

The successful developed method UV spectroscopy was simple, cheap, effective, rapid, and accurate, with high accuracy and precision values, the validation parameters were evaluated as per Iraqi Ministry of Health guidelines, the satisfactory finding of this work indicates that this analysis technical might be applied for quantitative estimation of IND from pharmaceutical dosage forms, also this method may be employed in routine quality control aspects.

When this method applied for quantitative estimation of IND capsules in Iraqi markets, the results indicate that IND capsules is accepted within the normal percentage (90-110%) according U.S.P.30<sup>[23]</sup> and Iraqi Ministry of Health.

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