

## Reversed phase-high performance liquid chromatographic method for the determination of etodolac in human plasma and bioequivalence studies

M. Parsaei<sup>1,\*</sup>, S. Dabirsiaghi<sup>1</sup>, S. Mortazavi<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of pharmaceutics, Islamic Azad University of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Tehran, Iran.

<sup>2</sup>Department of pharmaceutics, School of pharmacy, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran.

**Background and Aims:** A sensitive and rapid Reversed-phase high-performance liquid chromatography method was developed for determination of a potent nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory and analgesic drug, etodolac in human plasma.

**Methods:** etodolac and ketorolac were used as reference standard. Sample and standard solution preparation to a 100 microliter aliquot of plasma, add 50 microliter of internal standard and 200 microliter of phosphate buffer and vortexed to mix. 0.5 ml of isopentyl alcohol-hexane were added, shake for 15 minutes, centrifuged at 1000 rpm for 5 minutes, then 0.5 ml of glycine buffer 0.1 M was added, to the upper phase that was transferred to a clean tube, then 50 microliter of sample was injected to Chromosorb Lc-7 (ODS-10 micrometer, 250 mm x 4.6 mm stainless steel) that a mobile phase containing a mixture of phosphate buffer (pH 6.0) and acetonitrile (85:15 v/v) was pumped at a flow rate 1.8 ml/min with a UV detector setting at 226 nm and temperature of 50 °C for column. Finally, the linearity, precision, accuracy, sensitivity and specificity of the method were evaluated.

**Results:** the study was done in a cross over design with healthy volunteers of average build, and younger than 35 years old. From the concentration in plasma-time data, the maximum concentration in plasma ( $C_{max}$ ), time  $t_0$ ,  $C_{max}$  and area under the curve up to last measurable concentration ( $AUC_{0-t}$ ) or  $AUC_{0-\infty}$  were calculated and compared by analysis of variance. With the exception of  $C_{max}$  no significant differences between treatments were found in the rest of the parameters. The results indicate that the formulations of etodolac were bioequivalent with reference product.

**Conclusions:** according to the peak concentration variation after etodolac administration, it was needed to use the simple Rp-HPLC method for estimation of etodolac levels after administration in plasma that is sensitive, rapid, accurate, precise and can be used in quality control analysis.

**Keywords:** Bioequivalence studies; Etodolac; High performance liquid chromatography