

RP-HPLC Method Development and Validation for Analysis of Doravirine in Raw Materials and Pharmaceutical Tablet Formulations

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ABSTRACT :

A new, simple, rapid, precise, accurate and reproducible RP-HPLC method for estimation of Doravirine in bulk form and marketed pharmaceutical dosage forms. Separation of Doravirine was successfully achieved on a Symmetry ODS C18 (4.6 x 250mm, 5 μ m) column in an isocratic mode of separation utilizing Acetonitrile: Methanol in the ratio of 80:20% v/v at a flow rate of 1.0 mL/min and the detection was carried out at 272nm. The method was validated according to ICH guidelines for linearity, sensitivity, accuracy, precision, specificity and robustness. The response was found to be linear in the drug concentration range of 10-50mcg/mL for Doravirine. The correlation coefficient was found to be 0.999 for Doravirine. The LOD and LOQ for Doravirine were found to be 1.1 μ g/mL and 3.2 μ g/mL respectively. The proposed method was found to be good percentage recovery for Doravirine, which indicates that the proposed method is highly accurate. The specificity of the method shows good correlation between retention times of standard solution with the sample solution. Therefore, the proposed method specifically determines the analyte in the sample without interference from excipients of pharmaceutical dosage forms.

Keywords: Doravirine, RP-HPLC, Accuracy, ICH Guidelines.

I. INTRODUCTION

Doravirine is a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor used in combination with other antiretrovirals to treat HIV-1 infections. Doravirine is an HIV-1 non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI) intended to be administered in combination with other antiretroviral medicines¹. Doravirine is available by itself or as a combination product of Doravirine (100 mg), lamivudine (300 mg), and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (300 mg). Doravirine is a pyridinone non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor of HIV-1. Reverse transcriptase is the enzyme with which HIV generates complementary DNA (cDNA) to its RNA genome - this cDNA is then inserted into the host cell genome, where it can be transcribed into viral RNA for the purposes of replication². Doravirine inhibits HIV-1 replication by non-competitively inhibiting HIV-1 reverse transcriptase. Doravirine does not, however, inhibit the human cellular DNA polymerases α , β , and mitochondrial DNA polymerase γ . Doravirine is a prescription medication used exclusively in combination with other antiretroviral agents to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus type 1 (HIV-1) infections. Classified as a Non-Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitor (NNRTI), it works by blocking the enzyme HIV needs to multiply, which helps lower the amount of virus in the body³. The IUPAC Name of Doravirine is 3-chloro-5-[[1-[(4-methyl-5-oxo-1H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl) methyl]-2-oxo-4-(trifluoro methyl)-3-pyridinyl] oxy] benzonitrile. The Chemical Structure of Doravirine is follows,

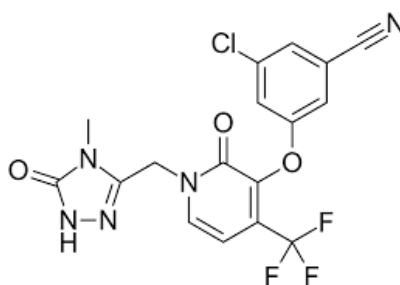


Fig-1: Chemical Structure of Doravirine

II. EXPERIMENTAL WORK

Table-1: Instruments Used

S.No.	Instruments and Glasswares	Model
1	HPLC	WATERS Alliance 2695 separation module, Software: Empower 2, 996 PDA Detector.
2	pH meter	Labindia
3	Weighing machine	Sartorius
4	Volumetric flasks	Borosil
5	Pipettes and Burettes	Borosil
6	Beakers	Borosil
7	Digital ultra sonicator	Labman

Table-2: Chemicals Used

S.No.	Chemical	Brand Names
1	Doravirine (Pure)	Synpharma Research Lab, Hyderabad
2	Water and Methanol for HPLC	LICHROSOLV (MERCK)
3	Acetonitrile for HPLC	Merck

HPLC METHOD DEVELOPMENT:

Preparation of Standard Solution:

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7ml of Methanol and sonicate to dissolve and removal of air completely and make volume up to the mark with the same Methanol. Further pipette 0.3ml of the above Doravirine stock solutions into a 10ml volumetric flask and dilute up to the mark with Methanol.

Preparation of Sample Solution:

Take average weight of the Powder and weight 10 mg equivalent weight of Doravirine sample into a 10mL clean dry volumetric flask and add about 7mL of Diluent and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with the same solvent. Further pipette 0.3ml of the above Doravirine stock solutions into a 10ml volumetric flask and dilute up to the mark with Methanol.

Procedure:

Inject the samples by changing the chromatographic conditions and record the chromatograms, note the conditions of proper peak elution for performing validation parameters as per ICH guidelines³²⁻³³.

Mobile Phase Optimization:

Initially the mobile phase tried was methanol: Water and ACN: Water with varying proportions. Finally, the mobile phase⁴ was optimized to ACN: Methanol 80:20% v/v) respectively.

Optimization of Column:

The method was performed with various C₁₈ columns like Symmetry, Zodiac and Xterra. Symmetry ODS C18 (4.6 x 250mm, 5µm) Column was found to be ideal as it gave good peak shape and resolution⁵ at 1ml/min flow.

Preparation of Mobile Phase:

Accurately measured 800 ml (80%) of HPLC Acetonitrile and 200 ml of Methanol (20%) were mixed and degassed in a digital ultra sonicator for 15 minutes and then filtered through 0.45 µ filter under vacuum filtration.

Diluent Preparation:

The Mobile phase was used as the diluent.

METHOD VALIDATION

Validation Parameters

System Suitability

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7mL of Diluents and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with the same solvent. (Stock solution) Further pipette 0.3ml of the above Doravirine stock solutions into a 10ml volumetric flask and dilute up to the mark with Methanol.

Procedure:

The standard solution was injected for five times and measured the area for all five injections in HPLC. The %RSD for the area of five replicate injections was found to be within the specified limits.

Specificity:

Preparation of Standard Solution:

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7ml of Diluents and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with the same solvent. (Stock solution) Further pipette 0.3ml of the above Doravirine stock solutions into a 10ml volumetric flask and dilute up to the mark with Methanol.

Preparation of Sample Solution:

Take average weight of the Powder and weight 10 mg equivalent weight of Doravirine sample into a 10mL clean dry volumetric flask and add about 7mL of Diluent and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with the same solvent. Further pipette 0.3ml of the above Doravirine stock solutions into a 10ml volumetric flask and dilute up to the mark with Methanol.

Procedure:

Inject the five replicate injections of standard and inject the three replicate injections sample solutions and calculate the assay⁶ by using formula:

%ASSAY =

$$\frac{\text{Sample area}}{\text{Standard area}} \times \frac{\text{Weight of standard}}{\text{Dilution of standard}} \times \frac{\text{Dilution of sample}}{\text{Weight of sample}} \times \frac{\text{Purity}}{100} \times \frac{\text{Weight of tablet}}{\text{Label claim}} \times 100$$

Linearity:

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7ml of Diluents⁷ and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with the same solvent. (Stock solution)

Preparation of Level – I (10ppm of Doravirine):

Take 0.1ml of stock solution in to 10ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume up to mark with diluent.

Preparation of Level – II (20ppm of Doravirine):

Take 0.2ml of stock solution in to 10ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume up to mark with diluent.

Preparation of Level – III (30ppm of Doravirine):

Take 0.3ml of stock solution in to 10ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume up to mark with diluent.

Preparation of Level – IV (40ppm of Doravirine):

Take 0.4ml of stock solution in to 10ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume up to mark with diluent.

Preparation of Level – V (50ppm of Doravirine):

Take 0.5ml of stock solution in to 10ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume up to mark with diluent.

Procedure:

Inject each level into the chromatographic system⁸ and measure the peak area. Plot a graph of peak area versus concentration (on X-axis concentration and on Y-axis Peak area) and calculate the correlation coefficient.

Precision

Repeatability**Preparation of Doravirine Product Solution for Precision:**

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7ml of Diluents and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with the same solvent. (Stock solution) Take 0.3ml of stock solution in to 10ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume up to mark with diluent. The standard solution was injected for six times and measured the area for all six injections in HPLC. The %RSD for the area of six replicate injections was found to be within the specified limits.

Intermediate Precision:

To evaluate the intermediate precision⁹(also known as Ruggedness¹⁰) of the method, Precision was performed on different days by maintaining same conditions.

Procedure:**Analyst 1:**

The standard solution was injected for six times and measured the area for all six injections in HPLC. The %RSD for the area of six replicate injections was found to be within the specified limits.

Analyst 2:

The standard solution was injected for six times and measured the area for all six injections in HPLC. The %RSD for the area of six replicate injections was found to be within the specified limits.

Accuracy:**For Preparation of 50% Standard Stock Solution:**

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7mL of Diluents and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with the same solvent. (Stock solution) Take 0.15ml of stock solution in to 10ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume up to mark with diluent.

For Preparation of 100% Standard Stock Solution:

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7mL of Diluents and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with the same solvent. (Stock solution) Take 0.3ml of stock solution in to 10ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume up to mark with diluent.

For Preparation of 150% Standard Stock Solution:

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7mL of Diluents and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with the same solvent. (Stock solution) Take 0.45ml of stock solution in to 10ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume up to mark with diluent.

Procedure:

Inject the Three replicate injections of individual concentrations (50%, 100%, 150%) were made under the optimized conditions¹¹. Recorded the chromatograms and measured the peak responses. Calculate the Amount found and Amount added for Doravirine and calculate the individual recovery¹² and mean recovery values.

Limit of Detection (LOD) and Limit of Quantification (LOQ):**Preparation of 0.597µg/ml solution (LOD):**

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7ml of Methanol and sonicate to dissolve and removal of air completely and make volume up to the mark with the same Methanol. Further pipette 0.0597ml of the above Doravirine stock solutions into a 10ml volumetric flask and dilute up to the mark with Methanol.

Preparation of 1.811µg/ml solution (LOQ):

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7ml of Methanol and sonicate to dissolve and removal of air completely and make volume up to the mark with the same Methanol. Further pipette 0.01811ml of the above Doravirine stock solutions into a 10ml

volumetric flask and dilute up to the mark with Methanol.

Robustness:

The analysis was performed in different conditions to find the variability of test results. The following conditions are checked for variation of results.

For preparation of Standard Solution:

Accurately weigh and transfer 10 mg of Doravirine working standard into a 10ml of clean dry volumetric flasks add about 7mL of Diluents and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with the same solvent. (Stock solution) Take 0.3ml of stock solution in to 10ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume up to mark with diluent.

Effect of Variation of Flow Conditions:

The sample was analyzed at 0.9ml/min and 1.1ml/min instead of 1ml/min, remaining conditions are same. 20µl of the above sample was injected and chromatograms were recorded.

Effect of Variation of Mobile Phase Organic Composition:

The sample was analyzed by variation of mobile phase i.e. ACN: Methanol was taken in the ratio and 75:25, 85:15 instead of 80:20, remaining conditions are same. 20µl of the above sample was injected and chromatograms were recorded.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Development of Analytical Method:

Several concurrent trails developed the proposed method to establish the preferred chromatographic conditions, which would be helpful to conduct a complete validation study¹³. The mobile phase for consisting of Acetonitrile and methanol (80:20% v/v) at 1-mL/min flow rate and detection wavelength 272 nm was optimized, which gave sharp peak, minimum tailing factor with short run time for Doravirine. The retention time¹⁴ for Doravirine was found to be 3.123 minutes (Figure 2).

Optimized Chromatographic Conditions

Column	:	Symmetry ODS C18 (4.6 x 250mm, 5µm)
Column temperature	:	Ambient
Wavelength	:	272 nm
Mobile phase ratio	:	ACN: Methanol (80:20% v/v)
Flow rate	:	1.0mL/min
Injection volume	:	20 µl
Run time	:	8 minutes

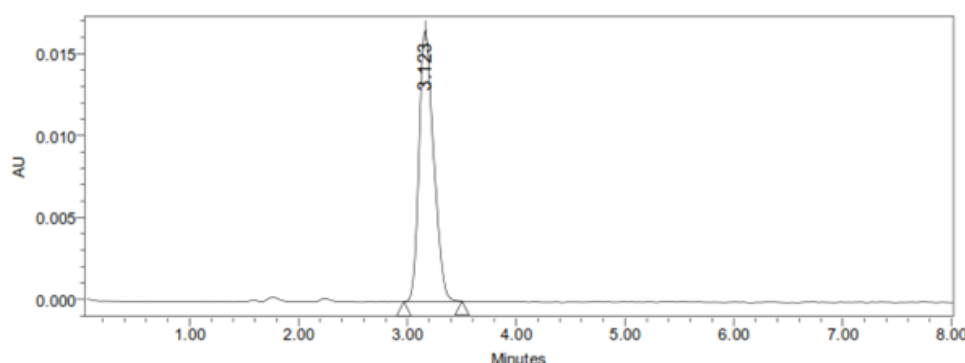


Fig-2: Optimized Chromatographic Condition of Doravirine
Validation of Analytical Method

Validation of the developed HPLC method¹⁵ was carried out according to the International Council on Harmonization (ICH) guidelines Q2 (R1) for linearity and range, accuracy, precision, LOD and LOQ, specificity and robustness by the following procedure.

System Suitability

Standard solutions were prepared as per the test method and injected into the chromatographic system. The system suitability parameters¹⁶ like theoretical plates, resolution and asymmetric factor were evaluated. The results were presented in Table 3.

Table-3: Results of System Suitability for Doravirine

S.No.	Peak Name	RT	Area (μV*sec)	Height (μV)	USP Plate Count	USP Tailing
1	Doravirine	3.192	225645	20584	6286	1.38
2	Doravirine	3.146	225847	20965	6358	1.39
3	Doravirine	3.123	228656	20758	6285	1.41
4	Doravirine	3.167	228547	20859	6278	1.40
5	Doravirine	3.158	229658	20968	6395	1.42
Mean			227670.6			
Std.Dev.			1810.899			
%RSD			0.795403			

Specificity

The specificity¹⁷ was studied to examine the presence of interfering components, while in the comparison of Chromatograms; there was no interference from blank and standard Chromatogram.

%ASSAY =

$$\frac{\text{Sample area}}{\text{Standard area}} \times \frac{\text{Weight of standard}}{\text{Dilution of standard}} \times \frac{\text{Dilution of sample}}{\text{Weight of sample}} \times \frac{\text{Purity}}{100} \times \frac{\text{Weight of tablet}}{\text{Label claim}} \times 100$$

= 99.24%

The % purity¹⁸ of Doravirine in marketed pharmaceutical dosage form was found to be 99.24%.

Linearity

Linearity was performed by preparing a standard solution of Doravirine at different concentration levels, i.e., 10–50 μg/mL. The absorbance was measured at 272 nm. Linearity¹⁹ was proven by regression analysis by the least square method. The correlation coefficient and linearity results were presented in Table 4, and the linearity curve²⁰ was represented in Figure 3.

Table-4: Data for Linearity of Doravirine

Concentration μg/ml	Average Peak Area
10	78683
20	146545
30	213584
40	279895
50	346568

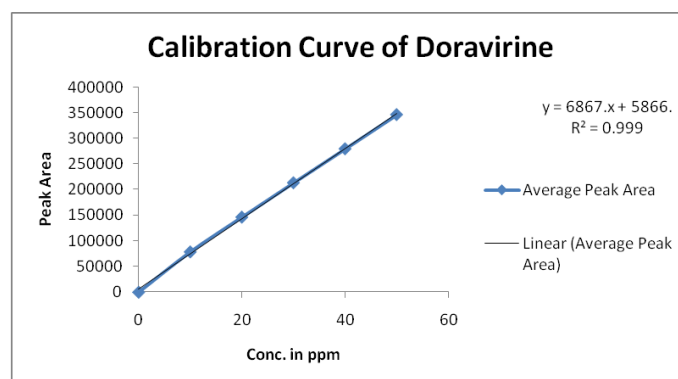


Fig-3: Calibration Curve of Doravirine

Linearity Plot: The plot of Concentration (x) versus the Average Peak Area (y) data of Doravirine is a straight line.

$$Y = mx + c$$

Slope (m) = 6867

Intercept (c) = 5866

Correlation Coefficient (r) = 0.99

Validation Criteria: The response linearity is verified if the Correlation Coefficient²¹ is 0.99 or greater.

Conclusion: Correlation Coefficient (r) is 0.99, and the intercept is 5866. These values meet the validation criteria.

Precision: Precision²²⁻²⁵ was studied to find out intra-day and inter-day variation in the test methods of Doravirine for 6 times on the same day and different day. The intra-day and inter-day precision²⁶ obtained was %RSD (<2.0) indicates that the proposed method is quite precise and reproducible, and results are shown in Table 5 and 6 & 7.

Table-5: Results of Method Precision for Doravirine:

S. No.	Peak name	Retention time	Area (μV*sec)	Height (μV)	USP Plate Count	USP Tailing
1	Doravirine	3.165	225645	20562	6125	1.36
2	Doravirine	3.163	225847	20645	6129	1.36
3	Doravirine	3.158	226542	20534	6135	1.35
4	Doravirine	3.167	226598	20564	6189	1.36
5	Doravirine	3.171	226584	20549	6138	1.35
6	Doravirine	3.181	226859	20685	6179	1.37
Mean			226345.8			
Std.Dev			482.1068			
%RSD			0.212996			

Intermediate Precision:

Analyst 1:

Table-6: Results of Ruggedness for Analyst 1 for Doravirine

S.No.	Peak Name	RT	Area (μV*sec)	Height (μV)	USP Plate Count	USP Tailing
1	Doravirine	3.165	226534	20653	6235	1.35
2	Doravirine	3.163	226542	20598	6198	1.36
3	Doravirine	3.158	225989	20653	6254	1.36
4	Doravirine	3.167	226512	20548	6281	1.35
5	Doravirine	3.171	226531	20653	6199	1.36
6	Doravirine	3.171	225898	20658	6253	1.35
Mean			226334.3			
Std.Dev			304.2622			
%RSD			0.13443			

Analyst 2:

Table-7: Results of Intermediate Precision Analyst 2 for Doravirine

S.No.	Peak Name	RT	Area (μV*sec)	Height (μV)	USP Plate count	USP Tailing
1	Doravirine	3.173	225487	20542	6253	1.35
2	Doravirine	3.134	225484	20532	6098	1.36
3	Doravirine	3.161	225364	20541	6254	1.35
4	Doravirine	3.174	226513	20534	6235	1.36
5	Doravirine	3.199	225487	20549	6199	1.36
6	Doravirine	3.199	226532	20451	6235	1.35
Mean			225811.2			

Std.Dev			553.0524			
%RSD			0.244918			

Accuracy

The accuracy of the method was determined by the standard addition method. A known standard drug was added to the fixed amount of pre-analyzed drug sample solution. The standard addition method was performed at three concentration levels in triplicate at 50%, 100%, and 150%. Percent recovery (Table 8) was calculated by comparing the peak area before and after adding the standard drug. Accuracy at different concentrations (50%, 100%, and 150%) was prepared and the % recovery was calculated²⁷⁻³⁰.

Table-8: The Accuracy Results for Doravirine

%Concentration (at specification Level)	Area	Amount Added (ppm)	Amount Found (ppm)	% Recovery	Mean Recovery
50%	109283.3	15	15.060	100.40%	100.42%
100%	212732	30	30.124	100.413%	
150%	316263.3	45	45.201	100.446%	

Limit of Detection

The detection limit of an individual analytical procedure is the lowest amount of analyte in a sample which can be detected but not necessarily quantitated as an exact value³¹.

$$LOD = 3.3 \times \sigma / s$$

Where

σ = Standard deviation of the response

S = Slope of the calibration curve

Result: = 0.597 µg/ml

Limit of Quantitation

The quantitation limit²⁹ of an individual analytical procedure is the lowest amount of analyte in a sample which can be quantitatively determined³².

$$LOQ = 10 \times \sigma / S$$

Where

σ = Standard deviation of the response

S = Slope of the calibration curve

Result: = 1.811 µg/ml

Robustness

To demonstrate the method's robustness, prepared solution as per test method and injected at different variable conditions like using different conditions like flow rate and organic content in the mobile phase. The results for robustness³³⁻³⁷ are represented in Table 9.

Table-9: Results for Robustness of Doravirine

Parameter Used for Sample Analysis	Peak Area	Retention Time	Theoretical Plates	Tailing Factor
Actual Flow rate of 1.0 mL/min	225645	3.155	6125	1.36
Less Flow rate of 0.9 mL/min	236586	3.488	6452	1.38
More Flow rate of 1.1 mL/min	219865	2.877	6098	1.42
Less organic phase	235848	4.705	6126	1.43
More organic phase	241245	2.090	6324	1.39

CONCLUSION

The analytical method was developed by studying different parameters. First of all, maximum absorbance was found to be at 272nm and the peak purity was excellent. Injection volume was selected to be 20µl which gave a good peak area. The column used for study was Symmetry ODS C₁₈ (4.6mm x 250mm, 5µm) because it was giving good peak. Ambient temperature was found to be suitable for the nature of drug solution. The flow rate was fixed at 1.0ml/min because of good peak area and satisfactory retention time. Mobile phase is Acetonitrile and Methanol (80:20% v/v) was fixed due to good symmetrical peak. So this mobile phase was used for the proposed study. Run time was selected to be 8.0min because analyze gave peak around 3.123min and also to reduce the total run time. The percent recovery was found to be 98.0-102% was linear and precise over the same range. Both system and method precision were found to be accurate and well within range. The analytical method was found linearity over the range of 10-50µg/ml of the Doravirine target concentration. The analytical passed both robustness and ruggedness tests. On both cases, relative standard deviation was well satisfactory. Hence the proposed RP-HPLC method proved to be simple, accurate and reproducible for the determination of Doravirine in a reasonable run time. The method was validated showing satisfactory data for all the method validation parameters tested. The developed method can be conveniently used by quality control laboratories.

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