

## DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF UV-VIS SPECTROSCOPIC METHOD OF ASSAY OF CARBAMAZEPINE IN MICROPARTICLES

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### ABSTRACT

**Objective:** This study aimed to develop a new, rapid, robust, effective, inexpensive, and accurate UV-Vis method for the quantification analysis of carbamazepine (CBZ) in the carbamazepine-loaded microparticles.

**Methods:** CBZ was encapsulated in ethyl cellulose microparticles by a solvent evaporation method using polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) as a stabilizer. Methanol was used to dissolve CBZ followed by dilution with distilled water as diluent. CBZ drug, excipients, and microparticles were subjected to specificity, solution stability, linearity, precision and accuracy to confirm and ensure the validity of this method.

**Results:** The results showed no interference from the excipients in the selected wavelength 286 nm. It was exhibited linearity in the range 2-12 µg/ml with  $R^2 = 0.9992$ . CBZ solution was stable during 24 h. Accuracy and precision were within the accepted limits ( $100 \pm 2\%$ ). All results were in accordance to the ICH-Q2 guideline.

**Conclusion:** As a conclusion, CBZ could be quantified from loaded EC microparticles using UV-Vis spectrophotometer at 286 nm. Therefore, this method can be used for the quantification analysis of CBZ in CBZ-loaded microparticles can be utilized also as an alternative method to calculate CBZ in different dosage forms.

**Keywords:** Carbamazepine, Microparticles, Method validation, UV-Vis, Spectrophotometer

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### INTRODUCTION

Ultraviolet-visible (UV-vis) spectrophotometry is one of the most frequently used techniques in the pharmaceutical analysis. The major law which ruled the spectrophotometric quantitative analysis is Beer-Lambert law [1-3]. It states that when a beam of light is passed through a transparent cell containing a solution of an absorbing substance, reduction of the intensity of light may occur and mathematically can be expressed in Eqn. 1.

$$A = a \cdot b \cdot c \text{ Eqn. 1}$$

Where A is the absorbance (optical density), a is the absorptivity or extinction coefficient, b is the path length of radiation over a sample (cm), and c is a concentration of solute (substance) in solution [4-7].

Carbamazepine (CBZ) is an anticonvulsant medication used for the treatment of seizures, bipolar disorder, neuropathic pain, neuralgia, and trigeminal. It works by diminishing nerve impulses that reason seizures and agony [8]. The available CBZ dosage forms in the market are chewable tablets, suspension, sustained release capsules and sustained-release tablets [9].

Several analysis methods were used to quantify CBZ in pharmaceutical dosage forms. By using HPLC-UV [10, 11]. CBZ was quantified in the plasma using mobile phase of water, methanol, and acetonitrile (ACN) using HPLC chromatographic method [12]. UV-vis analysis method was used for dissolution test of CBZ sustained-release tablets in the pharmacopoeia at the wavelength maxima 283 nm with water as medium [13].

The current study was done to validate the spectroscopic method for quantification of CBZ in EC microparticles. The UV-Vis spectroscopy validation method for CBZ is an necessary method to ensure the proper characterization of CBZ-loaded microparticles especially for the encapsulation efficiency and release profile.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

Carbamazepine (CBZ) was purchased from Anuja Healthcare Limited (Punjab, India). Ethyl cellulose (EC) polymer was purchased from Dow Chemicals (Louisiana, Greensburg, USA). Polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) was from Merck (Hohenbrunn, Germany). Solvents used in the analysis were from Merck (Hohenbrunn, Germany).

#### Preparation of carbamazepine microparticles

Carbamazepine (CBZ) loaded microparticles were prepared by a solvent evaporation method [14] using ethyl cellulose (EC) as a polymer, and stabilized by utilizing polyvinyl alcohol (PVA). Dichloromethane (DCM) and ethyl acetate (EA) were used here as organic phase solvents. EC was dissolved in a mixture of DCM: EA (9:1) ratio then 0.2 g of CBZ was added to form the organic phase. The aqueous phase was prepared by using 0.5% PVA solution. The organic phase was added to the aqueous phase and mixed using a mechanical homogenizer at 1000 rpm for 180 seconds. The resulted single emulsion was kept for 3 h under a magnetic stirrer to ensure the complete evaporation of the solvents. CBZ-loaded microparticles were collected by filtration and washed with distilled water three times followed by oven drying [15, 16].

#### Solution preparation

A quantity of 0.01 g of carbamazepine (CBZ) weighed accurately and transferred to 10 ml volumetric flask, 2 ml of methanol was added to dissolve CBZ then diluted up to the mark with distilled water. The solution was then filtered utilizing Whatman filter paper No.1 and used as a stock standard solution. To prepare test solution, an amount of CBZ-loaded microparticles equivalent to 0.022 g of CBZ was weighed in a 100 ml volumetric flask then dissolved in a 15 ml of methanol and diluted with distilled water up to the mark then filtered with Whatman filter paper No.1.

#### Spectrophotometric method validation

The spectrophotometric method was validated as per International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) Q2 guideline.

### Specificity and solution stability

Specificity was calculated and confirmed by the comparison of carbamazepine (CBZ) ultra-violet (UV) spectrum, ethyl cellulose (EC) UV spectrum, and polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) UV spectrum. CBZ standard solution of 10 µg/ml was prepared and scanned utilizing double beam UV spectrophotometer at a wavelength ranged from 400-200 nm (UV-1800, Shimadzu, Japan). EC solution was prepared by the dissolving of 0.5 g EC powder in 90 ml dichloromethane (DCM) under continuous stirring, then 10 ml of ethyl acetate solvent was added to produce 0.5% of EC solution. PVA solution was prepared by dissolving 0.5 g of PVA in 100 ml distilled water with heating.

The maximum wavelength of CBZ was selected after scanning and no absorption of the excipients was detected at the same wavelength. This wavelength was found to be 286 nm (fig. 1). Solution stability was evaluated by measuring the absorbance ( $A_{286}$ ) of the CBZ solutions at 37°C prepared from the standard solution in triplicate (n = 3) at different intervals 0, 1, 3, 6, 12, and 24 h [17, 18].

### Linearity

Linearity was evaluated with six different concentrations ranged from 2-12 µg/ml which obtained by diluting of carbamazepine (CBZ) stock solution with distilled water. The linearity of CBZ equation was used to calculate CBZ in the fabricated microparticles [19].

### Accuracy

The accuracy was measured by calculating the recovery of known amounts of carbamazepine (CBZ) added into the dilution medium (distilled water). Three concentrations were examined in triplicate, namely 17.6 mg/ml, 22 mg/ml and 30.8 mg/ml representing 80%, 100% and 120% respectively of the original concentration used in the preparation of CBZ microparticles [20-22].

### Precision

Precision was calculated by measuring nine equalled carbamazepine (CBZ) concentrations (22 mg/ml) prepared from a standard solution of CBZ. Intermediate precision was confirmed by repeating the above step on another day with a different analyst. The relative standard deviation (% RSD) was then calculated [23-26].

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Developing of a new spectroscopic method for the estimation of drugs in its dosage forms has raised recently due to its important role in pharmaceutical analysis and development [27]. Carbamazepine (CBZ) wave length was selected at 286 nm [28] ( $\lambda_{max} = 286$  nm, fig. 1), whereas no absorption was detected for ethyl cellulose (EC) and polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) excipients at CBZ wavelength. This shows that no interference from the excipients at the selected wavelength [29, 30].

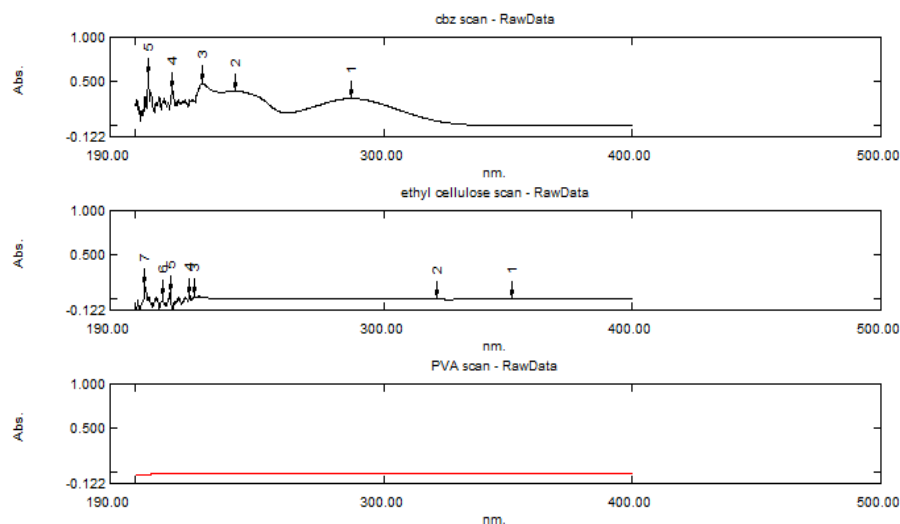


Fig. 1: UV-spectrum of carbamazepine (cbz), ethyl cellulose and polyvinyl alcohol (PVA)

Solution stability study revealed that the absorbance of CBZ was 99% to 100% of the initial value (table 1) with %RSD of 0.144 which indicating that the CBZ solution in the water was stable for at least

24 h. Solution stability is an important criterion to ensure that the prepared samples were stable and no changes could affect the samples during the test period [31].

Table 1: Solution stability of carbamazepine in water

No.	Time interval (h)	A286	% of initial A286
1	0	0.579	99.80285
2	1	0.58	99.97527
3	3	0.579	99.80285
4	6	0.579	99.80285
5	12	0.579	99.80285
6	24	0.581	100.1477

Mean = 0.580, SD = 0.0008, % RSD = 0.144. Number of experiments (n) = 3.

Linearity was calculated using six different concentrations from 2-12 µg/ml. The regression line correlation coefficient ( $R^2$ ) was calculated and found to be 0.9992 with ay-intercept of 0.0005. The slope of the linearity was 0.0526 (fig. 2). These data showed linear absorbance readings through the selected range [32]. The same  $R^2$  was found by Kumar *et al.* for the determination of benidipine hydrochloride in its dosage-forms by using UV-vis spectroscopic method [33].

The recovery of the spiked CBZ added to the medium at 80%, 100% and 120% levels found to be 99.81%, 101.33% and (99.62%) respectively, with the relative standard deviation (% RSD) less than 2 (0.97, 0.35 and 0.14 respectively, table 2). This indicates that the method was passed the accuracy test [34].

The results of the precision test are shown in table 3. The % RSD was found to be 0.41 for the intraday and 0.36 for the interday indicating that the

precision values of the validated method were within the accepted limits [35]. The above-validated method was a simple, rapid, precise, accurate

and can be used for the estimation of CBZ in the prepared microparticles utilizing the same wavelength and same dose for 24 h [36].

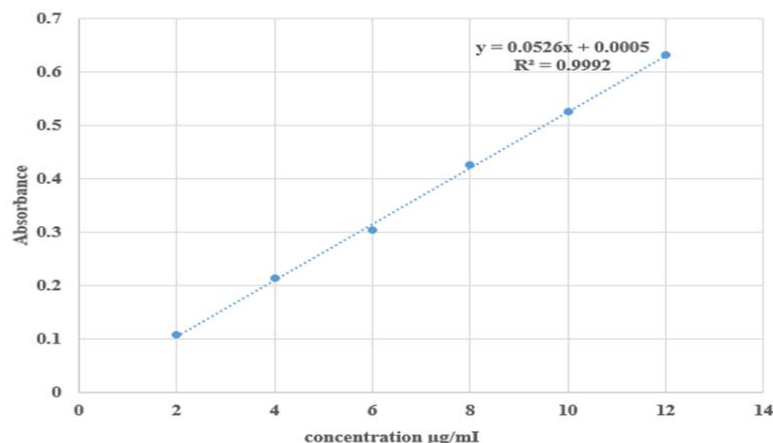


Fig. 2: Linearity curve of carbamazepine in distilled water

Table 2: Accuracy study of carbamazepine spiked at different concentrations.

Recovery level	% recovery	Mean % recovery	SD	% RSD
80%	100.78	99.81	0.96	0.97
	99.81			
	98.84			
100%	102.33	101.33	0.36	0.35
	101.47			
	100.18			
120%	99.71	99.62	0.14	0.14
	99.98			
	99.15			

N (number of experiments) = 3

Table 3: Results of a precision study of carbamazepine at 100% concentration level

No.	% Assay	
	Intraday	Interday
1	99.00	98.62
2	98.62	98.62
3	98.62	98.62
4	99.38	99.38
5	99.77	99.38
6	99.00	99.00
7	99.00	98.62
8	98.62	99.00
9	99.38	99.38
Mean	99.04	98.96

SD= 0.40 (intraday) and = 0.36 (interday). %RSD = 0.41 (intraday), %RSD= 0.36 (interday). Number of experiments (n) = 9.

## CONCLUSION

In this study, a new UV-Vis spectrophotometric method was developed and validated to quantify CBZ in EC microparticles as per ICH Q2 guideline. The validated method was found to be linear, accurate, precise, and stable for 24 h. Therefore, this method can be used for quantification analysis of CBZ in CBZ-loaded microparticles and can be utilized also as an alternative method to calculate CBZ in different dosage forms.

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## AUTHORS CONTRIBUTIONS

All the author have contributed equally

## CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

Declared none

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