

# Validated UV-Spectrophotometric Method for Simultaneous Analysis of Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole in Bulk and Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms

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## ABSTRACT

Current research work attempts to develop simple, precise, accurate, specific, cost effective, less time consuming validated UV-Spectrophotometric method for the simultaneous analysis of Aceclofenac (ACECLO) and Pantoprazole (PANTO) in bulk and pharmaceutical dosage forms by simultaneous equation method. Spectrophotometric simultaneous analysis of ACECLO and PANTO were carried out using phosphate buffer pH 6.8 as economical solvent. The analytical wavelengths for ACECLO and PANTO are 273 nm and 289 nm respectively. The developed UV-Spectrophotometric method was validated as per ICH guidelines in terms of linearity, precision, accuracy, specificity, sensitivity and ruggedness. Linearity was obtained in the concentration range of 5-30 µg/mL for ACECLO and 4-20 µg/mL for PANTO. The % RSD for intraday precision and interday precision of ACECLO was found to be 0.183 and 0.317 respectively. An intraday precision and interday precision of PANTO was found to be 0.194 and 0.894 respectively. In both cases values were within the acceptance limit of less than 2%. The mean percent recovery for ACECLO and PANTO were found to be 98.20 % and 100.56 % respectively. From the high recovery values it can be inferred that the method is free from the interference of excipients used in the formulation. Based on the results obtained the proposed method can be regarded as simple, precise, accurate, reliable and cost effective and can be used for routine quality control of ACECLO and PANTO in bulk and pharmaceutical dosage forms.

**Key words:** Aceclofenac, Pantoprazole, UV-spectrophotometry, ICH guidelines, Simultaneous analysis

## Introduction

Aceclofenac, chemically, a phenylacetic acid derivative, has anti-inflammatory and analgesic properties. It is a potent inhibitor of cyclo-oxygenase enzyme which involved in the production of prostaglandins [1]. Aceclofenac is practically insoluble in water and soluble in alcohol & methyl alcohol, freely soluble in acetone & dimethyl formamide. The chemical structure of Aceclofenac is (Fig.1).

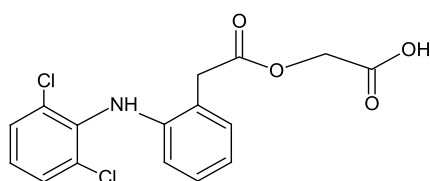


Fig. 1: Chemical structure of Aceclofenac

Pantoprazole, chemically, 5-Difluoromethoxyl Benzimidazole -2-yl-3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridyl methyl sulfoxide

. Pantoprazole, is a class of substituted Benzimidazole belongs to long acting proton pump inhibitor. It acts by suppressing gastric acid secretion through the inhibition of H<sup>+</sup> K<sup>+</sup>ATPase at the secretory surface of the parietal cells and blocks the final step of gastric acid secretion. It is more acid stable proton pump inhibitor and has higher bioavailability than omeprazole. It is well absorbed from the Gastro Intestinal Tract (GIT). Its bioavailability is 77% and shows dose dependent response [3]. The chemical structure of Aceclofenac is (fig.2).

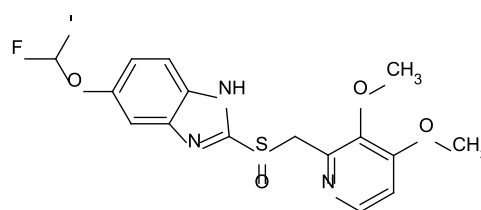


Fig 2: Chemical structure of Aceclofenac

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Literature survey revealed that various methods such as UV-spectrophotometry [3,4,5], visible spectrophotometry [6-8], RP-HPLC [9-12], HPTLC [13-16] for Aceclofenac and UV-spectrophotometry [17-20], RP- HPLC [21-25] for the estimation of Pantoprazole were reported individually and combination with other drugs. But no method was developed and validated for the simultaneous estimation of Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole in combination.

In view of the above facts in the present study, an attempt has been made to estimate the Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole simultaneously in bulk and pharmaceutical formulations using UV-Spectrophotometric method.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Instruments used

Electronic analytical balance; UV-Spectrophotometer, Ultrasonic bath Sonicator were used in the study.

### Reagents and chemicals

Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole standards were obtained as gift sample from Anglo French Drugs and Industries Ltd., Bengaluru. All the chemicals used were of AR grade and are obtained from the stores of Government College of Pharmacy, Bengaluru. ACECLO and PANTO tablet dosage form manufactured by Nov Nortis were procured from local pharmacy store.

### Selection of solvent

By carrying out solubility profile study and literature survey it was found that ACECLO and PANTO are soluble in phosphate buffer with pH 6.8. Hence phosphate buffer having pH 6.8 was chosen for the UV-Spectrophotometric analysis of ACECLO and PANTO.

### Preparation of standard stock solutions

10 mg of each pure sample of ACECLO and PANTO were weighed separately, into two 10 mL volumetric flasks. Then small amount of phosphate buffer was added to dissolve the drugs and then the volume was made upto 10 mL to get a concentration of 1 mg/mL.

### Selection of analytical wavelength

From the above standard stock solutions, 0.1 mL aliquots was taken separately into two 10 mL volumetric flask and diluted upto the mark with phosphate buffer and these solutions were scanned in the UV region of 200-400 nm. Maximum absorbance was seen at the wavelength of 273 nm for ACECLO and 289 nm for PANTO. Hence all absorbance measurements were made at 273 nm for ACECLO and 289 nm for PANTO.

### Calibration Curve

A series of dilutions were prepared from the standard stock solutions of ACECLO and PANTO to obtain the concentration of 5-30 µg/mL of ACECLO and 4-20 µg/mL of PANTO. Absorbance of the above solutions was

measured at 273 nm and 289 nm for ACECLO and PANTO respectively and a calibration curve of absorbance against concentration was plotted and the regression coefficient (R<sup>2</sup>) was also determined.

### Determination of absorptivity coefficient

The absorptivity coefficient of both drugs (ACECLO and PANTO) was determined at selected wavelengths by using the formula:  $A = A (\% \text{ cm}) b \times c$ , where, c = concentration of the absorbing species, in g/100 mL and b = path length in cm. The absorptivity values are then substituted in the following equations (1) and (2):

$$A_1 = ax1 Cx + ay1 Cy \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

$$A_2 = ax2 Cx + ay2 Cy \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

Where,

A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub> are absorbances of sample at 273 nm and 289 nm respectively. ax1 and ax2 are absorptivities of ACECLO at 273 nm and 289 nm respectively. ay1 and ay2 are absorptivities of ACECLO and PANTO at 273 nm and 289 nm respectively. Cx and Cy are concentrations of ACECLO and PANTO respectively.

### Preparation of sample solutions

Average weight of twenty tablets containing 100 mg of ACECLO and 40 mg of PANTO (labeled claim) was calculated separately. The tablets were powdered well in glass mortar with pestal. Quantity of powder equivalent to 100 mg of ACECLO and 40 mg of PANTO was weighed accurately and transferred separately into 25 mL volumetric flasks. Then a small quantity of phosphate buffer was added and sonicated for 30 minutes to dissolve the drugs completely and then the volume was made upto the mark with phosphate buffer and filtered through 0.45 µm membrane filter. From this, 0.1 mL was taken and diluted with phosphate buffer. The absorbance of this solution was measured at 273 nm and 289 nm against phosphate buffer as a blank. The assay was performed in triplicate.

### Analysis of tablet dosage form

Aliquots portion of the above sample stock solution was diluted with phosphate buffer and the absorbance was measured at appropriate wavelength and the concentration of the two drugs were determined using equations (3) and (4). Analysis was done in triplicate.

$$Cx = (A_2 ay1 - A_1 ay2) / (ax2 ay1 - ax1 ay2) \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

$$Cy = (A_1 ax2 - A_2 ax1) / (ax2 ay1 - ax1 ay2) \dots \dots \dots (4)$$

## METHOD VALIDATION

The developed UV-Spectrophotometric method was validated as per ICH guidelines in terms of linearity, precision, accuracy, ruggedness, specificity, Limit of Quantification and Limit of Detection.

## Linearity

A series of solutions were prepared using ACECLO and PANTO standard stock solutions at concentration range of 5-30 µg/mL and 4-20 µg/mL respectively. The absorbances of the resultant solutions were measured at 273 nm and 289 nm against phosphate buffer as blank. The calibration curves were constructed by plotting concentrations on x-axis and absorbance on y-axis. R<sup>2</sup> value not less than 0.999 was regarded as acceptance criteria.

## Precision

Precision was studied to find out intra-day and inter-day variations in the test method of ACECLO and PANTO. Intra-day assay precision was found by analysis of standard drug thrice on the same day in different intervals of time. Inter-day assay precision was carried out at three different days and percentage relative standard deviation (% RSD) was calculated. The % RSD should not be more than 2.0%.

## Accuracy

The accuracy of the developed method was determined by recovery studies at three different levels. The preanalyzed samples were spiked with 50, 100 and 150 % of mixed standard solution. The mixtures were analyzed and the recoveries were determined. The recovery study was carried out in triplicate. The mean % recovery of the ACECLO and PANTO at each levels should not be less than 98.0 % and not more than 102.0% was considered as the acceptance criteria.

## Specificity

Specificity was performed to exclude the possibilities of interference of solvent in the region of maximum absorbance peaks of ACECLO and PANTO. The specificity of the method was tested under the normal conditions and results of the tests proved that the components other than ACECLO and PANTO did not produce the detectable peaks at the maximum absorbance peaks of both the drugs.

## Sensitivity

Sensitivity of proposed method was estimated in terms of Limit of Detection (LOD) and Limit of Quantification (LOQ). The LOD and LOQ of ACECLO and PANTO by proposed methods were determined using calibration standards. LOD and LOQ were calculated as 3.3s/S and 10s/S respectively, where S is the slope of the calibration

curve and s is the standard deviation of response.

## Ruggedness

The ruggedness expresses the variations within the laboratory conditions (different day, different analyst and different instrument).

## RESULTS

The maximum absorbance of ACECLO and PANTO was found to be 273 nm and 289 nm in phosphate buffer with pH 6.8. The spectrum of ACECLO and PANTO were shown in the **Figure 3-4** respectively. The standard calibration curves, linearity range and absorptivity values of ACECLO and PANTO are presented in **Table 1-3** and **figure 5-6**. The results of recovery studies are depicted in **Table 3-4**. The precision results are presented in **Table 6**. Sensitivity data for ACECLO and PANTO are presented in **Table 7**. The assay results of ACECLO and PANTO are presented in **Table 8**. The summary of all validation parameters are presented in **Table 9**.

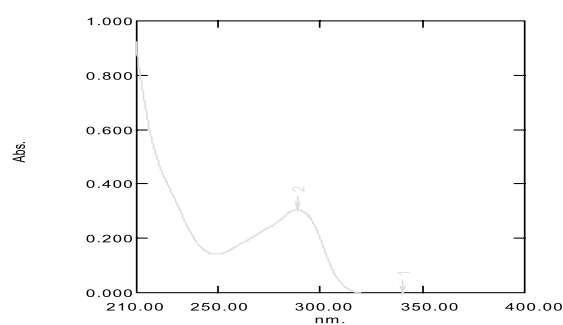


Fig. 3: UV Spectrum of Aceclofenac

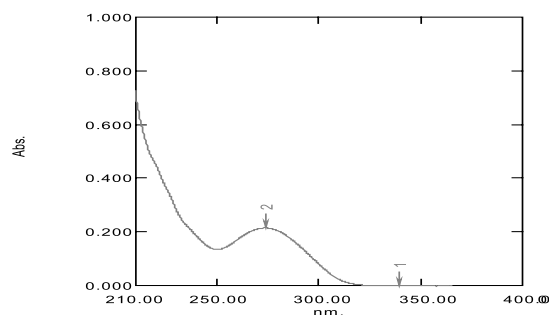


Fig. 4: UV Spectrum of Pantoprazole

**Table - 1**  
**Calibration curve Data of Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole**

Conc of ACECLO	Absorbance at 273 nm µg/mL	Conc of PANTO	Absorbance at 289 nm µg/mL
5	0.153	0	0.00
10	0.306	4	0.184
15	0.463	8	0.369
20	0.612	12	0.556
25	0.748	16	0.736
30	0.873	20	0.896

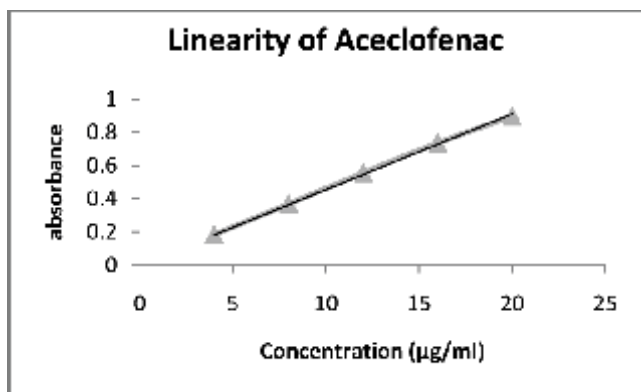


Fig. 5: Calibration Curve of Aceclofenac

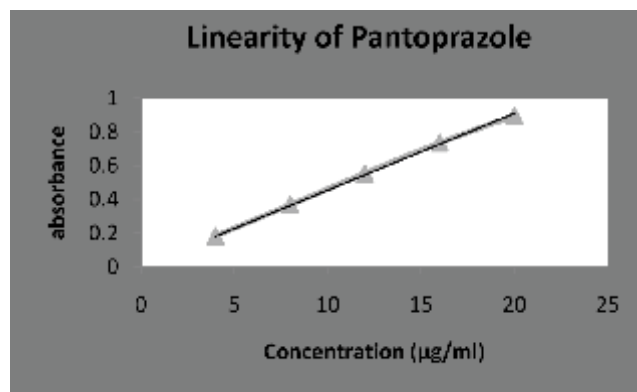


Fig.6: Calibration Curve of Pantoprazole

**Table - 2**  
Linearity Data of Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole

Parameter	ACECLO	PANTO
Linearity Range	µg/mL 5-30	µg/mL 4-20
Rsed	0.01	0.01
R <sup>2</sup>	0.9998	0.9998
P-value	0.73	0.73

**Table - 3**  
Absorptivity values of Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole

Drugs	Absorptivity at 273 nm (ax <sub>1</sub> )	Absorptivity at 289 nm (ax <sub>2</sub> )
Aceclofenac	302.81	255.75
Pantoprazole	196.25	462.16

**Table - 4**  
Accuracy study Data of Aceclofenac

Sample No.	Spike Levels	Amount Added (µg/mL)	Amount Found (µg/mL)	% Recovery	Statistical Analysis
1	50	5	4.981	99.62	Mean = 99.59 SD = 0.02 %RSD = 0.02
	50	5	4.979	99.58	
	50	5	4.989	99.58	
2	100	10	9.980	99.80	Mean = 100.38 SD = 0.90 %RSD = 0.90
	100	10	9.992	99.92	
	100	10	10.142	101.42	
3	150	15	15.150	101.00	Mean = 100.28 SD = 0.62 %RSD = 0.62
	150	15	14.986	99.90	
	150	15	14.992	99.946	

**Table - 5**  
Accuracy study Data of Pantoprazole

Sample No.	Spike Levels	Amount Added (µg/mL)	Amount Found (µg/mL)	% Recovery	Statistical Analysis
1	50	4	3.027	100.90	Mean = 99.71 SD = 1.03 %RSD = 1.04
	50	4	2.973	99.11	
	50	4	2.973	99.11	
2	100	8	7.993	99.91	Mean = 100.05 SD = 0.36 %RSD = 0.36
	100	8	7.983	99.78	
	100	8	8.037	100.46	
3	150	12	11.270	102.45	Mean = 101.27 SD = 1.37 %RSD = 1.35
	150	12	11.293	102.66	
	150	12	11.023	100.190	

**Table - 6**  
**Precision study Data of Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole**

Aceclofenac Concentration (µg/mL)	Intra day Precision (%RSD)	Inter day precision (%RSD)	pantoprazole Concentration (µg/mL)	Intra day Precision (%RSD)	Inter day precision (%RSD)
5	0.114	0.246	4	0.148	0.174
10	0.276	0.228	8	0.230	0.148
15	0.161	0.478	12	0.205	0.572

**Table - 7**  
**Sensitivity Data of Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole**

Parameter	Aceclofenac	Pantoprazole
LOD (µg/mL)	1.48	0.73
LOQ (µg/mL)	4.49	2.20

**Table - 8**  
**Assay Results of Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole**

Drug	Brand Name	Labeled amount	Amount found	% assay *
Aceclofenac	HIFENAC	100 mg	99.86	99.86%
Pantoprazole	PAN 40	40 mg	40.26	100.57%

**Table 9**  
**Summary of the validation parameters of the proposed method**

Parameters	Aceclofenac	Pantoprazole
Maximum absorbance	273 nm	289 nm
Linearity	5-30 µg/mL	4-20 µg/mL
Correlation Coefficient	0.9998	0.9998
Precision (% RSD)		
(i) Intra day	0.183	0.194
(ii) Inter day	0.318	0.298
Accuracy (% Recovery)	100.08	100.51
LOD	1.48	0.73
LOQ	4.49	2.20
Tablet Assay	99.86%	100.57%

## DISCUSSION

The current research aims to develop a UV spectrophotometric method for the simultaneous analysis of ACECLO and PANTO in bulk and commercially available pharmaceutical dosage forms. The spectrum of ACECLO and PANTO in phosphate buffer solvent showed the absorption maximum at 273 nm and 289 nm respectively. The statistical analysis of data obtained for the calibration curve of ACECLO and PANTO in pure solution indicated a high level of precision for the proposed method, as evidenced by low value of coefficient of variation. The coefficient of correlation was highly significant. The linearity range was observed between 5-30 µg/mL for Aceclofenac and 4-20 µg/mL for Pantoprazole. The plot clearly showed a straight line passing through origin. The assay method was validated by

low values of % RSD and standard error, indicating accuracy and precision of the methods. Excellent recovery studies further proves the accuracy of the method. The ruggedness of method was studied by using different instrument and different analyst. From the high values of recovery study it can be inferred that the method is free from excipients used in the formulation. Based on the results obtained the developed method can be regarded as simple, accurate, precise and reliable which can be employed for routine quality control of ACECLO and PANTO in bulk and pharmaceutical dosage forms.

## CONCLUSION

The proposed UV-Spectrophotometric method was found to be simple, precise, sensitive, specific and

economic for simultaneous estimation of Aceclofenac and Pantoprazole in bulk and pharmaceutical dosage form with good accuracy and precision. The proposed method utilizes inexpensive solvents and the % recovery data shows that the method is free from interference of the excipients used in formulation and hence can be used for routine analysis in quality control laboratories.

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