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Research Article

APPLICATION OF UV-SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC METHOD FOR DETERMINATION OF LOSARTAN POTASSIUM IN TABLETS

Dobrina Doncheva Tsvetkova^{1*} and Stefka Achkova Ivanova¹

¹Medical University-Sofia, Faculty of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry
Dunav Str. 2, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria

Abstract:

Losartan is non-peptide drug with gradual and long-lasting antihypertensive effect and exerts it's action by specific blockage of angiotensin II receptors.

The aim of current study was the application of the validated UV-spectrophotometric method for determination of Losartan Potassium at $\lambda = 208$ nm in Lorista[®] tabl. and Lozap[®] tabl. UV-VIS diode array spectrophotometer was used.

The absorbances data at $A < 0.2$ were subjected to linear regression analysis and the linear correlation coefficient (R^2) was obtained. Limit of detection and limit of quantitation were determined from the regression equation $2.10^5 \cdot x - 0.0216$ by application of root mean square error method. The obtained data were: $LOD = 3.1 \cdot 10^{-8}$ g/ml; $LOQ = 1.04 \cdot 10^{-7}$ g/ml.

From the homogenized tablets, respectively of Lorista[®] tabl. 50 mg and Lozap[®] tabl. 50 mg were weighed 6 samples, containing an amount, equivalent to 50 mg Losartan Potassium and were dissolved to 100.0 ml with distilled water. An aliquot parts of 1.0 ml were diluted separately with the same solvent to 100.0 ml. From the obtained solutions, aliquots of 1.0 ml were diluted separately with distilled water to 10.0 ml. The final sample solutions of Lorista[®] tabl. 50 mg and Lozap[®] 50 mg tabl. and standard solutions of Losartan Potassium were analysed spectrophotometrically at $\lambda = 208$ nm by using as a compensatory solution distilled water.

Validated UV-spectrophotometric method for determination of Losartan Potassium in pharmaceutical dosage preparations (tablets) by the external standard method at $\lambda_{max} = 208$ nm was applied. Data for Chauvenet's criterion are lower than maximum permissible value ($U = 1.73$; $N = 6$), which is applied for the assessment of the need for the removal of sharply different results. All of the experimental results suit the respective confidence intervals at the corresponding confidence probability: Lorista[®] tabl.: $49.61 \div 50.89$ ($SD = 0.38$; $RSD = 0.76$); Lozap[®] tabl.: $49.6 \div 51.9$ ($SD = 0.83$; $RSD = 1.15$).

The validated method can be applied for the determination of Valsartan in dosage drug preparations.

Key words: Valsartan, UV-spectrophotometry, tablets, determination.

* Corresponding author:

Dobrina Doncheva Tsvetkova,

Medical University-Sofia, Faculty of Pharmacy

Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry

2 Dunav Str., Sofia 1000, Bulgaria

dobrinka30@mail.bg

Phone: +359 02 9236 566

Mobile: 0877757118

QR code

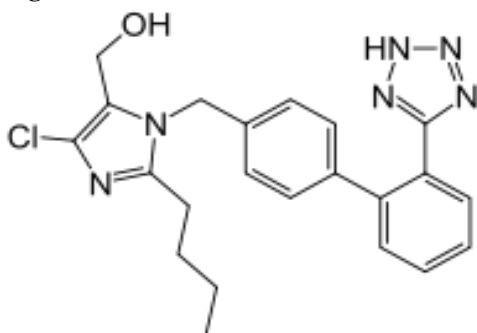


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INTRODUCTION:

Losartan ([2-butyl-5-chloro-3-[[4-[2-(2H-tetrazol-5-yl)phenyl]phenyl]methyl]imidazol-4-yl]methanol) (Figure 1.) is non-peptide drug with gradual and long-lasting antihypertensive effect and exerts its action by specific blockage of angiotensin II receptors [1]. Losartan Potassium is produced in different trade products: Cozaar, Lortaan, Neo-Lotan (Merck & Co.); Losaprex (Sigma-Tau); Oskar (Riesel); Lavestra (Hungary); Lorista (Bulgaria, Romania); Losartan-Kalium TAD (Germany); Losartan Krka (Denmark, Greece, Italy, France); Lozitar (Pinewood Laboratories Ltd.).

Figure 1. Chemical structure of Losartan.



For the determination of sartans alone or in combinations with other drugs in dosage pharmaceutical preparations are reported the following different analytical methods: 1) fourth-order UV derivative spectrophotometry: Irbesartan [2] and Hydrochlorothiazide [3]; 2) absorbance correction method: Telmisartan ($\lambda = 325$ nm), Chlorthalidon ($\lambda = 225$ nm) and Cilnidipine ($\lambda = 350$ nm) [4]; 3) Reversed Phase High Performance Liquid Chromatography (RP-HPLC): Azilsartan Medoxomil on C_{18} column Qualisil Gold (250×4.6 mm \times 5 μ m) at $\lambda = 248$ nm [5, 6]; Valsartan and Sacubitril on ODS C_{18} column (250 mm \times 4.6 mm) \times 5 μ m) at $\lambda = 241$ nm [7]; Losartan Potassium in tablets [8] as Cozaar[®] tabl. [9] and in capsules [10]; Losartan Potassium and Hydrochlorothiazide in tablets [11-13]; Losartan Potassium, Ramipril and Hydrochlorothiazide in pharmaceutical preparations [14]; 4) capillary electrophoresis and super-critical fluid chromatography: Losartan Potassium in Cozaar[®] tabl. [9]; 5) High Performance Thin-Layer Chromatography: Losartan and its degradates in Cozaar[®] tabl. [15]; Losartan and Hydrochlorothiazide in combined dosage forms (chloroform : methanol : acetone : formic acid = 7.5 : 1.5 : 0.5 : 0.03 v/v; $\lambda = 254$ nm; [16]; Atenolol and Losartan Potassium: ethylacetate : methanol : 1,4 dioxane : ammonia = 10 : 2 : 1 : 2 v/v, $\lambda = 225$ nm [17].

For quantity analysis of Losartan Potassium in tablets are described the following spectrophotometric methods: I) first derivative UV spectrophotometry [18, 19] at $\lambda = 232.5$ nm in Cozaar[®] tabl. [20]; Losartan ($\lambda = 271.6$ nm) / Hydrochlorothiazide ($\lambda = 335$ nm) [16]; Losartan ($\lambda = 254$ nm) / Hydrochlorothiazide ($\lambda = 271$ nm) / Amlodipine ($\lambda = 236.5$ nm) in Trilopace[®] tabl. [21]; II) first derivative of the ratio UV-spectrum: Losartan / Hydrochlorothiazide in Hyzaar[®] filmtabl. [12]; III) second derivative UV spectrophotometry at $\lambda = 219.6$ nm and $\lambda = 228.8$ nm – in Cozaar[®] tabl. [22]; III) simultaneous UV-equation method: at $\lambda = 208$ nm (Losartan/Amlodipine); $\lambda = 237.5$ nm (Amlodipine) [23]; IV) AUC-method: Losartan (266 nm – 276 nm) / Hydrochlorothiazide (249 nm – 259 nm) / Amlodipine (231.5 nm – 241.5 nm) in Trilopace[®] tabl. [21]; V) chemometric UV algorithms: partial least squares, multiple linear regression by measurement of the absorbance in the range of 230.5 nm – 350.4 nm of zero order spectra of Losartan, Hydrochlorothiazide and Amlodipine [24].

The disadvantage of derivative spectrophotometry especially of the zero-crossing technique, is that little differences in the wavelength setting are the reason for method non-reproducibility. The advantage of the classical UV-spectrophotometry in comparison with UV-derivative method, is the low susceptibility towards changes in the apparatus parameters [25].

The aim of current study was the application of the validated UV-spectrophotometric method for determination of Losartan Potassium by conventional UV-spectrophotometric method at $\lambda = 208$ nm in Lorista[®] tabl. and Lozap[®] tabl. by application of method of external standard.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:**I. Drug products.**

Lorista[®] film. tabl. 50 mg KRKA (Slovenija) N:67714

Losap[®] film. tabl. 50 mg Zentiva (Slovakia) N:22204008.

II. Reference standard:

Losartan Potassium (98 %) (Sigma Aldrich, N:61188).

III. Reagents with analytical grade of purity:

Distilled water.

METHOD:

UV-spectrophotometry was applied.

I. Equipment

UV-VIS diode array spectrophotometer (Hullett Packard N: 8452 A) was used.

II. Preparation of reference solutions of Losartan Potassium for validation of UV-spectrophotometric method for determination of analytical parameters limit of detection (LOD) and limit of quantitation (LOQ).

An accurately weighed quantity, equivalent respectively to 10 mg, 7 mg, 4 mg and 3.5 mg of reference standard Losartan Potassium were measured on analytical balance with an accuracy of 4 characters and were dissolved to 100.0 ml with distilled water in volumetric flask. From every solution an aliquot part of 1.0 ml was separately diluted with the same solvent to 100.0 ml. From the last solutions, an aliquot part of 1.0 ml was separately diluted with distilled water to 10.0 ml, to obtaining solutions with Losartan Potassium concentrations respectively: 1.10^{-7} g/ml; 7.10^{-8} g/ml; 4.10^{-8} g/ml; $3.5.10^{-8}$ g/ml, which were analysed at $\lambda = 208$ nm.

III. Preparation of sample solutions of Lorista[®] tabl. 50 mg and Lozap[®] 50 mg tabl.

From the homogenized tablets, respectively of Lorista[®] tabl. 50 mg and Lozap[®] tabl. 50 mg (with an average weight) on an analytical balance with an accuracy of 4 characters accurately were weighed 6 samples, containing an amount, equivalent to 50 mg Losartan Potassium and were dissolved to 100.0 ml with distilled water in volumetric flasks. An aliquot parts of 1.0 ml were diluted separately with the same solvent to 100.0 ml. From the obtained solutions, aliquots of 1.0 ml were diluted separately with distilled water to 10.0 ml.

IV. Preparation of reference solution of Losartan Potassium for quantity analysis of Lorista[®] tabl. 50 mg and Lozap[®] 50 mg tabl. by method of external standard.

An accurately weighed quantity, equivalent to 50 mg of reference standard Losartan Potassium was measured on analytical balance with an accuracy of 4 characters and was dissolved to 100.0 ml with distilled water in volumetric flask. From this solution an aliquot part of 1.0 ml was diluted with the same solvent to 100.0 ml. From the last solution, an aliquot part of 1.0 ml was diluted with distilled water to 10.0 ml, to obtaining solution with Losartan Potassium with concentration: 5.10^{-7} g/ml.

V. UV-spectrophotometric procedure.

The final sample solutions of Lorista[®] tabl. 50 mg and Lozap[®] 50 mg tabl. and standard solutions of

Losartan Potassium were analysed spectrophotometrically at $\lambda = 208$ nm by using as a compensatory solution distilled water.

VI. Root limit mean square error method (RMSE) for the determination of limit of detection (LOD) and limit of quantitation (LOQ).

Calibration curves were constructed by analysis of solutions with absorbance $A < 0.2$. The data were subjected to linear regression analysis and the linear correlation coefficient (R^2) was obtained. From the regression equation: $y = a.x + b$ were calculated the predictable absorbance value (A_p); the error $E =$

$$|A_p - A|; E_2 = [|A_p - A|]^2, E_1 = \frac{\sum E^2}{n-2}; RMSE = \sqrt{E_1}; LOD = 3.RMSE/a; LOQ = 10.RMSE/a [26].$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

In our previous investigation [27] the UV-spectrophotometric method for determination of Losartan Potassium at $\lambda = 208$ nm in distilled water, was validated for analytical parameters selectivity, linearity, accuracy and precision in accordance with the basic validation concepts [28] and the International Conference on Harmonization Guidelines [29].

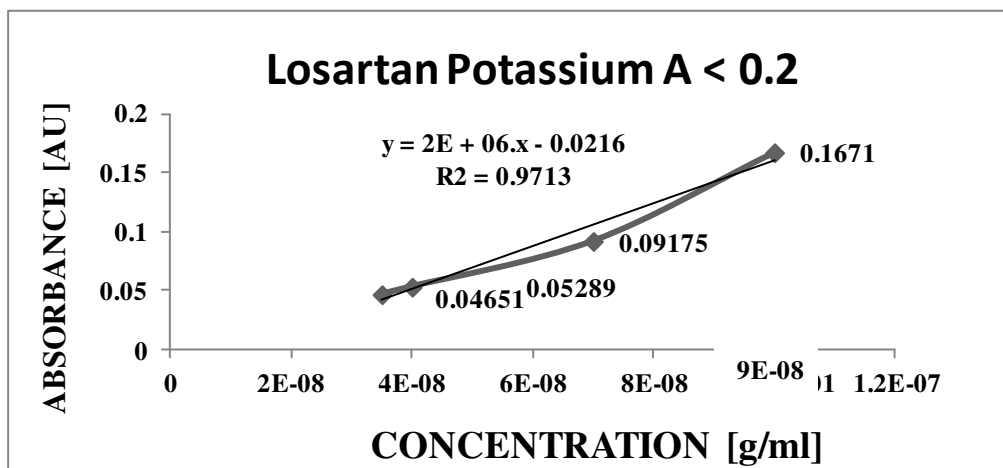
In our previous investigation [26] from regression equation: $y = 1275.x - 0.008$ ($A > 2$), was obtained the proportional accordance between absorbance A and concentration C : $A = f(C)$ in linear concentration range: $6.75.10^{-4}$ g/ μ l \div 3.10^{-4} g/ μ l, where the Buge – Lambert – Beere Law was valid. Coefficient of regression was calculated: $R^2 = 0.991$. Analytical parameter accuracy was presented by the degree recovery R [%] \pm RSD [%]: RC_{L40} : 99.52 % \pm 1.71 %; RC_{L50} : 99.64 % \pm 1.54 %; $RC_{L62.5}$: 102.56 % \pm 3.05 %. For all model mixtures mean quadratic error and relative error were lower than 2.0. For the estimation of an analytical parameter precision (repeatability) was used the uncertainty of the result, which is determined by: standard deviation SD, related standard deviation RSD and confidence

interval ($\bar{X} \pm t.S \bar{X}$). At confidence possibility $P = 95$ % ($t = 4.3$) all data for the obtained quantity (mg) of Losartan Potassium corresponded to the relevant confidence interval: Losartan Potassium: C_{L40} : 39.25 \div 40.63 (SD = 0.28; RSD = 0.7); C_{L50} : 49.09 \div 50.73 (SD = 0.33; RSD = 0.66); $C_{L62.5}$: 59.28 \div 68.22 (SD = 1.8; RSD = 2.82) [27]. In current study from reference substanses Losartan Potassium series of

solutions with decreasing concentrations were prepared. For $A < 0.2$ for every concentration the values of the absorbance (A) at the respective wavelength were obtained and spectra for Losartan Potassium for $A < 0.2$ are illustrated on Figure 2. In current study from reference substance Losartan Potassium series of solutions with decreasing

concentrations were prepared. For $A < 0.2$ for every concentration the values of the absorbance (A) at the respective wavelength were obtained and spectra for Losartan Potassium for $A < 0.2$ are illustrated on Figure 2.

Figure 2. Spectra of reference solutions of Losartan Potassium.



Linearity is the range within the signal from the detector remains in linear dependency from the concentration of analyte [29]. The absorbances data at $A < 0.2$ were subjected to linear regression analysis and the linear correlation coefficient (R^2) was obtained. Parameters of regression equation are presented on Table 1., where: λ max [nm] – absorbance maximum.

Table 1: Characteristics of the UV-method by parameters of regression equations.

| N: | Parameter | $A < 0.2$ |
|----|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | λ max [nm] | 208 |
| 2. | Concentration range [g/ml] | $3.5 \cdot 10^{-8} \div 1.10^{-7}$ |
| 3. | Regression equation | $2.10^6 \cdot x - 0.0216$ |
| 4. | Slope (a) | $2.10^6 \cdot x$ |
| 5. | Intersept (b) | - 0.0216 |
| 6. | Correlation coefficient (R^2) | 0.9713 |

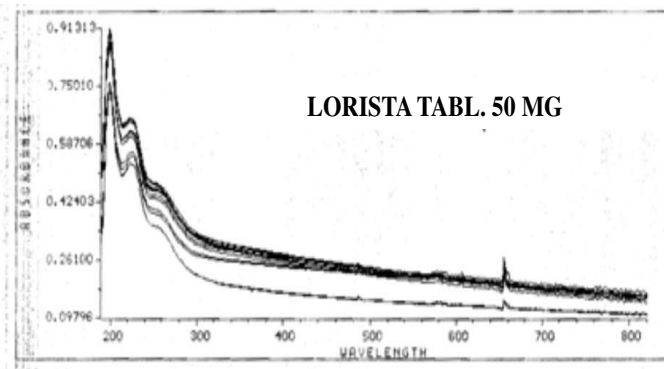
Limit of detection and limit of quantitation were determined from the regression equation $2.10^6 \cdot x - 0.0216$ by application of root mean square error method (Table. 2.). $LOD = 3.1 \cdot 10^{-8}$ g/ml; $LOQ = 1.04 \cdot 10^{-7}$ g/ml.

Table. 2: RMSE-method for LOD and LOQ for Losartan Potassium at $A < 0.2$.

| C [g/ml] | A | A_p | $ A - A_p $ | $E^2 = [(A_p - A)]^2$ | $E1 = \frac{\sum E^2}{n - 2}$ | RMSE = $\sqrt{E1}$ |
|---------------------|---------|--------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1.10^{-7} | 0.16710 | 0.1784 | 0.0113 | $1.28 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $4.36 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $2.09 \cdot 10^{-2}$ |
| 7.10^{-8} | 0.09175 | 0.1184 | 0.02665 | $7.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | | |
| 4.10^{-8} | 0.05289 | 0.0584 | 0.00551 | $3.04 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | | |
| $3.5 \cdot 10^{-8}$ | 0.04651 | 0.0484 | 0.00189 | $3.57 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | | |

In current study the validated UV-spectrophotometric method for determination of Losartan Potassium at $\lambda = 208$ nm was applied for its quantity analysis in tablets. Spectra of Losartan Potassium are illustrated on Figure. 3.(Lorista[®] tabl.) and Figure. 4. (Lozap[®] tabl.).

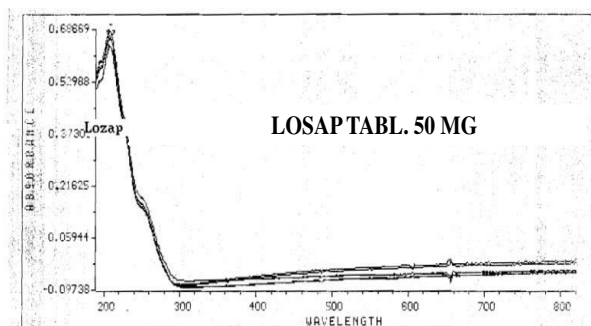
Figure 3. Spectra of Losartan Potassium in Lorista[®] tabl.



Marked Wavelengths

- Reg A : L 208 = 0.66147
- Reg B : L 208 = 0.66020
- Reg C : L 208 = 0.66141
- Reg D : L 208 = 0.65919
- Reg E : L 208 = 0.65724
- Reg F : L 208 = 0.65578

Figure 4. Spectra of Losartan Potassium in Lozap[®] tabl.



Marked Wavelengths

- Reg G : L 208 = 0.68063
- Reg F : L 208 = 0.67793
- Reg B : L 208 = 0.63573
- Reg A : L 208 = 0.63441
- Reg L : L 208 = 0.66003
- Reg K : L 208 = 0.66069
- Reg J : L 208 = 0.65852

On Table 3. are presented results for: weighted quantities of Lorista[®] tabl. (average weight = 0.2009 g) and Lozap[®] tabl. (Average weight = 0.2094 g); absorbances of sample solutions at $\lambda = 208 \text{ nm}$ (A_{Lorista} , A_{Lozap}), ($A_{\text{standard}} = 0.66003$) and Chauvenet's criteria for absorbances ($U A_{\text{Lorista}}$, $U A_{\text{Lozap}}$).

Table 3: Absorbances of sample solutions at $\lambda = 208 \text{ nm}$ of Lorista[®] tabl. and Lozap[®] tabl.

| N : | Weighted Lorista [®] | A_{Lorista} | $U A_{\text{Lorista}}$ | Weighted Lozap [®] | A_{Lozap} | $U A_{\text{Lozap}}$ |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | 0.2018 | 0.66147 | 1.13 | 0.2095 | 0.68063 | 1.13 |
| 2. | 0.2004 | 0.66020 | 0.49 | 0.2080 | 0.67793 | 1.00 |
| 3. | 0.2015 | 0.66141 | 1.10 | 0.2015 | 0.63573 | 1.11 |
| 4. | 0.2002 | 0.65919 | 0.02 | 0.2027 | 0.63441 | 1.18 |
| 5. | 0.1980 | 0.65724 | 0.99 | 0.2050 | 0.66069 | 0.14 |
| 6. | 0.1962 | 0.65578 | 1.72 | 0.2070 | 0.65852 | 0.03 |
| $\bar{\bar{X}}$ | | 0.65922 | | | 0.65799 | |
| SD | | 0.002 | | | 0.02 | |
| RSD [%] | | 0.03 | | | 3.04 | |

On Table 4. are summarized results for: obtained by method of external standard content of Losartan Potassium in Lorista[®] tabl. (C_{Lorista}) and Lozap[®] tabl. (C_{Lozap}); degree of recovery [%] ($R C_{\text{Lorista}}$; $R C_{\text{Lozap}}$); Chauvenet's criteria for obtained content of Losartan Potassium ($U C_{\text{Lorista}}$; $U C_{\text{Lozap}}$); N – number of individual measurements ($1 \div 3$); $\bar{\bar{X}}$ – mean arithmetic error; $S \bar{\bar{X}}$ – mean square error; E [%] – relative error; P – confidence possibility: 95 %, t – coefficient of Student: 2.57.

Data for Chauvenet's criteria for absorbances and for obtained by method of external standard content of Losartan Potassium are lower than maximum permissible value ($U = 1.73$; $N = 6$), which is applied

for the assessment of the need for the removal of sharply different results.

Accuracy is represented by the degree of recovery R [%] \pm RSD [%] as per ICH guidelines. The analytical parameter repeatability for Lorista[®] tabl., Lozap[®] and tabl. is characterized by the uncertainty of the result, which includes standard deviation (SD), relative standard deviation (RSD) and confidential interval ($\bar{\bar{X}} \pm t.S \bar{\bar{X}}$) [28].

All of the experimental data correspond to the respective confidence intervals at the corresponding confidence probability. Relative error is lower than 0.7 %.

Table 4. Content of Losartan Potassium in Lorista® tabl. and Lozap® tabl., degree of recovery and Chauvenet's criteria.

| N: | C _{Lorista} [mg] | R C _{Lorista} [%] | U C _{Lorista} | C _{Lozap} [mg] | R C _{Lozap} [%] | U C _{Lozap} |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | 49.89 | 99.78 | 0.95 | 51.54 | 103.08 | 0.95 |
| 2. | 50.14 | 100.28 | 0.29 | 51.70 | 103.4 | 1.14 |
| 3. | 49.96 | 99.92 | 0.76 | 50.05 | 100.1 | 0.84 |
| 4. | 50.11 | 100.22 | 0.37 | 49.65 | 99.30 | 1.33 |
| 5. | 50.52 | 101.04 | 0.71 | 51.12 | 102.24 | 0.45 |
| 6. | 50.87 | 101.74 | 1.63 | 50.46 | 100.92 | 0.35 |
| $\bar{X} \pm SD$ | 50.25 ±0.38 | | | 50.75±0.83 | | |
| $\bar{R} [\%] \pm RSD [\%]$ | | 100.5 ± 0.75 | | | 101.51 ±1.64 | |
| SD | 0.38 | 0.75 | | 0.83 | 1.66 | |
| RSD [%] | 0.76 | 0.75 | | 1.64 | 1.64 | |
| $S \bar{X}$ | 0.16 | 0.31 | | 0.34 | 0.68 | |
| P [%] | 99.0 | 99.0 | | 98.0 | 98.0 | |
| t | 4.03 | 4.03 | | 3.37 | 3.37 | |
| $t.S \bar{X}$ | 0.64 | 1.25 | | 1.15 | 2.29 | |
| $\bar{X} - t.S \bar{X}$ | 49.61÷50.89 | 99.25÷101.75 | | 49.6 ÷ 51.9 | 99.22 ÷103.8 | |
| $\bar{X} + t.S \bar{X}$ | | | | | | |
| E [%] | 0.32 | 0.31 | | 0.67 | 0.67 | |

CONCLUSION:

Limit of detection and limit of quantitation were determined from the regression equation $2.10^6 \cdot x - 0.0216$ by application of root mean square error method (Table. 2.). $LOD = 3.1 \cdot 10^{-8}$ g/ml; $LOQ = 1.04 \cdot 10^{-7}$ g/ml.

Validated UV-spectrophotometric methods for determination of Losartan Potassium in pharmaceutical dosage preparations (tablets) by the external standard method at $\lambda_{max} = 208$ nm was applied. All of the experimental data correspond to the respective confidence intervals at the corresponding confidence probability: Lorista® tabl.: $49.61 \div 50.89$ (SD = 0.38; RSD = 0.76); Lozap® tabl.: $49.6 \div 51.9$ (SD = 0.83 ; RSD = 1.15). The validated method can be applied for the determination of Valsartan in dosage drug preparations.

List of symbols and abbreviations

- A – Absorbance
- C – concentration
- C_{L40} – 40 mg Losartan Potassium
- C_{L50} – 50 mg Losartan Potassium
- C_{L62.5} – 62.5 mg Losartan Potassium
- E [%] – relative error
- λ – Analytical wavelength
- N – number of individual measurements
- P – confidence possibility
- R – degree of recovery
- RP-HPLC– Reversed Phase High Performance Liquid Chromatography
- RSD – related standard deviation
- SD – standard deviation
- $S \bar{X}$ – Mean square error;
- t – Coefficient of Student
- \bar{X} – mean arithmetic error
- $\bar{X} \pm t.S \bar{X}$ – confidence interval
- UV – ultraviolet

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