



Dissolution Method development and validation for simultaneous determination of Nebivolol and Valsartan in tablet dosage form

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ABSTRACT:

A selective, simple, and precise RP-HPLC dissolution method for estimating the concentration of Nebivolol and Valsartan in combination dosage form. This experimental analysis was performed on a reverse phase high performance liquid chromatography, (RP-HPLC) C18 column (250 mm x 4.6 mm, 5 μ m) by using Mobile phase Acetonitrile and Potassium dihydrogen Phosphate with buffer pH-3.0 in the ratio of (50:50) at a flow rate of 1.0 ml/min and detected at wavelength 282 nm. In line with ICH guidelines, the linearity of the analytical method was discovered to be in the range of 25-75 μ g/ml range for Nebivolol. The linearity of the method for Valsartan was 400-1200 μ g/ml. Nebivolol and Valsartan had correlation coefficients greater than 0.990. The relative standard deviation value for system precision and method was less than 2.0%. All statistical data proves validity of the method and can be used for routine analysis of pharmaceutical dosage form.

KEYWORDS: Stability-indicating RP-HPLC, Nebivolol and Valsartan, ICH guidelines, Dissolution and Validation.

INTRODUCTION:

In recent years, the pharmaceutical industry and regulatory agencies have placed a greater focus on dissolution testing.¹ The dissolution test is a commonly used method by the pharmaceutical industry to determine the effectiveness of formulations and the quality of products. The test is a required practice by many regulatory authorities for solid orally administered dosage forms, transdermal patches, stents, and oral suspensions.² Dissolution testing of immediate-release solid oral dosage forms, such as tablets, used to evaluate the batch wise quality of drug products which ensure consistent product quality and performance.³ In the treatment of newly diagnosed hypertension, Valsartan, angiotensin II type I receptor antagonist, is used. Valsartan is a potent, highly selective and orally active antihypertensive drug. Nebivolol is a beta blocker with a distinctive function which differs it from other beta blockers. The advantages expected from this combination are synergistic effects such as inhibition of different physiologic pathways, blockage of the Renin-Angiotensin Aldosterone system at different points, cardio protection, and trans-inhibition of the reciprocal receptor. This drug combination is used as an antihypertensive agent.^{4,5}

High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) method provides a wide dynamic linear range, selectivity via separation and superior sensitivity that has been used to solve a variety of analytical problems encountered during dissolution test of complex drug delivery systems. For the solid dosage form the characteristics of dissolution under physiological condition influence the in vitro dissolution. Solubility and permeability of drug products and release products are the major factors which affect the dissolution of development and quality control of synthetic drugs. The value of dissolution test enhances significantly when performance of drug substance is evaluated as a function of time. Dissolution test useful in QC and production batch to ensure similarities, so the dissolution test remains similar and is crucial for clinical trial batches; further dissolution profiling is used to support bioavailability and bio equivalence of a new pharmaceutical product.⁶⁻⁸

The literature survey reveals that both drugs Nebivolol and Valsartan have been analyzed individually and in combination by many analytical methods like HPLC, HPTLC and spectroscopic method, but no method have been reported for the estimation of Nebivolol and Valsartan for dissolution in combined pharmaceutical dosage form. This paper presents a simple, accurate and reproducible dissolution method for estimation of Nebivolol and Valsartan and its combined dosage form by using RP-HPLC method and validation of the developed methods was performed according to ICH guidelines.⁹⁻¹⁶

EXPERIMENTAL:

Materials:

The Reference standard of NEB and its related impurity A and B, as well as Valsartan, were obtained as gift samples from Shanku Pharma. Methanol, Water, HPLC grade of Acetonitrile, and analytical reagent grade of Orthophosphoric acid from Merck company Mumbai, were used for the study. And the commercially available tablet formulation of Nebivolol and Valsartan, Nebicard-V (Torrent Pharma Ltd.) with label claim Nebivolol 50 mg and Valsartan 80 mg was procured from the market for use.

Instrumentation:

Lab India private limited dissolution apparatus, Shimadzu LC20ATHPLC chromatographic system, Syntonic 119 UV visible spectrophotometer, Shimadzu digital weighing balance (ATX224), Frontline

Ultrasonic Cleaner ultra-Sonicator, Analab Scientific Pvt. Ltd pH meter used for the method development.

Methods:

Selection and detection of wavelength¹⁷

UV detection which determined by proper selection of detection wavelength which is used for interpretation of sensitivity of HPLC method. It is an ideal wavelength gives good response for the both drugs i.e. Nebivolol and Valsartan.

Preparation of Mobile Phase:

The Potassium Dihydrogen Phosphate was prepared with 0.05M concentration by dissolving accurately weigh of 6.8g of Potassium Dihydrogen Phosphate in 1000 ml HPLC grade water in a 1L volumetric flask and pH was adjusted to pH 3.0 with o-Phosphoric acid (OPA). The prepared buffer pH was checked by using a pH meter by ultra sonicating. For 5 minutes, the solution was degassed, and the obtained solution was filtered through a 0.45µ Millipore filter. And the mobile phase is prepared with the ratio of buffer (pH 3.0): Acetonitrile (50:50 v/v).

Preparation of dissolution medium: Phosphate buffer pH 6.8:

Accurately weigh 6.8g of Potassium Dihydrogen phosphate and 0.94g of NaOH and diluted with 1000ml of water in 1L volumetric flask. The pH of phosphate buffer checked using calibrated pH meter and phosphate buffer shows pH 6.8.

Phosphate buffer pH 7.5:

Accurately weigh 6.8g of Potassium Dihydrogen phosphate and 1.56g of NaOH and diluted with 900ml of water in 1L volumetric flask. The pH of phosphate buffer 7.5 adjusted using NaOH solution and diluted with water to produce 1000ml.

0.1N HCl:

Accurately taken 8.5mL of concentrated HCl and diluted with water to make 1000mL in 1L volumetric flask.

Standard Solutions Preparation:

Preparation of Standard Stock Solution of NEB (500µg/mL):

Accurately taken 50mg of NEB bulk drug into a 100ml volumetric flask and dissolved with dissolution medium Phosphate buffer pH 6.8 up to the mark to get 500µg/ml of NEB Standard Stock Solution and then 5.0ml of this solution was transferred into a 50ml volumetric flask and finally volume was made up with dissolution medium phosphate buffer pH 6.8 to get 50µg/ml of NEB working standard solution.

Preparation of Standard Stock Solution of VAL (8000µg/mL):

Accurately taken 800mg of VAL bulk drug into a 100ml volumetric flask and it dissolved in dissolution medium Phosphate buffer with pH 6.8 up to mark to obtain 8000µg/ml of standard stock solution of VAL and then 5.0ml of this solution was transferred into a 50ml graduated flask and the final volume was made up with dissolution medium phosphate buffer pH 6.8 up to the mark to get 800µg/ml of VAL working Standard Solution.

Preparation of Test Solution:

An intact tablet of Nebicard-V dissolved in dissolution media and set dissolution condition. Withdraw 10mL of sample by syringe at an interval of 10, 20, 30, 45 and 60 minutes and filter the

solution with 0.45 μ filter and the final filtrate collected as test solution. This test solution injected into the HPLC system to get the peak.

Chromatographic Separation:

Both the standard solutions of Nebivolol and Valsartan were injected 20 μ l in column with micro-syringe. And for appropriate minutes the chromatogram was run with mobile phase. And at 282nm the detection was performed. The chromatogram was stopped after achieved completely separation and recorded the data related to peak like retention time, area, resolution, height, etc. by using software.

Development and Optimization of Dissolution test method:

Determination of solubility in different Dissolution Medium:

At room temperature the solubility for NEB in different dissolution medium which determined by taking NEB and taken required quantity of solvent and it shake well for few minutes and for similarly solubility of VAL in different dissolution medium which determined by taking VAL and taken necessary quantity of solvent at room temperature and it shaken well for few minutes.

Optimization of dissolution medium at different conditions:

USP Dissolution Apparatus:

USP Dissolution Apparatus 2 (Paddle) was selected to calculate % release of Nebivolol and Valsartan drug in tablet dosage form. The result of % dissolution Nebivolol and Valsartan drug in tablet dosage form was observed and recorded.

Dissolution Medium of USP Dissolution Apparatus: The Phosphate Buffer (pH 6.8) was selected as dissolution medium due to high solubility of Nebivolol and Valsartan drug in Phosphate Buffer (pH 6.8). A media volume of 900ml was kept constant and % release of Nebivolol and Valsartan drug in tablet dosage form was calculated using Phosphate Buffer (pH 6.8).

Speed of USP Dissolution Apparatus:

The USP Dissolution Apparatus 2 (Paddle) was rotated at 50, 75 and 100 RPM to calculate % release of Nebivolol and Valsartan drug in tablet dosage form. It can be concluded that the % release of Nebivolol and Valsartan drug using USP Dissolution Apparatus 2 (Paddle) at 100 RPM was found to be optimum as compared to other Revolution per Minute conditions. Therefore 100 RPM was selected as one of the optimized dissolution apparatus speed.

Temperature of USP Dissolution Apparatus:

The USP Dissolution Apparatus 2 (Paddle) was maintained at temperature 37 \pm 0.5 $^{\circ}$ C to calculate % release of Nebivolol and Valsartan drug in tablet dosage form.

Optimization of dissolution test:

The dissolution studies were performed by using a USP dissolution apparatus 2 by subjecting tablets in dissolution medium which containing 900mL of dissolution media of phosphate buffer with pH 6.8 using paddle dissolution test apparatus with its stirring speed of 100rpm at temperature of 37 \pm 0.5 $^{\circ}$ C. and aliquots of 10ml were withdrawn manually at intervals of 10, 20, 30, 45 and 60 minutes and its same volume of fresh medium was replaced at 37 \pm 0.5 $^{\circ}$ C to maintain the constant volume. And finally sample was filtered through filter paper and which was analyzed by RP-HPLC method.

Method Validation¹⁸⁻¹⁹

The developed RP-HPLC method was validated for Nebivolol and Valsartan according to ICH guidelines. The parameters

validated are Specificity, System suitability, Precision, range, Linearity, Robustness, Limit of quantitation (LOQ), Limit of detection (LOD).

System suitability:

It is used to authenticate the reproducibility and resolution of the system for the analysis being performed. The System Suitability was calculated from different parameters like the Theoretical plates for the analyte peak and tailing factor for analyte peak.

Linearity and Range:

The linearity of a method is measured to see how well a calibration plot of response vs. Concentration approximates a straight line. The linearity of Nebivolol and Valsartan were evaluated by analysis of combined standard solution in range of 25-75 µg/ml of NEB and 400-1200 µg/ml of VAL respectively. Suitable aliquots of the standard stock solutions of NEB transferred into series of 10ml volumetric flasks respectively to get concentration levels of 25.0 µg/ml, 37.5 µg/ml, 50.0 µg/ml, 62.5 µg/ml and 75.0 µg/ml. Similarly concentration levels of 400 µg/ml, 600 µg/ml, 800 µg/ml, 1000 µg/ml and 1200 µg/ml from standard stock solution of VAL prepared. The obtained graph of peak area versus respective concentration was plotted.

Precision:

System precision was performed by injecting five replicates of a standard solution of NEB (50.0 µg/ml) as well as standard solution of VAL (800.0 µg/ml) and chromatograms were recorded and areas of peaks were measured to calculate results of repeatability. Method precision was performed by injecting sample solution of Nebivolol and Valsartan six times and areas of peaks measured % dissolution and % RSD was calculated.

LOQ and LOD:

Limit of quantitation and Limit of Detection was estimated from the 3 set of calibration curves which was used to determine method linearity. The LOQ and LOD were calculated with below formula.

$$\text{LOQ} = 10 * \text{SD} / \text{slope of calibration curve} \quad \text{LOD} = 3.3 * \text{SD} / \text{slope of calibration curve}$$

Robustness:

The robustness study was carried out to evaluate the effect of small but considered variations in the chromatographic conditions, which have been described in the Chromatographic conditions section. The factors chosen for this study, which were critical sources of variability in the operating procedures such as pH of mobile phase changed (± 0.2) and Temperature was changed ($\pm 2.0^\circ\text{C}$) were identified. In all these experiments, the mobile-phase components were not changed and their effect observed on system suitability for standard preparation.

Analysis of Market formulation:

An intact tablet dissolved in dissolution media and set dissolution condition. After interval of 10 minutes, 20 minutes, 30 minutes, 45 minutes and 60 minutes 10 mL sample withdrawn from the cylinder by syringe and sample filtered with 0.45 micron membrane filter and the final filtrate collected as test solution. The test solution was injected concentration of 20 µL and area of resulting which measured at 82 nm.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Wavelength determination:

UV spectra of Nebivolol and Valsartan were taken in Methanol solvent and its λ_{max} was observed using Systronic 119

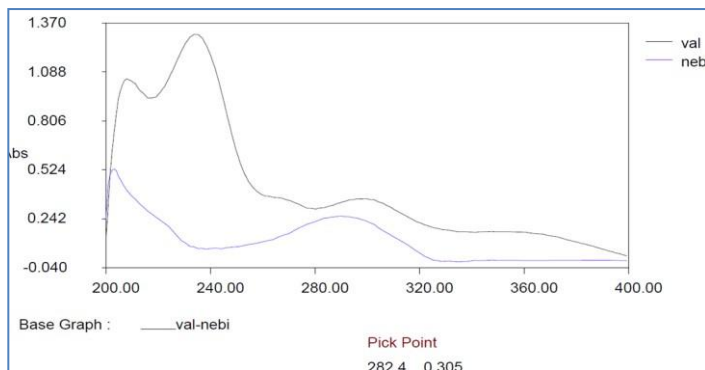


Figure No.1 Overlay UV Spectrum of Nebivolol and Valsartan showing Selection of Wavelength Detection.

At 282 nm detection wavelength, Nebivolol and Valsartan both drugs give higher absorbance. Hence λ_{max} 282 nm has been selected as a detection wavelength.

Optimised chromatographic conditions: The chromatographic trials have been taken for the effect of different mobile phase compositions on the separation of Nebivolol and Valsartan. Method development process was carried out by examining different conditions like mobile phase compositions like Water: Methanol, Water: Acetonitrile, phosphate buffer pH 3.0: Acetonitrile with different ratios were used.

The Nebivolol and Valsartan were found to show significant UV absorbance at 282 nm, so this wavelength was chosen for UV detection.

By use of a C18 column, it was found that the mobile phase consisting of Buffer (Phosphate Buffer, pH 3.0): Acetonitrile provided well defined peak shape with good resolution. The peaks with retention time (RT) 4.293 minutes and 7.003 minutes for NEB and VAL. The representative chromatograms (Figure No. 2) which show significant amount of resolution and the good peak shapes with selected mobile phase.

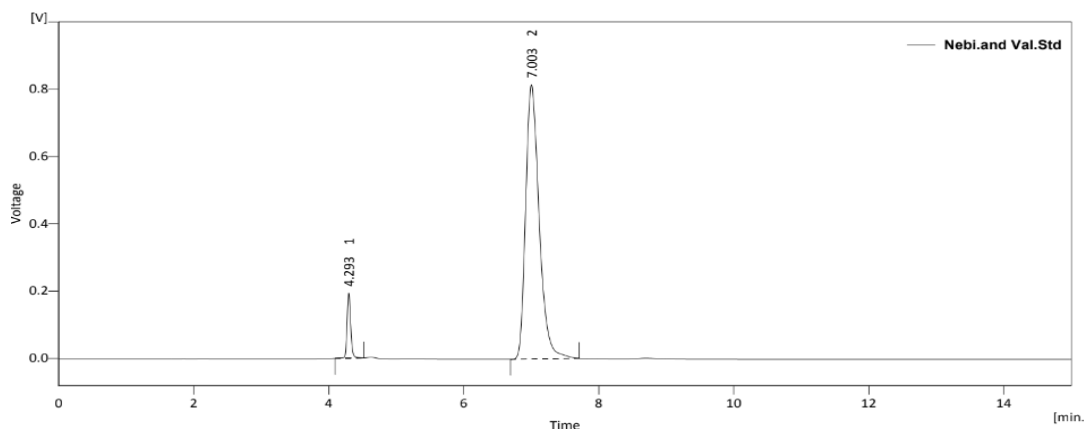


Figure No.2: Chromatogram of Nebivolol and Valsartan in Buffer (pH 3.0): Acetonitrile

The final optimized chromatographic condition for Nebivolol and Valsartan and having Stationary phase used BDS Hypersil C18 column with size of 250 mm \times 4.6 mm, 5 μ m particle size, and

utilized mobile phase was Phosphate Buffer (pH 3.0): Acetonitrile (50:50 v/v) with flow rate is 1 ml/min, at 282 nm wavelength detection for 15 min run time and its injection volume is 20 µl.

Optimised dissolution conditions:

Solubility of Nebivolol and Valsartan in different Dissolution Medium:

The data for Solubility of Nebivolol and Valsartan in different Dissolution Medium is given in below table. The solubility of Nebivolol and Valsartan in different dissolution media concludes that the Phosphate Buffer pH 6.8 was the Dissolution Medium for Nebivolol and Valsartan dissolution test and also ensured Sink Condition.

Table No.1: Solubility of Nebivolol and Valsartan in different Dissolution Medium

Dissolution Medium	Solubility (mg/ml)	Sink Condition (Solubility > 0.25 mg/ml)	Solubility (mg/ml)	Sink Condition (Solubility > 0.033 mg/ml)
	Nebivolol		Valsartan	
Water	0.025 mg/ml	No	0.00225 mg/ml	No
0.1N HCl	0.1 mg/ml	No	0.001 mg/ml	No
pH 7.5	0.025 mg/ml	No	0.0225 mg/ml	No
pH 6.8	≥ 0.25 mg/ml	Yes	≥ 0.033 mg/ml	Yes

Table No.2: % dissolution with paddle apparatus at various speed of rotation (rpm) in dissolution medium pH 6.8

Time (Minutes)	% Dissolution at pH 6.8					
	50 RPM		75 RPM		100 RPM	
	Nebivolol	Valsartan	Nebivolol	Valsartan	Nebivolol	Valsartan
10	33.525	6.449	47.073	13.190	57.385	21.922
20	46.178	15.800	61.423	28.379	71.596	36.940
30	60.351	38.184	77.830	48.835	84.814	60.110
45	71.886	44.065	85.024	62.866	93.201	81.563
60	82.163	60.408	94.094	74.102	100.225	94.013

Optimization of dissolution parameters:

Different dissolution parameters were performed for optimized dissolution parameter. Like maximum % release of drug in trials were taken by using USP Apparatus II, i.e. paddle type at different speed of rotation (rpm) 50, 75 and 100. Based on the solubility of Nebivolol and Valsartan, phosphate buffer pH 6.8 was selected as suitable dissolution media (900 mL).

It was observed that drug release in USP type-II (Paddle) apparatus shows maximum release for both drugs at 100 rpm. Hence dissolution parameters have been optimized. The optimized condition for dissolution method development includes USP dissolution apparatus II (paddle), 900 mL of phosphate buffer with pH 6.8 as dissolution medium at 100 rpm dissolution apparatus paddle speed at temperature of 37 ± 0.5 °C.

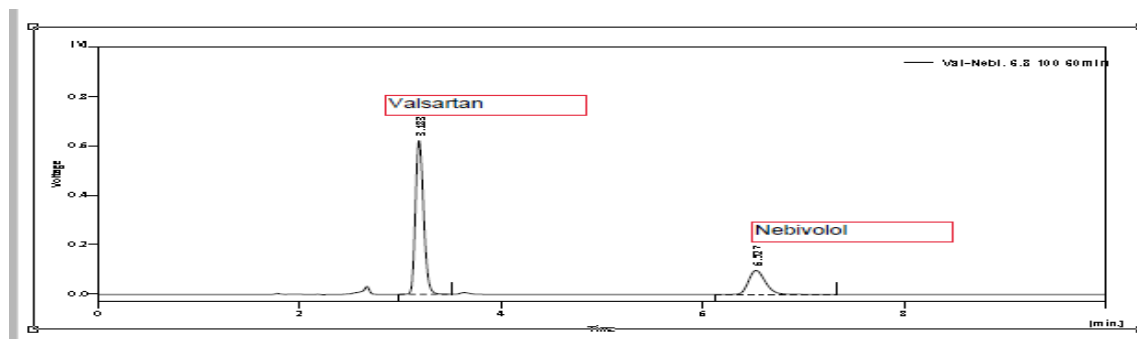


Figure No.3: Chromatogram of % dissolution of Nebivolol and Valsartan with Paddle Apparatus at 100 RPM after 60 minutes time interval

Method Validation:

The proposed method was validated with the aspect of Specificity, Precision, System suitability, Limit of quantitation (LOQ), Limit of detection (LOD), Robustness, Linearity and range.

System Suitability:

The System Suitability was calculated from different parameters like retention time, theoretical plates, resolution, tailing factor. System suitability parameters observed for NEB have a retention time of 10.153, theoretical plates per column of 7180, and tailing factor of 1.380. The system suitability parameters observed for VAL have a retention time of 4.037, theoretical plates per column 7681, and tailing factor of 1.232. The resolution observed 8.189.

Specificity:

The specificity of the chromatographic method was determined to ensure separation of Nebivolol and Valsartan. The Chromatograms of Nebivolol and Valsartan sample did not show any interference with the Chromatogram of Nebivolol and Valsartan blank solution, So that the Method was developed.

Linearity and Range:

For Nebivolol and Valsartan the linearity was evaluated by analysis of combined standard solution in range of 25-75 µg/ml and 400-1200 µg/ml respectively and its Correlation co-efficient for calibration curve of Nebivolol and Valsartan was found to be NLT 0.999 respectively.

Table No.3: Linearity Data for Nebivolol and Valsartan

Sr. No.	Linearity Level	Concentration (µg/ml)		Area	
		Nebivolol	Valsartan	Nebivolol	Valsartan
1	50%	25	400	365.551	5708.907
2	75%	37.5	600	545.961	8579.03
3	100%	50	800	726.589	11394.852
4	125%	62.5	1000	916.714	14326.282
5	150%	75	1200	1097.643	17185.87

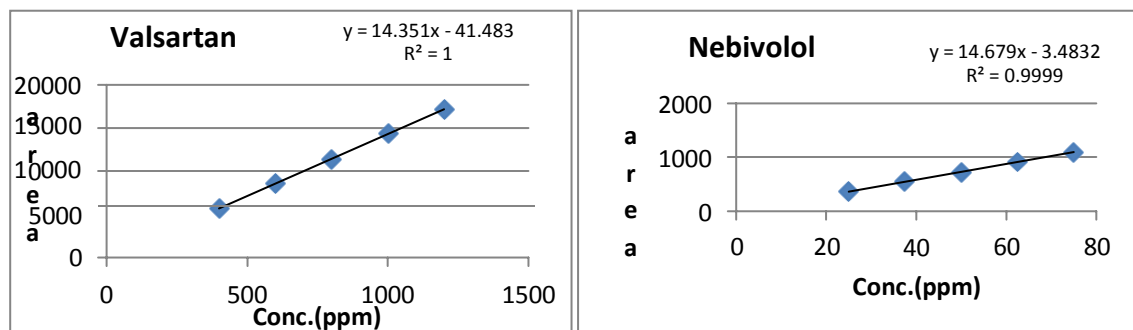


Figure No. 4 Plots of calibration curves of Nebivolol and Valsartan

Precision:

System Precision:

Performed system precision by injecting five replicates of a standard solution of NEB (50.0 µg/ml) as well as standard solution of VAL (800.0 µg/ml) and chromatograms were recorded and areas of peaks were measured to calculate results of repeatability. The data for system precision of peak area measurement for Nebivolol and Valsartan show that the % RSD values observed within acceptance limit of NMT 5%.

Method Precision:

Performed the method precision by injecting sample solution of Nebivolol and Valsartan six times and areas of peaks measured % dissolution and % RSD was calculated. The data for method precision of peak area measurement for Nebivolol and Valsartan shows that the % RSD values observed within acceptance limit of NMT 5%. Hence the method is precise.

LOQ and LOD:

The limit of quantitation and Limit of detection for both the drugs were estimated using the linearity data. For five times Calibration curve was repeated and intercept of the standard deviation (SD) was calculated. The Limit of detection for NEB observed 0.017 µg/ml and for VAL observed 3.240 µg/ml. However the limit of quantitation for NEB observed 0.051 µg/ml

and for VAL observed 9.820 µg/ml.

Robustness:

The robustness study was performed to evaluate the effect of small but deliberate variations. And chromatographic factors as mobile phase pH (± 0.2) and temperature of Mobile phase was changed (±2°C) without changing the mobile phase components and their effect observed on system suitability for standard preparation. The results show the effect of changes was found to be the % RSD and within the acceptance criteria values observed within standard limit of not more than 5%. Hence the method is robust.

Table No. 4: System precision data and Method precision data for Estimation of Nebivolol and Valsartan

System Precision Data							
Conc. (µg/ml)	Area	Mean Area ± S.D. (n=3)	%R.S.D	Conc. (µg/ml)	Area	Mean Area ± S.D. (n=3)	%R.S.D
Nebivolol				Valsartan			
50.00 µg/ml	745.257	370.149 ± 2.709	0.617 %	800.00 µg/ml	11296.759	11388.51 ± 0.79	0.79 %
	753.986				11384.782		
	752.282				11483.985		
Method Precision Data							
Area	% Dissolution	Mean Area ± S.D. (n=6)	%R.S.D	Area	% Dissolution	Mean Area ± S.D. (n=6)	%R.S.D
Nebivolol				Valsartan			
1118.012	100.6243	1121.982 ± 7.059	0.629 %	3722.393	100.3781	3701.134 ± 22.085	0.599 %
1128.964	101.6100			3696.041	99.66744		
1113.737	100.2395			3678.500	99.19443		
1124.155	101.1772			3733.428	100.6756		
1130.835	101.7784			3694.235	99.61874		
1116.188	100.4601			3682.209	99.29445		

Table No. 5: Robustness data for Nebivolol and Valsartan

Sr.No	Area at pH(+2.0)	% Dissolution at pH(+2.0)	Area at pH(-2.0)	% Dissolution at pH(-2.0)
Nebivolol				
1	742.871	97.389	710.767	101.559
2	744.254	100.950	704.921	95.913
3	745.582	97.213	709.038	102.078
%RSD	0.182	2.910	0.424	4.031
Valsartan				
1	11632.316	94.807	11109.866	100.699

2	11616.862	100.953	11121.373	98.165
3	11634.555	95.843	11118.583	98.352
%RSD	0.083	3.269	0.054s	2.351

Analysis of Market formulation and % dissolution of Nebivolol and Valsartan:

Relevancy of the proposed method was estimated by analyzing the commercially available Tablet formulation of Nebivolol and Valsartan. During the results of assay and % dissolution are calculated. The average area of NEB observed 1121.982 however % dissolution of NEB observed 100.98%. The average area of VAL observed 3701.134 however % dissolution of VAL observed 99.80%. The results indicate that the developed method is simple, precise, accurate, and rapid. It can be used in the regular quality control test of formulation in industries.

CONCLUSION:

There is no analytical work has been available regarding dissolution RP-HPLC method for Nebivolol and Valsartan in a literature. It is the new efforts in a area of research has been made to validate and develop dissolution method via RP-HPLC. Conclusively, the dissolution method via RP HPLC-method described in this paper is specific, sensitive, rapid and easy to perform. The proposed dissolution test method was successfully validated in terms of specificity, precision, linearity and robustness as per ICH guidelines. It can be concluded that the proposed method can be employed for routine dissolution analysis of Nebivolol and Valsartan in pharmaceutical tablets.

ABBREVIATIONS:

RP HPLC: Reverse Phase High Performance Liquid Chromatography; pH: Potential of Hydrogen; mm: millimetre; ml: Milliliters; M: Molar; μ m: Micrometer; nm: nanometer; LOQ: Limit of quantitation; LOD: Limit of detection; ICH: International Conference on Harmonization; NLT: Not less than; NMT: Not more than; %RSD: Relative standard deviation; min: Minutes; Rs: Resolution; SD: Standard deviation; °C: Degree Celsius; mg: Milligrams; μ g: Microgram; v/v: Volume/volume; %: Percentage; NEB: Nebivolol; VAL: Valsartan; UV: Ultraviolet; pvt: private; g: gram; ppm: parts per million; fig: figure.

CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS:

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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