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Diploma in Pharmacy 1st Year

Pharmaceutical Chemistry

Experiment

To perform the identification test and test for purity of paracetamol.

Aim:

To perform the identification test and test for purity of paracetamol.

Reference :

‘ Dr. Gupta G.D. , Dr. Sharma Shailish , Kaur Baljeet ’ “Practical Manual of Pharmaceutical Chemistry” Published by Nirali Prakashan, Page no 76 - 79

Requirements:

Test tube, paracetamol, ferric chloride, HCl, potassium dichromate, 4-amino phenol solution, and methanol.

Procedure:

Identification Tests

- 1) 0.1g of paracetamol should be dissolved in 10 ml of water. 0.05ml of ferric chloride should be added. A violet blue colour is obtained which shows the phenolic OH group is present.
- 2) 0.1g of paracetamol should be boiled with 1ml of HCl for 3 minutes, 10ml water should be added to it. 0.05 ml of 0.01N potassium dichromate should be added if precipitate does not occur. A violet colour develops gradually and does not turn red.

Test for Purity

- 1) Test for Heavy Metals: Not more than 10ppm determined by the method in I.p.
- 2) Test for 4-Amino Phenol: Not more than 0.005% when determined by the following method. 0.5g of paracetamol should be used in sufficient mixture of equal volumes of methanol and water to produce 10ml. 0.2 ml of alkaline solution should be added to this solution. It should be mixed and allowed to stand for 30 minutes. The solution should not be strongly coloured than 10ml solution made in the same way using 0.5g of 4-amino phenol free paracetamol and a 0.5% w/v 4-amino phenol solution in the same solvent mixture.

Result: The identification test and test for purity of paracetamol were performed as per I.P.

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