

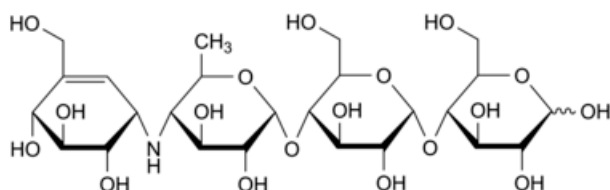


Edition: BP 2025 (Ph. Eur. 11.6 update)

Acarbose

[General Notices](#)

(Ph. Eur. monograph 2089)



$C_{25}H_{43}NO_{18}$ 646 56180-94-0

Action and use

Alpha-glucosidase inhibitor; treatment of diabetes mellitus.

Ph Eur

DEFINITION

O-4,6-Dideoxy-4-[[[(1S,4R,5S,6S)-4,5,6-trihydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)cyclohex-2-enyl]amino]-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→4)-O-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→4)-D-glucopyranose, which is produced by certain strains of *Actinoplanes utahensis*.

Content

95.0 per cent to 102.0 per cent (anhydrous substance).

CHARACTERS

Appearance

White or yellowish, hygroscopic, amorphous powder.

Solubility

Very soluble in water, soluble in methanol, practically insoluble in methylene chloride.

IDENTIFICATION

A. Infrared absorption spectrophotometry ([2.2.24](#)).

Comparison [acarbose for identification CRS](#).

B. Examine the chromatograms obtained in the assay.

Results The principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with the test solution is similar in retention time and size to the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (a).

TESTS

Solution S

Dissolve 1.00 g in [carbon dioxide-free water R](#) and dilute to 20.0 mL with the same solvent.

pH (2.2.3)

5.5 to 7.5 for solution S.

Specific optical rotation (2.2.7)

+ 168 to + 183 (anhydrous substance).

Dilute 2.0 mL of solution S to 10.0 mL with [water R](#).

Absorbance (2.2.25)

Maximum 0.15 at 425 nm for solution S.

Related substances

Liquid chromatography (2.2.29).

Test solution Dissolve 0.200 g of the substance to be examined in [water R](#) and dilute to 10.0 mL with the same solvent.

Reference solution (a) Dissolve the contents of a vial of [acarbose CRS](#) in 5.0 mL of [water R](#).

Reference solution (b) Dissolve the contents of a vial of [acarbose for peak identification CRS](#) (acarbose containing impurities A, B, C, D, E, F and G) in 1 mL of [water R](#).

Reference solution (c) Dilute 1.0 mL of the test solution to 100.0 mL with [water R](#).

Column:

- size: $l = 0.25$ m, $\varnothing = 4$ mm;
- stationary phase: [aminopropylsilyl silica gel for chromatography R](#) (5 μ m);
- temperature: 35 °C.

Mobile phase Mix 750 volumes of [acetonitrile R1](#) and 250 volumes of a solution containing 0.60 g/L of [potassium dihydrogen phosphate R](#) and 0.35 g/L of [disodium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate R](#).

Flow rate 2.0 mL/min.

Detection Spectrophotometer at 210 nm.

Injection 10 μ L of the test solution and reference solutions (b) and (c).

Run time 2.5 times the retention time of acarbose.

Identification of impurities Use the chromatogram supplied with [acarbose for peak identification CRS](#) and the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (b) to identify the peaks due to impurities A, B, C, D, E, F and G.

Relative retention With reference to acarbose (retention time = about 16 min): impurity D = about 0.5; impurity B = about 0.8; impurity A = about 0.9; impurity C = about 1.2; impurity E = about 1.7; impurity F = about 1.9; impurity G = about 2.2.

System suitability Reference solution (b):

- the chromatogram obtained is similar to the chromatogram supplied with [acarbose for peak identification CRS](#);
- [peak-to-valley ratio](#): minimum 1.2, where H_p = height above the baseline of the peak due to impurity A and H_v = height above the baseline of the lowest point of the curve separating this peak from the peak due to acarbose.

Limits:

- *correction factors*: for the calculation of content, multiply the peak areas of the following impurities by the corresponding correction factor: impurity B = 0.63; impurity D = 0.75; impurity E = 1.25; impurity F = 1.25; impurity G = 1.25;
- *impurity C*: not more than 1.5 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (1.5 per cent);
- *impurity D*: not more than the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (1.0 per cent);
- *impurity A*: not more than 0.6 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (0.6 per cent);
- *impurity B*: not more than 0.5 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (0.5 per cent);
- *impurities F, G*: for each impurity, not more than 0.3 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (0.3 per cent);
- *impurity E*: not more than 0.2 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (0.2 per cent);
- *any other impurity*: for each impurity, not more than 0.2 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (0.2 per cent);
- *total*: not more than 3 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (3.0 per cent);
- *disregard limit*: 0.1 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (0.1 per cent).

Water (2.5.12)

Maximum 4.0 per cent, determined on 0.300 g.

Sulfated ash (2.4.14)

Maximum 0.2 per cent, determined on 1.0 g.

ASSAY

Liquid chromatography (2.2.29) as described in the test for related substances with the following modification.

Injection Test solution and reference solution (a).

Calculate the percentage content of $C_{25}H_{43}NO_{18}$ taking into account the assigned content of [acarbose CRS](#).

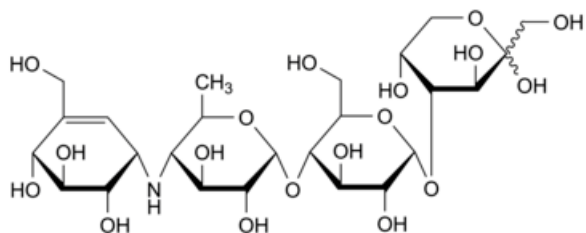
STORAGE

In an airtight container.

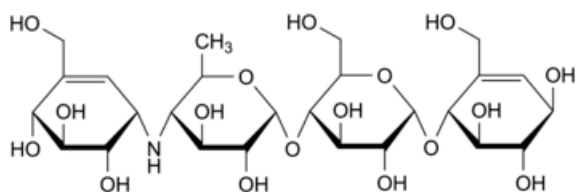
IMPURITIES

Specified impurities A, B, C, D, E, F, G.

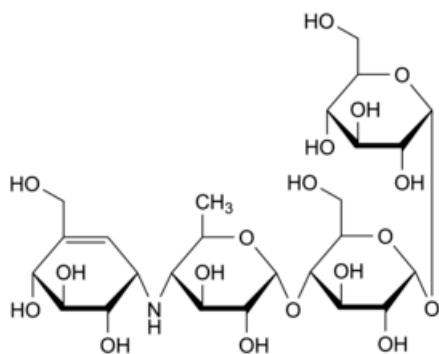
Other detectable impurities (the following substances would, if present at a sufficient level, be detected by one or other of the tests in the monograph. They are limited by the general acceptance criterion for other/unspecified impurities. It is therefore not necessary to identify these impurities for demonstration of compliance. See also [5.10. Control of impurities in substances for pharmaceutical use](#)) H.



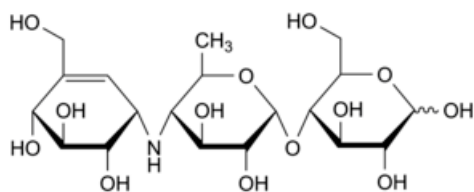
A. O-4,6-dideoxy-4-[(1S,4R,5S,6S)-4,5,6-trihydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)cyclohex-2-enyl]amino]-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→4)-O-α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1→4)-D-arabino-hex-2-ulopyranose,



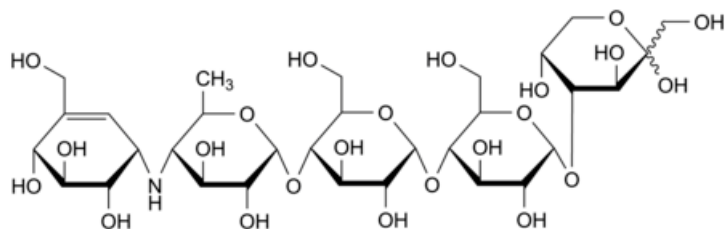
B. (1R,4R,5S,6R)-4,5,6-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)cyclohex-2-enyl 4-O-[4,6-dideoxy-4-[(1S,4R,5S,6S)-4,5,6-trihydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)cyclohex-2-enyl]amino]-α-D-glucopyranosyl]-α-D-glucopyranoside,



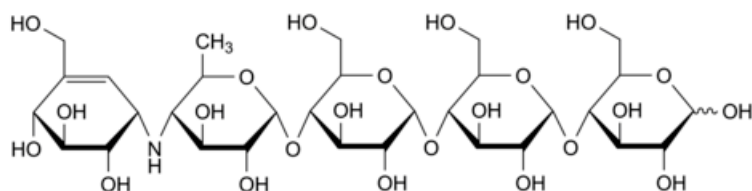
C. α-D-glucopyranosyl 4-O-[4,6-dideoxy-4-[(1S,4R,5S,6S)-4,5,6-trihydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)cyclohex-2-enyl]amino]-α-D-glucopyranosyl]-α-D-glucopyranoside,



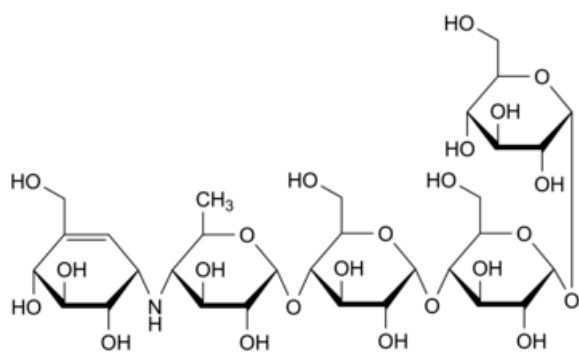
D. 4-O-[4,6-dideoxy-4-[(1S,4R,5S,6S)-4,5,6-trihydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)cyclohex-2-enyl]amino]-α-D-glucopyranosyl]-D-glucopyranose,



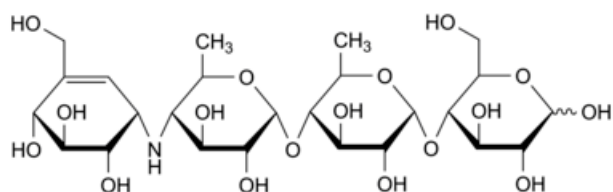
E. O-4,6-dideoxy-4-[[[(1*S*,4*R*,5*S*,6*S*)-4,5,6-trihydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)cyclohex-2-enyl]amino]- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-O- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-O- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-D-*arabino*-hex-2-ulopyranose (4-O- α -acarboxyl-D-fructopyranose),



F. O-4,6-dideoxy-4-[[[(1*S*,4*R*,5*S*,6*S*)-4,5,6-trihydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)cyclohex-2-enyl]amino]- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-O- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-O- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-D-glucopyranose (4-O- α -acarboxyl-D-glucopyranose),



G. α -D-glucopyranosyl O-4,6-dideoxy-4-[[[(1*S*,4*R*,5*S*,6*S*)-4,5,6-trihydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)cyclohex-2-enyl]amino]- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-O- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-O- α -D-glucopyranoside (α -D-glucopyranosyl α -acarboxide),



H. O-4,6-dideoxy-4-[[[(1*S*,4*R*,5*S*,6*S*)-4,5,6-trihydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)cyclohex-2-enyl]amino]- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-O-6-deoxy- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 4)-D-glucopyranose.

Ph Eur