



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

Haloperidol Capsules

[General Notices](#)

Action and use

Dopamine receptor antagonist; neuroleptic.

DEFINITION

Haloperidol Capsules contain Haloperidol.

The capsules comply with the requirements stated under Capsules and with the following requirements.

Content of haloperidol, $C_{21}H_{23}ClFNO_2$

95.0 to 105.0% of the stated amount.

IDENTIFICATION

To a quantity of the contents of the capsules containing 10 mg of Haloperidol add 10 mL of [water](#) and 1 mL of 1M [sodium hydroxide](#) and extract with 10 mL of [ether](#). Filter the ether extract through absorbent cotton, evaporate the filtrate to dryness and dry the residue at 60° at a pressure not exceeding 0.7 kPa. The [infrared absorption spectrum](#) of the residue, [Appendix II A](#), is concordant with the *reference spectrum* of haloperidol ([RS 173](#)).

TESTS

Dissolution

Comply with the [dissolution test for tablets and capsules](#), [Appendix XII B1](#).

TEST CONDITIONS

- (a) Use Apparatus 1, rotating the basket at 100 revolutions per minute.
- (b) Use 900 mL of a solution containing of 0.2% w/v of [sodium chloride](#) and 8% v/v of 1M [hydrochloric acid](#) in [water](#), at a temperature of 37°, as the medium.

PROCEDURE

- (1) After 45 minutes withdraw a sample of the medium, filter and dilute with the dissolution medium if necessary, to produce a solution expected to contain 0.00006% w/v of Haloperidol.
- (2) 0.00006% w/v of [haloperidol BPCRS](#) in dissolution medium.

CHROMATOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS

- (a) Use a stainless steel column (15 cm × 5 mm) packed with [end-capped octadecylsilyl silica gel for chromatography](#) (5 µm) (Hypersil ODS is suitable).

- (b) Use isocratic elution and the mobile phase described below.
- (c) Use a flow rate of 2 mL per minute.
- (d) Use an ambient column temperature.
- (e) Use a detection wavelength of 247 nm.
- (f) Inject 50 µL of each solution.

MOBILE PHASE

45 volumes of [acetonitrile](#) and 55 volumes of a 1% w/v solution of [ammonium acetate](#).

DETERMINATION OF CONTENT

Calculate the total content of haloperidol, C₂₁H₂₃ClFNO₂, in the medium from the chromatograms obtained and using the declared content of C₂₁H₂₃ClFNO₂ in [haloperidol BPCRS](#).

LIMITS

The amount of haloperidol released is not less than 70% (Q) of the stated amount.

Related substances

Carry out the method for [liquid chromatography, Appendix III D](#), using the following solutions in a mixture of 1 volume of mobile phase A and 9 volumes of mobile phase B (solution A). Prepare the solutions immediately before use and protect from light.

- (1) Shake a quantity of the contents of the capsules containing 10 mg of Haloperidol with 15 mL of solution A and mix with the aid of ultrasound. Dilute to 20 mL and filter.
- (2) Dilute 1 volume of solution (1) to 200 volumes.
- (3) 0.05% w/v of [haloperidol for system suitability EPCRS](#).
- (4) Dilute 1 volume of solution (2) to 5 volumes.

CHROMATOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS

- (a) Use a stainless steel column (10 cm × 4.6 mm) packed with [base-deactivated end-capped octadecylsilyl silica gel for chromatography](#) (3 µm) (Hypersil BDS is suitable).
- (b) Use gradient elution and the mobile phase described below.
- (c) Use a flow rate of 1.5 mL per minute.
- (d) Use an ambient column temperature.
- (e) Use a detection wavelength of 230 nm.
- (f) Inject 10 µL of each solution.

MOBILE PHASE

Mobile phase A 1.7% w/v of [tetrabutylammonium hydrogen sulfate](#).

Mobile phase B [acetonitrile](#).

Time (Minutes)	Mobile phase A (% v/v)	Mobile phase B (% v/v)	Comment
0-2	90	10	isocratic
2-17	90→50	10→50	linear gradient
17-22	50	50	isocratic
22-23	50→90	50→10	linear gradient
23-28	90	10	re-equilibration

When the chromatograms are recorded under the prescribed conditions, the relative retentions with reference to haloperidol (retention time about 8 minutes) are: impurity B, about 0.9 and impurity D, about 1.6.

SYSTEM SUITABILITY

The test is not valid unless, in the chromatogram obtained with solution (3), the [resolution](#) between the peaks due to impurity B and haloperidol is at least 3.0.

LIMITS

Identify any peak corresponding to impurity B in the chromatogram obtained with solution (1), using the chromatogram obtained with solution (3), and multiply the area of this peak by a correction factor of 0.7.

In the chromatogram obtained with solution (1):

the area of any peak corresponding to impurity D is not greater than the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with solution (2) (0.5%);

the area of any peak corresponding to impurity B is not greater than 0.6 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with solution (2) (0.3%);

the area of any other [secondary peak](#) is not greater than 0.4 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with solution (2) (0.2%);

the sum of the areas of all [secondary peaks](#) is not greater than twice the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with solution (2) (1.0%).

Disregard any peak with an area less than the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with solution (4) (0.1%).

[Uniformity of content](#)

Capsules containing less than 2 mg and/or less than 2% w/w of Haloperidol comply with the requirements stated under [Capsules](#) using the following method of analysis. Carry out the method for [liquid chromatography](#), [Appendix III D](#), using the following solutions.

- (1) Add sufficient of the mobile phase to the contents of one capsule to produce a solution containing 0.005% w/v of Haloperidol, disperse with the aid of ultrasound for 2 minutes, centrifuge and use the supernatant liquid.
- (2) 0.005% w/v of [haloperidol BPCRS](#) in the mobile phase.

CHROMATOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS

The chromatographic procedure described under Dissolution may be used with an injection volume of 20 µL.

DETERMINATION OF CONTENT

Calculate the content of $C_{21}H_{23}ClFNO_2$ in each capsule using the declared content of $C_{21}H_{23}ClFNO_2$ in [haloperidol BPCRS](#).

ASSAY

Use the average of the individual results determined in the test for Uniformity of content.

IMPURITIES

The impurities limited by the requirements of this monograph include those listed under [Haloperidol](#).