



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

Naproxen Tablets

[General Notices](#)

Action and use

Cyclo-oxygenase inhibitor; analgesic; anti-inflammatory.

DEFINITION

Naproxen Tablets contain Naproxen.

The tablets comply with the requirements stated under [Tablets](#) and with the following requirements.

Content of naproxen, $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$

95.0 to 105.0% of the stated amount.

IDENTIFICATION

Extract a quantity of the powdered tablets containing 0.2 g of Naproxen with 20 mL of [methanol](#), shake for 15 minutes, filter, evaporate the filtrate and dry the residue at 105°. The [infrared absorption spectrum](#) of the residue, [Appendix II A](#), is concordant with the *reference spectrum* of naproxen ([RS 244](#)).

TESTS

Dissolution

Comply with the [dissolution test for tablets and capsules](#), [Appendix XII B1](#). The solutions should be protected from light.

TEST CONDITIONS

- (a) Use Apparatus 2, rotating the paddle at 50 revolutions per minute.
- (b) Use 900 mL of a phosphate buffer, prepared in the following manner, at a temperature of 37°, as the medium. Dissolve 2.62 g of [sodium dihydrogen orthophosphate monohydrate](#) and 11.50 g of [anhydrous disodium hydrogen orthophosphate](#) in sufficient [water](#) to produce 1 L and adjust to pH 7.4, if necessary, with either 0.1M [sodium hydroxide](#) or 0.1M [hydrochloric acid](#).

PROCEDURE

- (1) After 45 minutes withdraw a sample of the medium and measure the [absorbance](#) of the filtered sample, suitably diluted with the dissolution medium if necessary, at the maximum at 332 nm, [Appendix II B](#) using dissolution medium in the reference cell.
- (2) Measure the [absorbance](#) of a suitable solution of [naproxen BPCRS](#) in dissolution medium, using dissolution medium in the reference cell.

DETERMINATION OF CONTENT

Calculate the total content of naproxen, $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$, in the medium using the declared content of $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$ in [naproxen BPCRS](#).

LIMITS

The amount of naproxen released is not less than 75% (Q) of the stated amount.

Related substances

Carry out the method for [liquid chromatography, Appendix III D](#), using the following solutions. The solutions should be freshly prepared and protected from light.

- (1) Mix with the aid of ultrasound a quantity of powdered tablets containing 30 mg of Naproxen with 40 mL of the mobile phase, dilute with sufficient mobile phase to produce 50 mL and filter.
- (2) Dilute 1 volume of solution (1) to 100 volumes with the mobile phase. Further dilute 1 volume of this solution to 10 volumes with the mobile phase.
- (3) 0.03% w/v of [naproxen impurity standard BPCRS](#) in [acetonitrile](#). Dilute 1 volume of this solution to 100 volumes with the mobile phase.

CHROMATOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS

- (a) Use a stainless steel column (10 cm × 4 mm) packed with [end-capped octadecylsilyl silica gel for chromatography](#) (3 µm) (Nucleosil 120-3 is suitable).
- (b) Use isocratic elution and the mobile phase described below.
- (c) Use a flow rate of 1.5 mL per minute.
- (d) Use a column temperature of 50°.
- (e) Use an autosampler temperature of 8°.
- (f) Use a detection wavelength of 230 nm.
- (g) Inject 20 µL of each solution.
- (h) Allow the chromatography to proceed for 10 times the retention time of naproxen.

MOBILE PHASE

42 volumes of [acetonitrile](#) and 58 volumes of 0.01M [potassium dihydrogen orthophosphate](#) previously adjusted to pH 2.0 with [orthophosphoric acid](#).

When the chromatograms are recorded under the prescribed conditions, the relative retentions with reference to naproxen (retention time about 2 minutes) are: impurity O, about 0.8; impurity K, about 0.9; impurity L, about 1.5 and impurity N, about 5.6.

SYSTEM SUITABILITY

The test is not valid unless:

in the chromatogram obtained with solution (3), the [resolution](#) between the peaks due to impurity K and naproxen is at least 2.2;

in the chromatogram obtained with solution (2), the *signal-to-noise* ratio of the peak due to naproxen is at least 50.

LIMITS

In the chromatogram obtained with solution (1), identify any peaks corresponding to impurities L, N and O using the chromatogram obtained with solution (3), and multiply the areas of these peaks by the following correction factors: L, 3.5 and O, 1.8.

In the chromatogram obtained with solution (1):

the area of any [secondary peak](#) is not greater than 1.6 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with solution (2) (0.16%);

the sum of the areas of any [secondary peaks](#) is not greater than 5 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with solution (2) (0.5%).

Disregard any peak with an area less than half the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with solution (2) (0.05%).

ASSAY

Weigh and powder 20 tablets. Carry out the method for [liquid chromatography](#), [Appendix III D](#), using the following solutions. The solutions should be protected from light.

- (1) Mix with the aid of ultrasound a quantity of the powdered tablets containing 0.1 g of Naproxen with 80 mL of the mobile phase, dilute with sufficient mobile phase to produce 100 mL and filter. Dilute 1 volume of the filtrate to 100 volumes with the mobile phase.
- (2) 0.001% w/v of [naproxen BPCRS](#) in the mobile phase.
- (3) 0.03% w/v of [naproxen impurity standard BPCRS](#) in [acetonitrile](#). Dilute 1 volume of this solution to 100 volumes with the mobile phase.

CHROMATOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS

The chromatographic conditions described under Related substances may be used.

SYSTEM SUITABILITY

The test is not valid unless, in the chromatogram obtained with solution (3), the [resolution](#) between the peaks due to impurity K and naproxen is at least 2.2.

DETERMINATION OF CONTENT

Calculate the content of naproxen, $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$, in the tablets from the chromatograms obtained and using the declared content of $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$ in [naproxen BPCRS](#).

STORAGE

Naproxen Tablets should be protected from light.

IMPURITIES

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