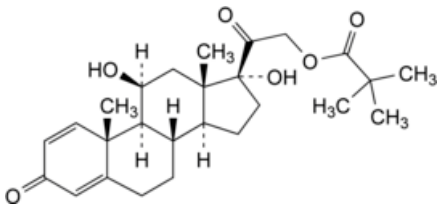
Edition: BP 2025 (Ph. Eur. 11.6 update)

Prednisolone Pivalate

General Notices

(Ph. Eur. monograph 0736)



$C_{26}H_{36}O_6$ 444.6 *1107-99-9*

Action and use

Glucocorticoid.

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DEFINITION

11β,17-Dihydroxy-3,20-dioxopregna-1,4-dien-21-yl 2,2-dimethylpropanoate.

Content

97.0 per cent to 103.0 per cent (dried substance).

CHARACTERS

Appearance

White or almost white, crystalline powder.

Solubility

Practically insoluble in water, slightly soluble in ethanol (96 per cent), soluble in methylene chloride.

mp

About 229 °C, with decomposition.

IDENTIFICATION

First identification: B, C.

Second identification: A, C, D.

A. Dissolve 10.0 mg in *anhydrous ethanol R* and dilute to 100.0 mL with the same solvent. Place 2.0 mL of this solution in a ground-glass-stoppered tube, add 10.0 mL of *phenylhydrazine-sulfuric acid solution R*, mix and heat in a water-bath at 60 °C for 20 min. Cool immediately. The absorbance (*2.2.25*) at the absorption maximum at 415 nm is 0.20 to 0.30.
B. Infrared absorption spectrophotometry (*2.2.24*).

Comparison *prednisolone pivalate CRS*.

If the spectra obtained in the solid state show differences, dissolve the substance to be examined and the reference substance separately in the minimum volume of *ethanol (96 per cent) R*, evaporate to dryness on a water-bath and record new spectra using the residues.

C. Thin-layer chromatography (*2.2.27*).

Solvent mixture *methanol R*, *methylene chloride R* (1:9 *V/V*).

Test solution Dissolve 10 mg of the substance to be examined in the solvent mixture and dilute to 10 mL with the solvent mixture.

Reference solution (a) Dissolve 10 mg of *prednisolone pivalate CRS* in the solvent mixture and dilute to 10 mL with the solvent mixture.

Reference solution (b) Dissolve 10 mg of *prednisolone acetate CRS* in the solvent mixture and dilute to 10 mL with the solvent mixture. Dilute 5 mL of this solution to 10 mL with reference solution (a).

Plate *TLC silica gel F_{254} plate R*.

Mobile phase Add a mixture of 1.2 volumes of *water R* and 8 volumes of *methanol R* to a mixture of 15 volumes of *ether R* and 77 volumes of *methylene chloride R*.

Application 5 µL.

Development Over a path of 15 cm.

Drying In air.

Detection A Examine in ultraviolet light at 254 nm.

Results A The principal spot in the chromatogram obtained with the test solution is similar in position and size to the principal spot in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (a).

Detection B Spray with *alcoholic solution of sulfuric acid R*, heat at 120 °C for 10 min or until the spots appear, and allow to cool; examine in daylight and in ultraviolet light at 365 nm.

Results B The principal spot in the chromatogram obtained with the test solution is similar in position, colour in daylight, fluorescence in ultraviolet light at 365 nm and size to the principal spot in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (a).

System suitability Reference solution (b):

— the chromatogram shows 2 clearly separated spots.

D. To 2 mL of *sulfuric acid R*, add about 2 mg and shake to dissolve. Within 5 min, an intense red colour develops. When examined in ultraviolet light at 365 nm, a reddish-brown fluorescence is seen. Add this solution to 10 mL of *water R* and mix. The colour fades and there is greenish-yellow fluorescence in ultraviolet light at 365 nm.

TESTS

Specific optical rotation (*2.2.7*)

+ 104 to + 112 (dried substance).

Dissolve 0.250 g in *dioxan R* and dilute to 25.0 mL with the same solvent.

Related substances

Liquid chromatography (*2.2.29*).

Test solution Dissolve 62.5 mg of the substance to be examined in 2 mL of a mixture of 1 volume of *water R* and 4 volumes of *tetrahydrofuran R* and dilute to 25.0 mL with the mobile phase.

Reference solution (a) Dissolve 25 mg of *prednisolone acetate CRS*, 25 mg of *cortisone acetate CRS* and 25 mg of *prednisolone pivalate CRS* in 2 mL of a mixture of 1 volume of *water R* and 4 volumes of *tetrahydrofuran R* and dilute to 25.0 mL with the mobile phase. Dilute 1.0 mL of this solution to 25.0 mL with the mobile phase.

Reference solution (b) Dilute 1.0 mL of the test solution to 50.0 mL with the mobile phase.

Column:

— *size*: *l* = 0.15 m, Ø = 4.6 mm;

— *stationary phase*: *octadecylsilyl silica gel for chromatography R* (5 µm).

Mobile phase Carefully mix 19 mL of *butyl acetate R1* with 37 mL of *tetrahydrofuran R* and 213 mL of *ethylene glycol monomethyl ether R*, then add with 231 mL of *water R*; mix, allow to equilibrate for 1 h and filter through a 0.45 µm filter.

Flow rate 1 mL/min.

Detection Spectrophotometer at 254 nm.

Equilibration With the mobile phase for about 30 min.

Injection 20 µL.

Run time 1.5 times the retention time of prednisolone pivalate.

Retention time Prednisolone acetate = about 3.5 min; cortisone acetate = about 4.5 min; prednisolone pivalate = about 13 min.

System suitability Reference solution (a):

— *resolution*: minimum 2.5 between the peaks due to prednisolone acetate and cortisone acetate; if necessary, adjust the concentration of water in the mobile phase.

Limits:

— *any impurity*: for each impurity, not more than the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (b) (2.0 per cent), and not more than one such peak has an area greater than 0.5 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (b) (1.0 per cent);

— *total*: not more than 1.25 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (b) (2.5 per cent);

— *disregard limit*: 0.025 times the area of the principal peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (b) (0.05 per cent).

Loss on drying (*2.2.32*)

Maximum 0.5 per cent, determined on 1.000 g by drying in an oven at 105 °C.

ASSAY

Dissolve 0.100 g in *ethanol (96 per cent) R* and dilute to 100.0 mL with the same solvent. Dilute 5.0 mL of this solution to 250.0 mL with *ethanol (96 per cent) R*. Measure the absorbance (*2.2.25*) at the absorption maximum at 243 nm.

Calculate the content of $C_{26}H_{36}O_6$ taking the specific absorbance to be 337.

STORAGE

Protected from light.

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