



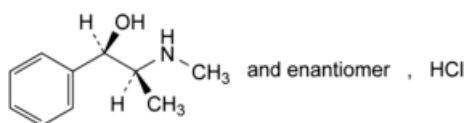
Edition: BP 2025 (Ph. Eur. 11.6 update)

Racephedrine Hydrochloride



[General Notices](#)

(*Racemic Ephedrine Hydrochloride*, Ph. Eur. monograph 0715)



C₁₀H₁₆ClNO 201.7 134-71-4

Action and use

Adrenoceptor agonist.

Ph Eur

DEFINITION

Racemic ephedrine hydrochloride contains not less than 99.0 per cent and not more than the equivalent of 101.0 per cent of (1*RS*,2*SR*)-2-(methylamino)-1-phenylpropan-1-ol hydrochloride, calculated with reference to the dried substance.

CHARACTERS

A white or almost white, crystalline powder or colourless crystals, freely soluble in water, soluble in ethanol (96 per cent).

It melts at about 188 °C.

IDENTIFICATION

First identification: B, E.

Second identification: A, C, D, E.

- A. Optical rotation (see Tests).
- B. Examine by infrared absorption spectrophotometry ([2.2.24](#)), comparing with the spectrum obtained with [racemic ephedrine hydrochloride CRS](#). Examine the substances prepared as discs.
- C. Examine the chromatograms obtained in the test for related substances. The principal spot in the chromatogram obtained with test solution (b) is similar in position, colour and size to the principal spot in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (a).
- D. To 0.1 mL of solution S (see Tests) add 1 mL of [water R](#), 0.2 mL of [copper sulfate solution R](#) and 1 mL of [strong sodium hydroxide solution R](#). A violet colour is produced. Add 2 mL of [ether R](#) and shake. The ether layer is purple and the aqueous layer is blue.
- E. To 5 mL of solution S add 5 mL of [water R](#). The solution gives reaction (a) of chlorides ([2.3.1](#)).

TESTS

Solution S

Dissolve 5.00 g in [distilled water R](#) and dilute to 50.0 mL with the same solvent.

Appearance of solution

Solution S is clear ([2.2.1](#)) and colourless ([2.2.2, Method II](#)).

Acidity or alkalinity

To 10 mL of solution S add 0.1 mL of [methyl red solution R](#) and 0.1 mL of [0.01 M sodium hydroxide](#); the solution is yellow. Add 0.2 mL of [0.01 M hydrochloric acid](#); the solution is red.

Optical rotation ([2.2.7](#))

+ 0.2° to -0.2°, determined on solution S.

Related substances

Examine by thin-layer chromatography ([2.2.27](#)), using [silica gel G R](#) as the coating substance.

Test solution (a) Dissolve 0.20 g of the substance to be examined in [methanol R](#) and dilute to 10 mL with the same solvent.

Test solution (b) Dilute 1 mL of test solution (a) to 10 mL with [methanol R](#).

Reference solution (a) Dissolve 20 mg of [racemic ephedrine hydrochloride CRS](#) in [methanol R](#) and dilute to 10 mL with the same solvent.

Reference solution (b) Dilute 1 mL of test solution (a) to 200 mL with [methanol R](#).

Apply separately to the plate 10 µL of each solution. Develop over a path of 15 cm using a mixture of 5 volumes of [chloroform R](#), 15 volumes of [concentrated ammonia R](#) and 80 volumes of [2-propanol R](#). Allow the plate to dry in air. Spray with [ninhydrin solution R](#) and heat at 110 °C for 5 min. Any spot in the chromatogram obtained with test solution (a), apart from the principal spot, is not more intense than the spot in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (b) (0.5 per cent). Disregard any spot of lighter colour than the background.

Sulfates ([2.4.13](#))

15 mL of solution S complies with the limit test for sulfates (100 ppm).

Loss on drying ([2.2.32](#))

Not more than 0.5 per cent, determined on 1.000 g by drying in an oven at 105 °C.

Sulfated ash ([2.4.14](#))

Not more than 0.1 per cent, determined on 1.0 g.

ASSAY

Dissolve 0.170 g in 30 mL of [ethanol \(96 per cent\) R](#). Add 5.0 mL of [0.01 M hydrochloric acid](#). Carry out a potentiometric titration ([2.2.20](#)), using [0.1 M sodium hydroxide](#). Read the volume added between the two points of inflexion.

1 mL of [0.1 M sodium hydroxide](#) corresponds to 20.17 mg of C₁₀H₁₆ClNO.

STORAGE

Store protected from light.

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