

# Extractive Colourimetric Determination of Pipazethate HCl by Ion-pair Complex Formation in Pure Form, Dosage Form, Urine and in Presence of its Degradation Products

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**Abstract** A simple, sensitive and accurate spectrophotometric method based on extractable ion-pair formation of pipazethate HCl with chromazurol S., exhibits an absorption maximum at 512 nm, was described. Beer's law was obeyed over the concentration range of 12 – 92  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ , apparent molar absorptivity, limit of detection (LOD) and limit of quantitation. (LOQ) were  $3.4 \times 10^2 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ L cm}^{-1}$ , 3.36 and 11.2  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ , respectively. Precision of results, expressed as intra-day and inter-day relative standard deviation values, are satisfactory. The method was successfully applied for the determination of pipazethate HCl in dosage forms and in spiked human urine, no interference was observed from common pharmaceutical additives. Statistical comparison of the results with reference method showed an excellent agreement and indicated no significant difference in precision. Pipazethate HCl was subjected to the stress conditions of acidic, basic, oxidative, hydrolytic, thermal and photolytic degradations. The method retain its accuracy in the presence of basic, acidic and oxidative degradants. because basic degradants give no reaction with chromazurol S while both acidic and oxidative degradants gave yellow colour which was measured at 453nm and 457 nm respectively.

**Keywords** Pipazethate, Human Urine, Degradation Products

## 1. Introduction

Pipazethate HCl (2-(2-piperidinoethoxy)ethyl 10H-pyrido [3,2-b][1,4]benzothiazine-10-carboxylate hydrochloride is a non narcotic antitussive and cough suppressant drug that acts centrally[1] it also has some peripheral effects on non-productive cough Figure 1. The onset of action takes about 10–20 min and the therapeutic action lasts for 4–6 h[1-3].

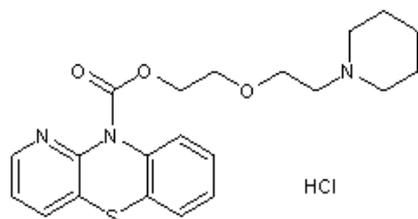


Figure 1. Chemical structure of pipazethate HCl

Spectrophotometric[3-6], conductimetric[7], potentiometric[8] and HPLC methods[9-11] were reported for

determination of pipazethate hydrochloride.

Degradation products may be formed during manufacturing of active ingredients or during storage of the pharmaceutical products. So stability indicating studies is very important to improve the pharmaceutical development process, the products quality and also can avoid many toxicological risks[12]. High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) technique were widely used in stability indicating methods[13]. The present work a spectrophotometric stability indicating method was used as a spectrophotometric technique is simple, cost effectiveness and there is no need of heating or expensive device or chemicals.

Using of urine samples for detection and quantification of drugs has many advantages such as usefulness especially in case of pediatric and geriatric patients, noninvasive samples, large volumes and large number of samples can be easily collected[14].

The aim of this work is to develop and validate a simple, rapid and quantitative spectrophotometric method that can be used for routine analysis and screening of pipazethate HCl in pure form, pharmaceutical preparations, human urine and in presence of its. basic, acidic and oxidative degradants. The method was validated according to International Conference on Harmonization (ICH) guidelines.

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## 2. Experimental

### 2.1. Instrumentation

A Shimadzu UV and visible recording spectrophotometer (UV 260) with matched 10-20 quartz cells was employed for all absorbance measurements.

### 2.2. Chemicals and Reagents

All of the chemicals used were of analytical or pharmaceutical grade and used without further purification. Double distilled water was used to prepare all solutions.

Pipazethate-HCl was provided by Egyptian International Pharmaceutical Industries Co. (EPICO) (Cairo, Egypt). Selegon® 20 mg tablets was purchased from the local market. Chromazulol S, 0.3% w/v and  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  M aqueous solutions by dissolving 0.3 and 0.0303 gm in 100 ml distilled water. Methylene chloride solvent (Wako pure chemical company, Ltd.).

Sodium hydroxide, hydrochloric acid, hydrogen peroxide were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA).

Urine: Sample was collected from healthy volunteers and kept frozen until use after gentle thawing.

Standard solutions 0.4 mg/mL solutions of pipazethate HCl was prepared by dissolving 10 mg of the drugs in 25 mL distilled water.

### 2.3. General Recommended Procedures

#### 2.3.1. Procedure for Calibration Curve

Aliquots (0.3-2.3 mL) of standard solution (0.4 mg/mL) pipazethate HCl in the concentration range of ( $12-92 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) were transferred into a series of 50 mL separating funnels. 1 mL dye was added, the volume of the aqueous phase was adjusted to 10 mL with distilled water and mixed well. The funnels were shaken vigorously with 10 mL methylene chloride for 2 minute.

The two phases were allowed to stand for clear separation.

Anhydrous sodium sulphate was used to dehydrate the organic layer. The absorbance of the organic layer was measured at 512nm against blank.

#### 2.3.2. Procedure for the Assay of Tablets

Twenty Selegon® tablets, each labeled to contain 20 mg Pipazethate HCl were accurately weighed, finally powdered and mixed well., specific quantity of powdered tablets equivalent to 10 mg pure drug were dissolved in distilled water in 25 mL volumetric flask, solutions were filtered and completed to volume with distilled water. Procedures was completed as in general procedures applying standard addition technique.

#### 2.3.3. Procedures of Different Degradation Products

Pure active drug was stressed under different stress conditions to establish a stability indicating method.

A. Procedure for degradation in solutions:

20% methanol was used as a co-solvent to avoid any

precipitation. Solutions for alkali, acidic, oxidative and neutral degradation studies were prepared as follow: a 5 mg of Pipazethate-HCl was dissolved in 10 ml of methanol-and 40 ml of either 2M NaOH, 2M HCl, 20% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> or water respectively, solutions were protected from light and exposed to dry heat (80°C) in an oven for 8.0 hours[11], then The absolute recovery was determined for pipazethate HCl by comparing the representative absorbance of stressed sample and that of the pure drug at the same concentration.

B. Degradation in solid form:

For temperature stress studies; a 5 mg of P-HCl powder was protected from light and exposed to dry heat at 80°C for 8.0 hours, the powder was dissolved in 50 ml distilled water. For photostability studies; a 100 mg of Pipazethate HCl powder was spread on a glass dish (less than 2mm thickness) and exposed to direct day light for 4 hours,[11] the powder was dissolved in 50 ml distilled water, then the absolute recovery was determined for pipazethate HCl by comparing the representative absorbance of the stressed sample and that of the pure drug at the same concentration.

#### 2.3.4. Procedure for the Assay of Urine Sample

The proposed method was applied for the determination of pipazethate HCl in human urine, to prepare spiked urine sample the collected human urine was mixed then human urine was (1:1) diluted with distilled water. For the determination of pipazethate HCl in urine 1.0 mL of the diluted human urine was put in 50 mL separating funnel then the solution was prepared and then absorbance was measured following the same procedure as that of standard solutions. The absolute recovery was determined for pipazethate HCl by comparing the representative absorbance of treated urine sample and that of the pure drug at the same concentration.

#### 2.3.5. Determination of Stoichiometry of the Reaction

A. Determination of stoichiometry of the reaction (Job's method of continuous variation)[15]:

A series of standard equimolecular  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  M solutions of the drug ( $v_d$ ) and chromazulol S ( $v_r$ ) in different complementary volumes totaling 10 ml were transferred into 50 ml separating funnels, procedure completed as general procedure and the absorbance was measured at the specified  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ .

B. Determination of stoichiometry of the reaction (Molar ratio method)[16]:

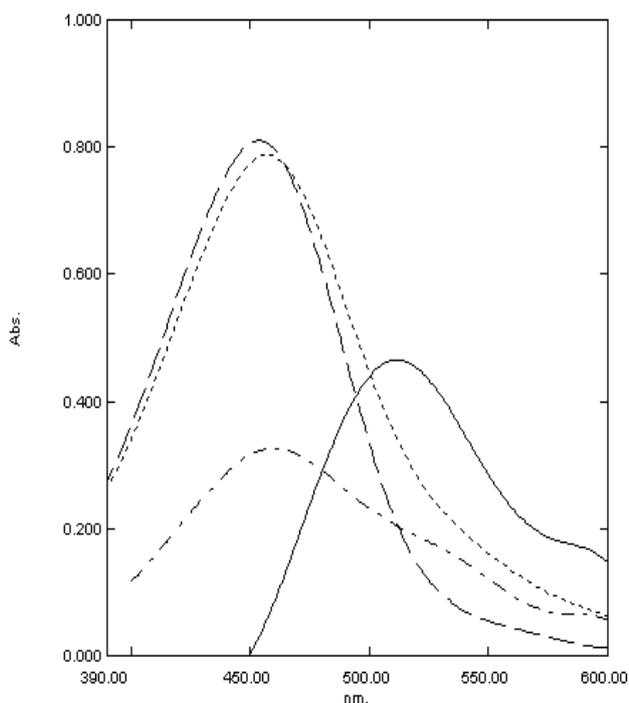
Equimolar ( $5 \times 10^{-4}$  M) solution of chromazulol S was added to fixed aliquots of drug solution ( $V_d$ ). Absorbance was measured at the specific  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ .

## 3. Results and Discussion

Ion pair spectrophotometric method involves the formation of ion-association coloured complex between drug and dye followed by extraction with organic solvent, or using surfactant without extraction procedure. Many drugs are easy to be determined by spectrophotometry based on

ion-association complex formation either in pure forms or in biological fluids [17-19].

The principle of this method based on allowing the drug which has basic cationic center to react with the anionic center in the dye to form coloured ion-pair complexes extractable with methylene chloride then measured at specified  $\lambda_{max}$  (Figure 2).



**Figure 2.** Absorption spectra for reaction of chromazurol S with  $60 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  pipazethate HCl (\_\_\_\_). Absorption spectra for reaction of chromazurol S with  $60 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  Acidic degradation product of Pipazethate HCl (\_\_\_\_). Absorption spectra for reaction of chromazurol S with  $60 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  oxidative degradation product of Pipazethate HCl (.....). Blank solution (-.-.-).

### 3.1. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions

The effect of essential parameters was described.

#### 3.1.1. Effect of Reagent Volume

Various volumes of reagent were added to fixed concentrations of pipazethate HCL, 1.0mL of 0.3% chromazurol S solution was found to be sufficient for the production of maximum and reproducible colour intensity. Higher concentration of the reagent did not increase the absorbance and colour intensity of the formed ion – associate.(Table 1)

#### 3.1.2. Effect of Solvent

The most convenient solvent for the formed ion associates which exhibit the maximum absorbance, high extraction power and stable colours is methylene chloride. In all cases the aqueous to organic phase ratio of 1:1 was the most suitable for the ion-associate extraction. Complete extraction

was attained by using single portion of 10 mL solvent.

#### 3.1.3. Effect of pH

To examined the effect of pH value for the ion-associates formed between pipazethate hydrochloride and chromazurol S different types of buffer were used.(at pH range from 2.1-10) The ion associate formed without buffer gave the highest absorbance values

#### 3.1.4. Effect of Reaction Time

The reaction time required for complete colour development of ion-pair complex was studied. It was found that maximum absorbance was attained immediately.

The ion-pair formed was stable for at least 30 minutes.

#### 3.1.5. Effect of Surfactant

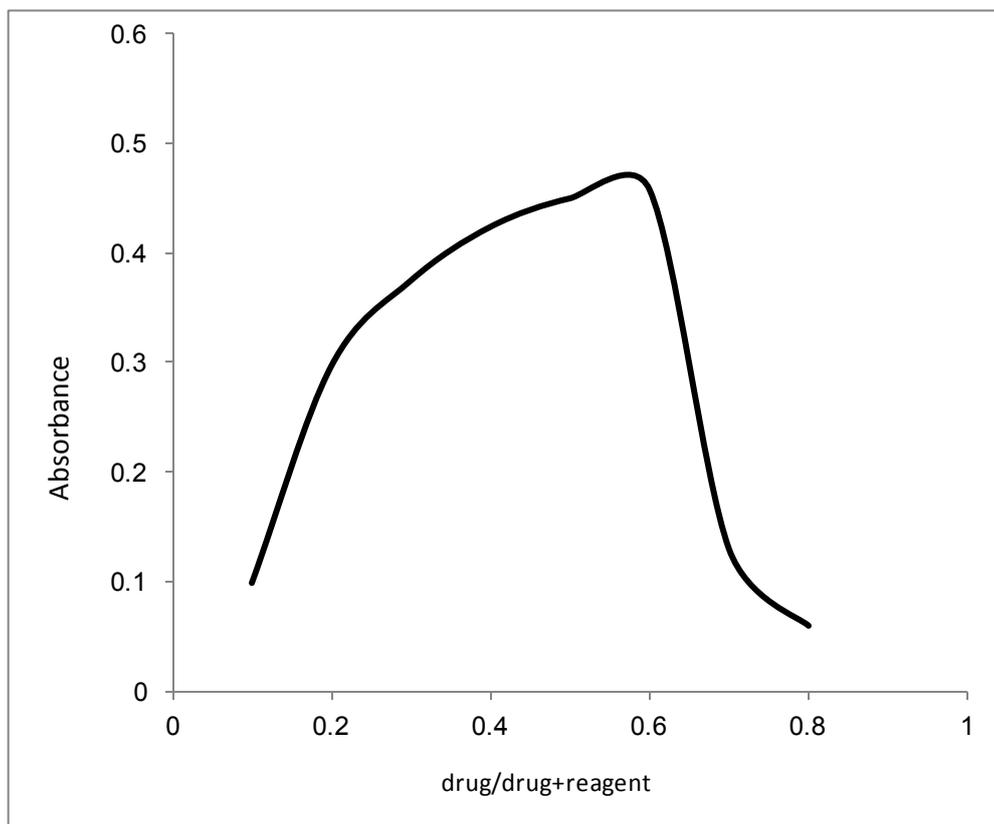
Using various dispersing agents such as sodium lauryl sulphate, methylcellulose, tween40 investigated that tween 40 and sodium lauryl sulphate give no results while using methylcellulose give low absorbance than extractive method so methylene chloride was used as extractive organic solvent.(Table 1)

## 3.2. Stoichiometric Ratio

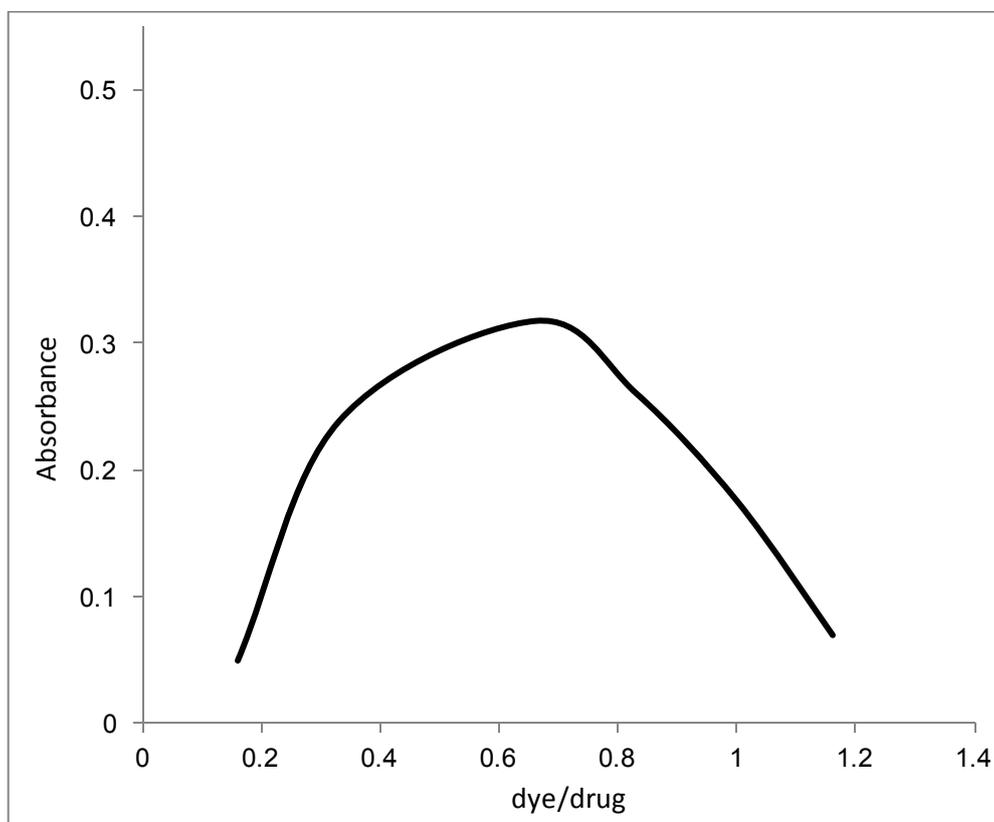
In order to investigate the molecular ratio of the complex formed between pipazethate HCL and the reagent at the selected conditions, the molar ratio and continuous variation methods were carried out. Results indicated that the molar ratio of the drugs to reagent was found to be (3: 2) in all ion – associate formed. In continuous variation method,  $5.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$  solutions of drug and dye stuff were mixed in varying volume ratio in such a way that the total volume of each mixture was the same. The absorbance of each solution was measured and plotted against the mole fraction of the drug. Figures (3,4) Under the experimental conditions described above the optical characteristics such as Beer's law limits, Sandell's sensitivity and molar absorptivity were calculated for the proposed methods and the results are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Spectral Data for Determination of Pipazethate HCl Using Chromazurol S

Items	Bold
Linearity( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )	12-92
Apparent molar absorptivity*( $\text{mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )	$3.4 \times 10^2$
Sandell's sensitivity ( $\mu\text{g/mL}/0.001 \text{ A}$ )	level-2 heading, left-justified author affiliation, centered
Limit of detection( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )	3.36
Limit of of quant itation, ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )	11.2
Regression equation	
Slope	0.007636
Intercept	0.006069
Correlation coefficient	0.9999



**Figure 3.** Molar ratio plot of the reaction between  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  M pipazethate HCl and  $5 \times 10^{-4}$  M chromazurol S



**Figure 4.** Mole-ratio plot for  $(5 \times 10^{-4}$  M) pipazethate HCl and  $(5 \times 10^{-4}$  M) chromazurol S

Regression equations, intercepts, slopes and correlation coefficients for the calibration data are presented also in the same table while standard deviation, relative standard deviation and standard error are summarized in Tables 2.

**Table 2.** Determination of Pipazethate HCl Through Ion-Pair Formation with Chromazurol S

Pipazethate HCl	
Taken $\mu\text{gmL}^{-1}$	Recovery %
12	99.25
16	100.62
20	100.8
24	100.38
32	99.81
56	99.14
60	100.17
92	100.21
Mean $\pm$ S.D.	100.05 $\pm$ 0.604
N	8
S.D.	0.604
R.S.D.	0.6036
V	0.36
S.E.	0.21

Average of three experiments

### 3.3. Dosage Forms Analysis

The proposed method was applied for the determination of Pipazethate HCl in commercially available Selegon® tablets using standard addition procedure (table 3.)

#### Interferences

Experiments showed that there was no interference from additives and expedients, e.g. hydroxyl propyl methylcellulose, calcium phosphate dibasic anhydrous lactose, glucose, fructose, and starch for the examined methods.

**Table 3.** Application of Standard Addition Technique for Determination of Pipazethate HCl in Selegon® 20 mg Tablets Using Chromazurol S

Selegon® (20 mg tablets)		
Taken $\mu\text{gmL}^{-1}$	Added $\mu\text{gmL}^{-1}$	Recovery %
20	-	100.79
-	12	101.42
-	20	100.8
-	32	100.66
-	56	99.8
Mean $\pm$ S.D.	100.67 $\pm$ 0.667	
N	4	
S.D.	0.667	
V	0.44	
S.E.	0.33	

\* Mean of three different experiments

### 3.4. Validation

The proposed method was validated according to the International Conference on Harmonization (ICH) guidelines [20].

#### 3.4.1. Linearity

Calibration curve test solutions were prepared from pipazethate stock solution at the concentration range of (12-92 $\mu\text{gmL}^{-1}$ ) in triplicate. Linearity was established by the regression equation (equation 1)

$$Y = a + bX \quad (1)$$

(where a is the intercept, b is the slope and X is the concentration) The values of slope (b), intercept (a) and correlation coefficient (r) are represented in table (1). The limits of quantification (LOQ) and limit of detection (LOD) were also presented in the same table. The high value of molar absorptivity and low value Sandell's sensitivity and LOD indicate the high sensitivity of the proposed method.

Results obtained were compared with the reference method [17] by student's t-test and variance ratio F-test, Table (4). The calculated Student's t-values and F-values did not exceed the theoretical ones at 95% confidence level. Therefore, there is no significant difference between the proposed method and the reference one.

**Table 4.** Statistical Data for Determination of Pipazethate HCl, Through Ion-Pair Complex Formation, with Chromazurol S

Items	Proposed method	Reference method [17]
Mean $\pm$ S.D	100.05 $\pm$ 0.604	99.95 $\pm$ 1.17
N	8	5
Variance	0.36	1.38
Student-t-test*	0.205(2.201)	--
F-test*	3.84(4.12)	--

\*\*Theoretical values of t and F at p = 0.05

#### 3.4.2. Precision and Accuracy

The assays described under "general procedures were repeated five times within the day to examine the repeatability (intra-day precision) and five times on different days to determine the intermediate precision (inter-day precision) of the methods.

These assays were performed for three levels of analyte. The results of this study are summarized in Table 5.

The percentage relative standard deviation (%R.S.D.) indicating high precision of the method. Accuracy was evaluated as percentage relative mean error (R.M.E) between the measured mean concentrations and taken concentrations for pipazethate hydrochloride

{bias % = [(Concentration found - known concentration) x 100/known concentration]} was calculated at each concentration. Percent relative mean error (%R.M.E) values demonstrate the high accuracy of the proposed method.

#### 3.4.3. Specificity

Specificity is the ability of the analytical method to differentiate between pure drug and other components that may be present. The specificity of the proposed method was determined by giving different results when the degradation products of the drug under various stress conditions undergo reaction with the same reagents.

#### 3.4.4. Robustness

The robustness of the method was evaluated by making small incremental changes in the volume of reagent and the effect of the changes was studied by calculating the mean R.S.D values. The changes had negligible influence on the results as revealed by small intermediate precision values expressed as % R.S.D (table 6)

### 3.4.5. Ruggedness

Method ruggedness was expressed as the R.S.D of the same procedure applied by three different analysts as well as using three different instruments. The inter-analysts R.S.D were calculated. The results are shown in Table 6. suggesting that the developed methods were rugged.

**Table 5.** The Intra-day and Inter-day Accuracy and Precision data for Determination of Pipazethate HCl Through Ion-pair Complex Formation Reaction with Chromazurol S

	Taken $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$	Found $\pm$ S.E. <sup>ab</sup> $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$	Precision	Accuracy R.M.E. %
Intra-day	20	20.39 $\pm$ 0.14	1.53	1.5
	32	32.4 $\pm$ 0.12	0.802	1.25
	56	56.41 $\pm$ 0.17	0.673	0.732
Inter-day	20	20.15 $\pm$ 0.09	0.992	0.75
	32	32.06 $\pm$ 0.14	0.998	0.187
	56	55.99 $\pm$ 0.11	0.43	-0.018

a Average of five determinations

b Mean  $\pm$  standard error

RSD%, percentage relative standard deviation

R.M.E %, percentage relative mean error

**Table 6.** Method Robustness and Ruggedness Expressed as Intermediate Precision (% R.S.D.)

Taken ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	Robustness	Ruggedness	
Parameter altered			
	Volume of reagent (0.8,1,1.2 mL) (R.S.D.%)	Inter-analysis (R.S.D)% (n=3)	Interinstruments (R.S.D) (n=3)
32	1.428	0.811	0.79

### 3.5. Degradation Behavior of Pipazethate Hydrochloride

Using of a 20% methanol as a co-solvent was found to be very convenient to avoid precipitation and also to avoid many time consuming steps such as filtration, washing, drying and reconstitution of degradation products; other degradation products may be formed during multiple preparation steps of the main degradation products and lead to misjudging, as the main degradation products and their stability are unknown in most cases<sup>11</sup>. In this work; degradation products were studied to measure the selectivity of the proposed method.

#### 3.5.1. Alkaline Conditions

It was observed that the alkaline degradation product of pipazethate HCl gave no result with chromazurol S, that is mean that assay of pipazethate HCl can be done in presence of its alkaline degradation product.

#### 3.5.2. Acidic Conditions

Acidic degradation of Pipazethate HCl showed a yellowish orange colour after extraction of the product of its reaction with chromazurol S which gave maximum absorbance at 453 nm. (Figure 1)

#### 3.5.3. Oxidative Conditions

Pipazethate hydrochloride was found to be liable also to oxidative degradation; then when this oxidative product react with chromazurol S it gave a yellowish orange colour after extraction which can be measured at 457 nm.(Figure 1)

#### 3.5.4. Neutral Conditions

Pipazethate HCl was found to be more stable under neutral conditions., a small Temperature stress and photo-stability studies .

The product of the drug after exposed to the previous conditions then proceed to the proposed reaction gave results with good recoveries

In conclusion pipazethate HCl can be measured in presence of its alkaline, acidic and oxidative degradation products.

### 3.6. Application to Spiked Human Urine

As another application of the studied method, recovery from human urine samples was carried out and treatment of drug with urine without any extraction step. Recovery studies were performed with the sample containing various amounts of pipazethate HCl. The results of recovery studies (Table 7.) revealed that, there was no interference from other constituents present in the urine in the method. The mean percent recovery obtained from five replicate measurements of urine containing pipazethate HCl indicate that the proposed method was effective for the determination of the drug in urine samples.

**Table 7.** Application of the Proposed method for Determination of Pipazethate HCl in Spiked Human Urine

Added $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$	Found $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$	Recovery (percent $\pm$ S.D.)*
20	20.29	101.5 $\pm$ 1.8
32	31.9	99.69 $\pm$ 1.32
56	54.19	96.78 $\pm$ 0.23

\*Mean value of three determinations

## 4. Conclusions

The proposed method is simple, rapid, accurate and precise. The reagent utilized in the proposed method is cheap, readily available

The proposed method does not involve any critical reaction conditions or tedious sample preparation.

The method is unaffected by slight variations in the experimental conditions, such as reagent concentration .

The proposed method can be used for analysis of pipazethate hydrochloride in pharmaceuticals and in spiked

human although there is a previous study for the determination of pipazethate hydrochloride in presence of its degradation product using HPLC we try in our study to establish a spectrophotometric method for the analysis of the drug in the presence of its degradation product as the spectrophotometric method is more simple, not complicated, there is no need for expensive solvent, do not require any expensive equipment and specialized technicians when compared with HPLC, chemiluminescence, and bioassay techniques

The method is free from interference by common additives and excipients.

The comparative study of the molar absorptivity indicated good sensitivity of the proposed method.

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