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## METHOD DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF SIMULTANEOUS ESTIMATION OF EZETIMIBE AND GLIMEPIRIDE BY RP-HPLC

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### ABSTRACT

A sensitive, selective and precise high performance liquid chromatographic method has been developed and validated for the simultaneous determination of Ezetimibe and Glimepiride in tablet dosage form. The method employed like C18 column, Symmetry C18 (4.6 x 250mm, 5 $\mu$ m, Make: Waters) as the stationary phase while Phosphate buffer (pH 3.6), Acetonitrile in proportion 45:55 v/v respectively. was used as mobile phase. The Retention time of Ezetimibe and Glimepiride were observed to be 2.273 and 3.630 minutes, respectively. The flow rate was found to be 1ml/min and effluents were monitored at 228 nm. The linear regression analysis data for the calibration plots showed a good linear relationship for both Ezetimibe and Glimepiride and over a concentration range of 10-50  $\mu$ g/ml. with correlation co-efficient of 0.9989 for Ezetimibe and 0.9999 for Glimepiride. The LOQ was found to be 4.52 and 3.67 $\mu$ g/ml respectively for Ezetimibe and Glimepiride. The method was validated as per ICH guideline and it was found to be accurate, precise and robust. Marketed formulation was analyzed successfully.

**Keywords:** Ezetimibe, Glimepiride, HPLC, Validation etc.

### INTRODUCTION

Ezetimibe localises at the brush border of the small intestine, where it inhibits the absorption of cholesterol from the intestine. Specifically, it appears to bind to a critical mediator of cholesterol absorption, the Niemann-Pick C1-Like 1 (NPC1L1) protein on the gastrointestinal tract epithelial cells as well as in hepatocytes [1].

In addition to this direct effect, decreased cholesterol absorption leads to an upregulation of LDL-receptors on the surface of cells and an increased LDL-cholesterol uptake into cells, thus decreasing levels of LDL in the blood plasma which contribute to atherosclerosis and cardiovascular events [2].

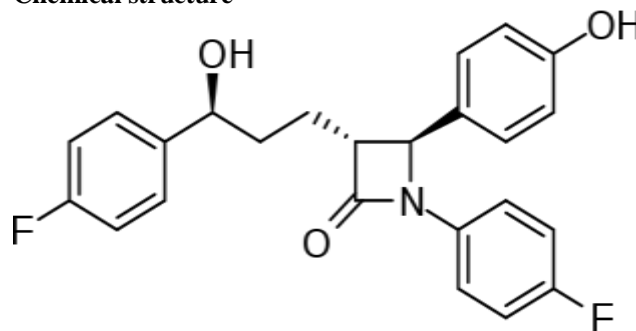
Fixed dose combination therapy of Ezetimibe and Glimepiride is indicated for the treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus. Recent studies reveal that the treatment of Lipidemia with concomitant administration of Ezetimibe and Glimepiride, shows significantly better symptom relief when compared with each of the treatments alone. and also to establish a simple, sensitive, precise,

accurate, less time consuming and cost effective, RP-HPLC method for estimation of Ezetimibe and Glimepiride in bulk drug and dosage form [3].

### DRUG PROFILE

#### EZETIMIBE

#### Chemical structure



**Chemical name** : (3*R*,4*S*)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[(3*S*)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypropyl]-4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)azetidin-2-one.

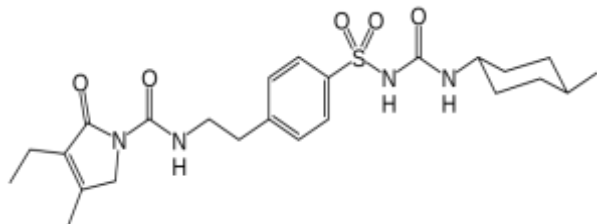
**Molecular formulae**: C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>

**Molecular Weight** : 409.4 g·mol<sup>-1</sup>

**Category** : Antilipidemic

**GLIMEPIRIDE**

**Structure** :



**Chemical name**: 3-ethyl-4-methyl-*N*-(4-[*N*-((1*r*,4*r*)-4-methylcyclohexylcarbamoyl) sulfamoyl] phenethyl)-2-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxamide

**Molecular formulae**: C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S

**Molecular Weight** : 490.617 g·mol<sup>-1</sup>

**Category** : Antidiabetic

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Instrumentation

The separation was carried out on HPLC system with WATERS, software: Empower 2, 2695 separation module. 996 PDA detector. with binary HPLC pump, and C18 column, Symmetry C18 (4.6 x 250mm, 5µm, Make: X-terra)

### Chemicals

Eziwa (10mg Glimepiride and 1mg Ezetimibe) manufactured by Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd. All chemicals and reagents used were of AR grade. Standard sample was taken from Spectrum Pharma training lab.

### HPLC Conditions

The mobile phase consisting of Phosphate buffer and acetonitrile (HPLC grade) were filtered through 0.45µm membrane filter before use, degassed and were pumped from the solvent reservoir in the ratio of 45:55 v/v was pumped into the column at a flow rate of 1.0ml/min. The column temperature was 30°C. The detection was monitored at 228 nm and the run time was 7 min. The volume of injection loop was 10µl prior to injection of the drug solution the column was equilibrated for at least 30 min. with the mobile phase flowing through the system [4-7].

### Preparation of standard solution

Accurately weigh 10 mg of Ezetimibe and 10mg of Glimepiride into a 10ml of volumetric flask and dissolve the sample using diluent and sonicate it for 15min then finally make up the volume to 10 ml. Now pipette out

0.3ml of this solution into 10 ml of volumetric flask and make up the volume upto mark using same diluents [8].

### Preparation of sample solution

Accurately weighed 10 tablets and calculated average weight of those tablets and crushed. Transfer the tablet powder weigh about 10mg of sample into 10ml of volumetric flask added with diluent and sonicated for 30 mins and make up the volume with diluent and filtered through the 0.45µm millipore filter paper Transfer above solution 0.3ml into 10ml volumetric flask and make up the volume with diluent [9].

## METHOD VALIDATION

### System Suitability Studies

The column efficiency, resolution and peak asymmetry were calculated for the standard solutions The values obtained demonstrated the suitability of the system for the analysis of this drug combinations, system suitability parameters may fall within ± 3 % standard deviation range during routine performance of the method [10].

### Specificity

Specificity was checked for the interference of impurities in the analysis of blank solution and injecting sample solution under optimized chromatographic conditions to demonstrate separation of both Ezetimibe and Glimepiride from impurities [11].

### Accuracy

Accuracy was determined by the recovery studies at three different concentrations (corresponding to 50, 100 and 150% of the test solution concentration) by addition of known amounts of standard to pre-analysed sample preparation. For each concentration, three sets were prepared and injected. The recovery studies were carried out six times and the percentage recovery and standard deviation of the percentage recovery were calculated. From the data obtained in added recoveries of standard drugs were found to be accurate as shown in table 2(a) & 2(b) [12].

### Precision

Method Precision was determined by injecting six replicates of drug sample solution. The retention times and peak areas of six replicates are recorded. The precision is expressed as the % RSD of Peak areas and it should not be more than 2% shown in table 3 [13].

### Linearity

Linearity of the method was determined by constructing calibration. curves. Standard solutions of Ezetimibe and Glimepiride different concentration level (10ppm, 20ppm, 30ppm, 40ppm, 50ppm) were used for this purpose. Each measurement was carried out in six

replicates to verify the reproducibility of the detector response at each concentration level. The peak areas of the chromatograms were plotted against the concentration of Ezetimibe and Glimepiride to obtain the calibration curves. The five concentrations of the standard were subjected to regression analysis to calculate equation and correlation coefficients as shown in Fig4(a),(b)

#### Limit of detection and limit of quantitation

Limit of detection and limit of quantitation represent the concentration of analyte that would yield signal to noise ratio of 3 for LOD and 10 for LOQ respectively. To determine LOQ and LOD serial dilutions of mixed standard solution of Ezetimibe and Glimepiride was made from standard solution. The samples were

injected in the system and measured signal from the samples was compared with those of blank samples. LOD and LOQ was calculated from linear curve using formulae  $LOD = 3.3 * \sigma / \text{slope}$ ,  $LOQ = 10 * \sigma / \text{slope}$  (Where  $\sigma$  = the standard deviation of the response and  $S$  = Slope of calibration curve) shown in table 5,6

#### Robustness

Robustness of the method was determined by making slight changes in the chromatographic conditions. It was observed that there were no marked changes in the chromatograms, which demonstrated that the RP HPLC method developed are rugged and robust shown in table 7(a) and 7(b).

**Table 1. System Suitability parameters**

| S. No | Parameter          | Ezetimibe | Glimepiride |
|-------|--------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1     | Retention time     | 2.273     | 3.630       |
| 2     | Theoretical plates | 2702      | 4169        |
| 3     | Tailing factor     | 1.28      | 1.10        |
| 4     | Resolution         | 6.71      | -           |
| 5     | Regression factor  | 0.9989    | 0.9999      |

**Table 2 (a). Accuracy Observation of Ezetimibe**

| SPIKE LEVEL | SAMPLE WEIGHT | SAMPLE AREA | µg/ml ADDED | µg/ml FOUND | %RECOVERY | %MEAN  |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------|
| 50%         | 639.68        | 3054339     | 148.501     | 149.23      | 100.49    |        |
| 50%         | 639.68        | 3032660     | 148.501     | 148.63      | 100.09    |        |
| 50%         | 639.68        | 3049927     | 148.501     | 149.31      | 100.54    | 100.37 |
| 100%        | 1279.36       | 3887775     | 297.002     | 297.69      | 100.23    |        |
| 100%        | 1279.36       | 3888059     | 297.002     | 297.71      | 100.24    | 100.23 |
| 100%        | 1279.36       | 3887192     | 297.002     | 297.65      | 100.22    |        |
| 150%        | 1919          | 5826194     | 445.494     | 446.12      | 100.14    |        |
| 150%        | 1919          | 5828611     | 445.494     | 446.30      | 100.18    | 100.12 |
| 150%        | 1919          | 5822928     | 445.494     | 445.87      | 100.08    |        |

**Table 2(b). Accuracy Observation of Glimepiride**

| SPIKE LEVEL | SAMPLE WEIGHT | SAMPLE AREA | µg/ml ADDED | µg/ml FOUND | %RECOVERY | %MEAN   |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| 50%         | 639.68        | 308954      | 3           | 2.99        | 99.340    |         |
| 50%         | 639.68        | 621388      | 3           | 2.99        | 99.358    |         |
| 50%         | 639.68        | 309010      | 3           | 2.98        | 99.042    | 99.25   |
| 100%        | 1279.36       | 621204      | 6           | 5.98        | 99.87     |         |
| 100%        | 1279.36       | 625087      | 6           | 5.99        | 100.494   | 100.224 |
| 100%        | 1279.36       | 621388      | 6           | 5.99        | 100.305   |         |
| 150%        | 1919          | 6627390     | 9           | 8.98        | 101.78    |         |
| 150%        | 1919          | 943015      | 9           | 8.98        | 100.21    | 100.841 |
| 150%        | 1919          | 621388      | 9           | 8.98        | 101.203   |         |

**Table 3(a). Results of precision for Ezetimibe**

| S. No          | Retention Time | Peak area | USP Resolution | USP Tailing |
|----------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| 1              | 2.264          | 1010585   | 3802           | 1.37        |
| 2              | 2.246          | 1011075   | 3546           | 1.38        |
| 3              | 2.264          | 1011924   | 4633           | 1.39        |
| 4              | 2.246          | 1014299   | 4812           | 1.33        |
| 5              | 2.280          | 1022159   | 3802           | 1.39        |
| <b>Mean</b>    |                | 1014008.4 |                |             |
| <b>Std.dev</b> |                | 477460.5  |                |             |
| <b>%RSD</b>    |                | 0.5       |                |             |

**Table 3(b). Results of precision for Ezetimibe**

| S. No           | Retention Time | Peak area | USP Resolution | USP Tailing |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| 1               | 3.132          | 1496209   | 4759           | 1.37        |
| 2               | 3.132          | 1507963   | 3695           | 1.38        |
| 3               | 3.129          | 1521163   | 4741           | 1.39        |
| 4               | 3.113          | 1522810   | 3793           | 1.33        |
| 5               | 3.113          | 1528916   | 4741           | 1.39        |
| <b>Mean</b>     |                | 1515412.0 |                |             |
| <b>Std.Dev.</b> |                | 13175.7   |                |             |
| <b>%RSD</b>     |                | 0.9       |                |             |

**Table 5. LOD results of the method**

| Drug        | Amount ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ) |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Ezetimibe   | 1.46                        |
| Glimepiride | 1.22                        |

**Table 6. LOQ results of the method**

| Drug        | Amount ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ) |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Ezetimibe   | 4.52                        |
| Glimepiride | 3.67                        |

**Table 7(a). Flow Rate Observation of Ezetimibe**

| Flow Rate(ml/min) |      | System Suitability Results |             |         |
|-------------------|------|----------------------------|-------------|---------|
|                   |      | USP Plate Count            | USP Tailing | Area    |
| Low               | 0.8  | 4348                       | 1.10        | 4104921 |
| Actual*           | 1.2  | 4425                       | 1.10        | 3517199 |
| High              | 1.00 | 4400                       | 1.10        | 3408920 |

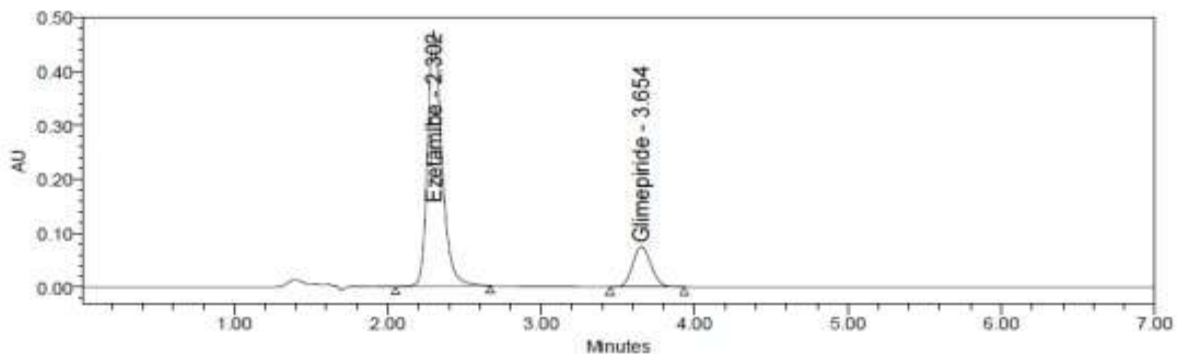
**Table 7(b). Flow Rate Observation of Glimepiride**

| Change in M.P organic composition | System Suitability Results |             |         |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|---------|
|                                   | USP Plate Count            | USP Tailing | Area    |
| 5% more                           | 2028                       | 0.9         | 3012763 |
| Actual*                           | 4759                       | 0.9         | 3245977 |
| 5% less                           | 3002                       | 1.0         | 912635  |

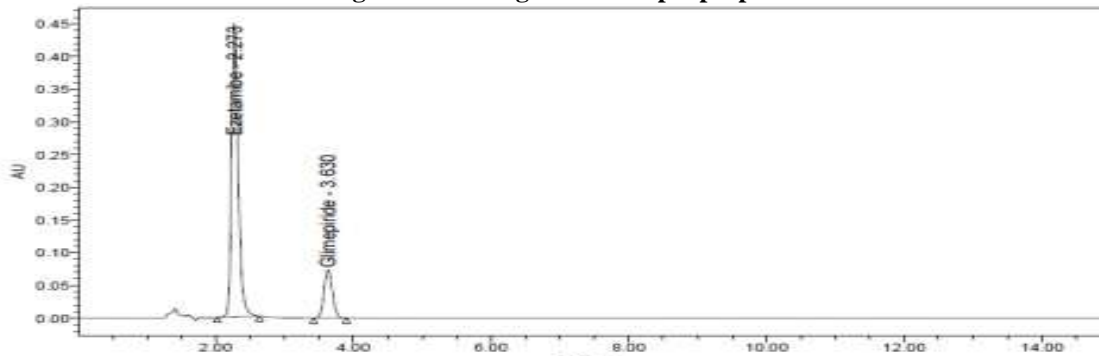
**Table 8(a). Variation of Mobile phase composition of Glimepiride**

| Change in M.P organic composition | System Suitability Results |             |         |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|---------|
|                                   | USP Plate Count            | USP Tailing | Area    |
| 5% more                           | 3035                       | 1.0         | 3501336 |
| Actual*                           | 3695                       | 0.9         | 3517199 |
| 5% less                           | 3002                       | 1.0         | 3415632 |

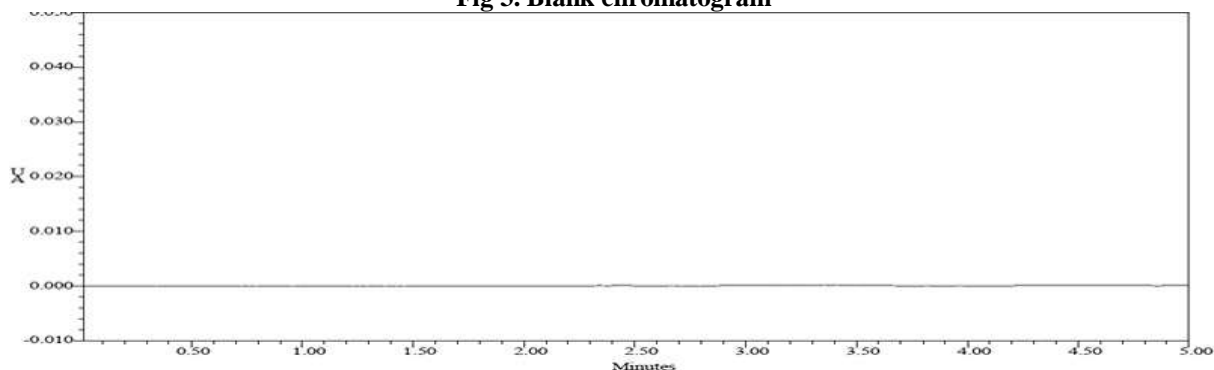
**Fig 1. Chromatogram of standard preparation**



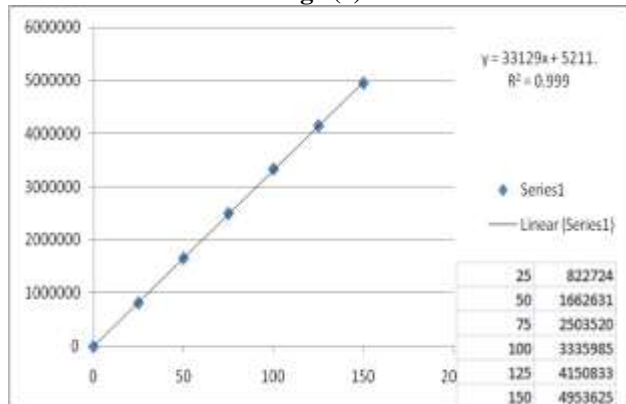
**Fig 2. Chromatogram of sample preparation**



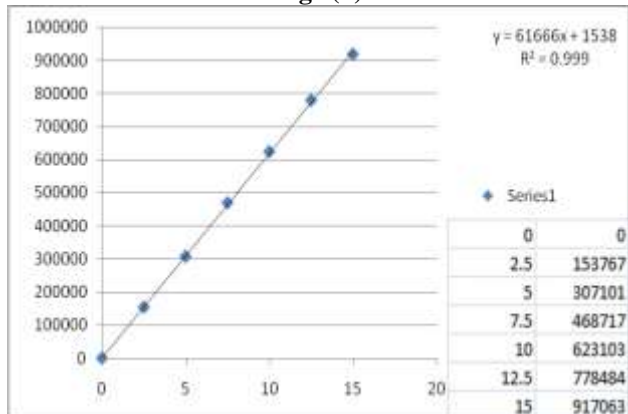
**Fig 3. Blank chromatogram**



**Fig 4(a)**



**Fig 4(b)**



## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

System suitability results were given by table 1 and system suitability parameters are retention time, resolution, tailing and plate count were shown uniformly and %RSD was less than 1 so we can say system is suitable for analysis method specificity was concluded by fig-1 are Ezetimibe and Glimepiride standard chromatogram and other one is formulation, they were not observed placebo and excipients peaks interference with standard and analytic peak so it proves method is selective. The result given in table 2 says that the method accuracy passed for both Ezetimibe and Glimepiride evaluated by recovery studies and the percentage mean recovery was found to be 100.47 and 100.31 for Ezetimibe and Glimepiride respectively. The method precision was passed for both the drugs given in table 3. Linearity calibration curve was given below fig: 4 the regression co-efficient of Ezetimibe is 0.9989 Glimepiride is 0.9999. The LOD values of Ezetimibe Glimepiride are 1.46 and 1.22 respectively and

LOQ values of Ezetimibe Glimepiride are 4.52 and 3.67 respectively.

## CONCLUSION

The proposed RP-HPLC method was validated as per International Conference on Harmonization (ICH) guidelines, and found to be applicable for routine quality control analysis for the simultaneous estimation of Ezetimibe and Glimepiride using isocratic mode of elution. The results of linearity, precision, accuracy and specificity, proved to be within the limits. The proposed method is highly sensitive, reproducible, reliable, rapid and specific. Hence, this method can easily and conveniently adopt for routine quality control analysis of Ezetimibe and Glimepiride in its pharmaceutical dosage forms.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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