

solution of Flurazepam in methanol (1 in 10,000) as directed under the Ultraviolet-visible Spectrophotometry, and compare the spectrum with the Reference Spectrum 2: both spectra exhibit similar intensities of absorption at the same wavelengths.

(5) Perform the test with Flurazepam as directed under the Flame Coloration Test (2): a green color appears.

**Melting point** 79 – 83°C

**Purity (1)** Clarity and color of solution—Dissolve 1.0 g of Flurazepam in 10 mL of ethanol (95): the solution is clear and colorless to light yellow.

(2) Chloride—Dissolve 1.0 g of Flurazepam in 50 mL of diethyl ether, add 46 mL of water and 4 mL of sodium carbonate TS, shake, separate the water layer, wash with two 20-mL portions of diethyl ether, and filter the water layer. Neutralize 20 mL of the filtrate with dilute nitric acid, and add 6 mL of dilute nitric acid and water to make 50 mL. Perform the test using this solution as the test solution. Prepare the control solution with 0.40 mL of 0.01 mol/L hydrochloric acid VS (not more than 0.036%).

(3) Sulfate—Neutralize 20 mL of the filtrate obtained in (2) with dilute hydrochloric acid, and add 1 mL of dilute hydrochloric acid and water to make 50 mL. Perform the test using this solution as the test solution. Prepare the control solution with 0.40 mL of 0.005 mol/L sulfuric acid VS (not more than 0.048%).

(4) Heavy metals—Proceed with 2.0 g of Flurazepam according to Method 2, and perform the test. Prepare the control solution with 2.0 mL of Standard Lead Solution (not more than 10 ppm).

(5) Arsenic—Prepare the test solution with 1.0 g of Flurazepam according to Method 3, and perform the test using Apparatus B (not more than 2 ppm).

(6) Related substances—Dissolve 0.20 g of Flurazepam in 20 mL of chloroform, and use this solution as the sample solution. Pipet 1 mL of the sample solution, and add chloroform to make exactly 20 mL. Pipet 3 mL of this solution, add chloroform to make exactly 50 mL, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with these solutions as directed under the Thin-layer Chromatography. Spot 10  $\mu$ L each of the sample solution and the standard solution on a plate of silica gel with fluorescent indicator for thin-layer chromatography. Develop the plate with a mixture of cyclohexane, acetone and ammonia solution (28) (60:40:1) to a distance of about 12 cm, and air-dry the plate. Examine under ultraviolet light (main wavelength: 254 nm): the spots other than the principal spot from the sample solution are not more intense than the spot from the standard solution.

**Loss on drying** Not more than 0.20% (1 g, in vacuum, 60°C, 2 hours).

**Residue on ignition** Not more than 0.10% (1 g, platinum crucible).

**Assay** Weigh accurately about 0.3 g of Flurazepam, previously dried, dissolve in 50 mL of acetic anhydride, and titrate with 0.1 mol/L perchloric acid VS to the second equivalence point (potentiometric titration). Perform a blank determination, and make any necessary correction.

Each mL of 0.1 mol/L perchloric acid VS  
= 19.394 mg of  $C_{21}H_{23}ClFN_3O$

**Containers and storage** Containers—Well-closed containers.

Storage—Light-resistant.

## Flurazepam Capsules

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Flurazepam Capsules contain not less than 93% and not more than 107% of the labeled amount of flurazepam ( $C_{21}H_{23}ClFN_3O$ : 387.88).

**Method of preparation** Prepare as directed under Capsules, with Flurazepam.

**Identification (1)** Powder the contents of Flurazepam Capsules. To a quantity of the powder, equivalent to 0.1 g of Flurazepam according to the labeled amount, add 100 mL of 0.1 mol/L hydrochloric acid TS, stir, and filter. To 40 mL of the filtrate add 80 mL of a solution of sodium hydroxide (1 in 250) and 100 mL of hexane, extract by shaking well, and use the hexane layer as the sample solution. Evaporate 25 mL of the sample solution on a water bath to dryness. Dissolve the residue in 3 mL of sulfuric acid: the solution shows a greenish yellow fluorescence under ultraviolet light.

(2) Evaporate 25 mL of the sample solution obtained in (1) on a water bath to dryness. Dissolve the residue in 3 mL of citric acid-acetic acid TS, and heat in a water bath for 4 minutes: a dark red color develops.

(3) Determine the absorption spectrum of the sample solution obtained in the Assay as directed under the Ultraviolet-visible Spectrophotometry: it exhibits a maximum between 315 nm and 319 nm, and a minimum between 297 nm and 301 nm.

**Assay** Weigh accurately the contents of not less than 20 Flurazepam Capsules, and powder the combined contents. Weigh accurately a portion of the powder, equivalent to about 0.05 g of flurazepam ( $C_{21}H_{23}ClFN_3O$ ), add 30 mL of methanol, stir well for 10 minutes, and add methanol to make exactly 50 mL. Filter this solution, discard the first 20 mL of the filtrate, pipet 6 mL of the subsequent filtrate, add methanol to make exactly 50 mL, and use this solution as the sample solution. Separately, weigh accurately about 0.05 g of flurazepam for assay, previously dried in vacuum at 60°C for 2 hours, and dissolve in methanol to make exactly 50 mL. Pipet 6 mL of this solution, add methanol to make exactly 50 mL, and use this solution as the standard solution. Determine the absorbances,  $A_T$  and  $A_S$ , of the sample solution and the standard solution at 317 nm as directed under the Ultraviolet-visible Spectrophotometry.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Amount (mg) of flurazepam (C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{ClFN}_3\text{O)} \\ & = \text{amount (mg) of flurazepam for assay} \\ & \quad \times \frac{A_T}{A_S} \end{aligned}$$

**Containers and storage** Containers—Tight containers.