optical rotation.

Identification (1) Determine the absorption spectrum of a solution of Mequitazine in ethanol (95) (1 in 250,000) as directed under the Ultraviolet-visible Spectrophotometry, and compare the spectrum with the Reference Spectrum: both spectra exhibit similar intensities of absorption at the same wavelength.

(2) Determine the infrared absorption spectrum of Mequitazine, previously dried, as directed in the potassium bromide disk method under the Infrared Spectrophotometry, and compare the spectrum with the Reference Spectrum: both spectra exhibit similar intensities of absorption at the same wave numbers.

Melting point 146 – 150°C

Purity (1) Heavy metals—Proceed with 1.0 g of Mequitazine according to Method 2, and perform the test. Prepare the control solution with 2.0 mL of Standard Lead Solution (not more than 20 ppm).

procedure (2) Related substances—Conduct this without exposure to light, using light-resistant vessels. Dissolve 0.05 g of Mequitazine in 5 mL of methanol, and use this solution as the sample solution. Pipet 1 mL of the sample solution, add methanol to make exactly 50 mL, then pipet 5 mL of this solution, add methanol 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 5 μ L each of the sample solution and the standard solution on a plate of silica gel with fluorescent indicator for thin-layer chromatography. Develop with a mixture of ethyl acetate, methanol and diethylamine (7:2:2) to a distance of about 10 cm, and airdry the plate. Examine under ultraviolet light (main wavelength: 254 nm): the number of the spot other than the principal spot from the sample solution is not more than 3 and they are not more intense than the spot from the standard solution.

Loss on drying Not more than 0.5% (1 g, in vacuum, phosphorus (V) oxide, 60°C, 3 hours).

Residue on ignition Not more than 0.10% (1 g).

Assay Weigh accurately about 0.25 g of Mequitazine, dissolve in 50 mL of acetic acid (100), titrate with 0.1 mol/L perchloric acid VS (potentiometric titration). Perform a blank determination, and make any necessary correction.

Each mL of 0.1 mol/L perchloric acid VS = 32.247 mg of $C_{20}H_{22}N_2S$

Containers and storage Containers—Tight containers. Storage—Light-resistant.

Mercaptopurine

メルカプトプリン

 $C_5H_4N_4S.H_2O:$ 170.19 1,7-Dihydro-6*H*-purine-6-thione monohydrate [6112-76-1]

Mercaptopurine contains not less than 98.0% of $C_5H_4N_4S$: 152.18, calculated on the anhydrous basis.

Description Mercaptopurine occurs as light yellow to yellow crystals or crystalline powder. It is odorless.

It is practically insoluble in water, in acetone and in diethyl ether.

It dissolves in sodium hydroxide TS and in ammonia TS.

Identification (1) Dissolve 0.6 g of Mercaptopurine in 6 mL of sodium hydroxide solution (3 in 100), and add slowly 0.5 mL of iodomethane with vigorous stirring. Stir well for 10 minutes, cool in an ice bath, and adjust the pH with acetic acid (31) to about 5. Collect the separated crystals by filtration, recrystallize from water, and dry at 120°C for 30 minutes: the crystals melt between 218°C and 222°C (with decomposition).

(2) Determine the absorption spectrum of a solution of Mercaptopurine in 0.1 mol/L hydrochloric acid TS (1 in 200,000) as directed under the Ultraviolet-visible Spectrophotometry, and compare the spectrum with the Reference Spectrum: both spectra exhibit similar intensities of absorption at the same wavelengths.

Purity (1) Clarity of solution—Dissolve 0.20 g of Mercaptopurine in 10 mL of ammonia TS: the solution is clear.

- (2) Sulfate—Dissolve 0.05 g of Mercaptopurine in 10 mL of dilute hydrochloric acid, add 5 drops of barium chloride TS, and allow to stand for 5 minutes: no turbidity is produced.
- (3) Heavy metals—Proceed with 1.0 g of Mercaptopurine according to Method 2, and perform the test. Prepare the control solution with 2.0 mL of Standard Lead Solution (not more than 20 ppm).
- (4) Hypoxanthine—Dissolve 0.050 g of Mercaptopurine in exactly 10 mL of a solution of ammonia solution (28) in methanol (1 in 10), and use this solution as the sample solution. Separately, dissolve 5.0 mg of hypoxanthine in a solution of ammonia solution (28) in methanol (1 in 10) to make exactly 100 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 methanol, chloroform, *n*-butyl formate and ammonia solution (28) (8:6:4:1) to a distance of about 10 cm, and air-dry the plate. Examine under ultraviolet light (main wavelength: 254 nm): the spot from the sample solution is not observed at the same place as that from the standard solution, or if a spot is observed at the same place, it is not larger than that from the standard solution.
- (5) Phosphorus—Take 0.20 g of Mercaptopurine in a crucible, add 2 mL of diluted sulfuric acid (3 in 7), then heat gently, slowly adding dropwise several 0.5-mL portions of nitric acid, until the liquid becomes colorless. Continue to heat until most of the liquid has evaporated, cool, and dissolve the residue in 10 mL of water. Transfer the solution to a 25-mL volumetric flask, wash the crucible with two 4-mL portions of water, combine the washings with the solution

in the volumetric flask, and use this solution as the sample solution. Separately, dissolve 0.4396 g of potassium dihydrogenphosphate in water to make exactly 200 mL. To 2.0 mL of this solution add water to make exactly 100 mL. Transfer 2.0 mL of this solution to a 25-mL volumetric flask, add 16 mL of water, and use this solution as the standard solution. To the sample solution and the standard solution add 1 mL of diluted sulfuric acid (3 in 7), 0.5 mL of nitric acid, 0.75 mL of hexaammonium heptamolybdate TS, 1 mL of 1-amino-2-naphthol-4-sulfonic acid TS and water to make 25 mL, and allow to stand for 5 minutes. Perform the test with these solutions as directed under the Ultraviolet-visible Spectrophotometry, using water as the blank: the absorbance of the subsequent solution of the sample solution at 750 nm is not larger than that of the subsequent solution of the standard solution.

Water 10.0 - 12.0% (0.2 g, back titration).

Residue on ignition Not more than 0.10% (1 g).

Assay Weigh accurately about 0.25 g of Mercaptopurine, dissolve in 90 mL of N,N-dimethylformamide, and titrate with 0.1 mol/L tetramethylammonium hydroxide VS (potentiometric titration). Perform a blank determination with a mixture of 90 mL of N,N-dimethylformamide and 15 mL of water, and make any necessary correction.

Each mL of 0.1 mol/L tetramethylammonium hydroxide VS = 15.218 mg of $C_5H_4N_4S$

Containers and storage Containers—Well-closed containers.

Mercurochrome

Merbromin

マーキュロクロム

Mercurochrome is a sodium salt of a mixture of brominated and mercurized fluoresceins. When dried, it contains not less than 18.0% and not more than 22.4% of bromine (Br: 79.90), and not less than 22.4% and not more than 26.7% of mercury (Hg: 200.59).

Description Mercurochrome occurs as blue-green to greenish red-brown scales or granules. It is odorless.

It is freely soluble in water, but sometimes leaves a small amount of insoluble matter. It is practically insoluble in ethanol (95) and in diethyl ether.

Identification (1) A solution of Mercurochrome (1 in 2000) shows a red color and a yellow-green fluorescence.

- (2) To 5 mL of a solution of Mercurochrome (1 in 250) add 3 drops of dilute sulfuric acid: a reddish orange precipitate is produced.
- (3) Heat 0.1 g of Mercurochrome with small crystals of iodine in a test tube: red crystals are sublimed on the upper part of the tube. If yellow crystals are produced, scratch with a glass rod: the color of the crystals changes to red.
- (4) Place 0.1 g of Mercurochrome in a porcelain crucible, add 1 mL of a solution of sodium hydroxide (1 in 6),

evaporate to dryness with stirring, and ignite. Dissolve the residue in 5 mL of water, acidify with hydrochloric acid, and shake with 3 drops of chlorine TS and 2 mL of chloroform: a yellowish brown color develops in the chloroform layer.

- **Purity** (1) Dyestuff—Dissolve 0.40 g of Mercurochrome in 20 mL of water, add 3 mL of dilute sulfuric acid, and filter: the filtrate has no more color than Matching Fluid C.
- (2) Soluble halides—Dissolve 5.0 g of Mercurochrome in 80 mL of water, add 10 mL of dilute nitric acid and water to make 100 mL, shake, and filter. Transfer 40 mL of the filtrate to a Nessler tube, add 6 mL of dilute nitric acid and water to make 50 mL, then add 1 mL of silver nitrate TS, mix well, and allow to stand for 5 minutes protected from direct sunlight: no turbidity is produced, or even if produced, it is not more than that of the following control solution.

Control solution: To 0.25 mL of 0.01 mol/L hydrochloric acid VS add 6 mL of dilute nitric acid and water to make 50 mL, then add 1 mL of silver nitrate TS, and proceed as directed above.

- (3) Soluble mercury salts—To 5 mL of the filtrate obtained in (1) add 5 mL of water, and use this solution as the sample solution. Dissolve 0.040 g of mercury (II) chloride, weighed accurately, in water to make 1000 mL, and add 3 mL of dilute sulfuric acid to 20 mL of this solution. To 5 mL of the solution add 5 mL of water, and use this as the control solution. Add 1 drop each of sodium sulfide TS to these solutions, and compare: the sample solution has no more color than the control solution.
- (4) Insoluble mercury compounds—Dissolve 2.5 g of Mercurochrome in 50 mL of water, allow to stand for 24 hours, centrifuge, and wash the precipitate with small portions of water until the last washing becomes colorless. Transfer the precipitate to a glass-stoppered flask, add exactly 5 mL of 0.05 mol/L iodine VS, allow to stand for 1 hour with frequent agitation, add 4.3 mL of 0.1 mol/L sodium thiosulfate VS dropwise with shaking, and add 1 mL of starch TS: a blue color develops.

Loss on drying Not more than 5.0% (1 g, 105°C, 5 hours).

Assay (1) Mercury—Weigh accurately about 0.6 g of Mercurochrome, previously powdered and dried, transfer to an iodine flask, dissolve in 50 mL of water, add 8 mL of acetic acid (31), 20 mL of chloroform and exactly 30 mL of 0.05 mol/L iodine VS, stopper tightly, and allow to stand for 1 hour with frequent, vigorous shaking. Titrate the excess iodine with 0.1 mol/L sodium thiosulfate VS with vigorous shaking (indicator: 1 mL of starch TS). Perform a blank determination, and make any necessary correction.

Each mL of 0.05 mol/L iodine VS = 10.030 mg of Hg

(2) Bromine—Weigh accurately about 0.5 g of Mercurochrome, previously powdered and dried, in a porcelain crucible, add 2 g of potassium nitrate, 3 g of potassium carbonate and 3 g of anhydrous sodium carbonate, mix well, cover the surface of the mixture with 3 g of a mixture of equal amounts of potassium carbonate and anhydrous sodium carbonate, and ignite almost to fusion. Cool, dissolve the ignited mixture in 80 mL of warm water, acidify with nitric acid, and add exactly 25 mL of 0.1 mol/L silver nitrate VS. Shake well, and titrate the excess silver nitrate with 0.1 mol/L ammonium thiocyanate VS (indicator: 2 mL of