## Naproxen

 $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$  230.26 2-Naphthaleneacetic acid, 6-methoxy- $\alpha$ -methyl-, (\$)-. (+)-(\$)-6-Methoxy- $\alpha$ -methyl-2-naphthaleneacetic acid [22204-53-1].

» Naproxen contains not less than 98.5 percent and not more than 101.5 percent of  $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$ , calculated on the dried basis.

Packaging and storage—Preserve in tight containers.

**USP Reference standards** ⟨11⟩—USP Naproxen RS

## Identification—

**A:** Infrared Absorption (197K).

**B**: Ultraviolet Absorption (197U)—

Solution: 25 μg per mL. *Medium:* methanol.

Absorptivities at 271 nm, calculated on the dried basis, do not differ by more than 3%.

**Specific rotation** (781S): between +83.0° and +89.5°.

Test solution: 10 mg per mL, in methyl isobutyl ketone.

**Loss on drying** (731)—Dry it at 105° for 3 hours: it loses not more than 0.5% of its weight.

**Heavy metals,** Method II  $\langle 231 \rangle$ : 0.002%.

Chromatographic purity—Dissolve 100 mg of Naproxen in methanol, and dilute with methanol to 5.0 mL to obtain the Test solution. Dissolve a suitable quantity of USP Naproxen RS in methanol to obtain a Standard solution having a known concentration of about 20 mg per mL. Dilute a portion of this solution quantitatively and stepwise with methanol to obtain three Comparison solutions having concentrations of 20, 60, and 100 µg per mL (0.1%, 0.3%, and 0.5% of the Standard solution), respectively. Apply separate 10-µL portions of the five solutions to the starting line of a suitable thin-layer chromatographic plate (see Chromatography (621)) coated with a 0.25-mm layer of chromatographic silica gel mixture. Develop the chromatogram in a solvent system consisting of a mixture of toluene, tetrahy-drofuran, and glacial acetic acid (30:3:1) until the solvent front has moved about three-fourths of the length of the plate. Remove the plate from the chamber, mark the solvent front, airdry, and view under short-wavelength UV light: the R<sub>F</sub> value of the principal spot in the chromatogram of the Test solution corresponds to that of the Standard solution, and any other spot obtained from the Test solution does not exceed, in size or intensity, the principal spot obtained from the  $100\text{-}\mu\text{g-per-mL}$ Comparison solution (0.5%), and the sum of the intensities of any secondary spots, similarly compared, does not exceed

**Assay**—Dissolve about 500 mg of Naproxen, accurately weighed, in a mixture of 75 mL of methanol and 25 mL of water that has been previously neutralized to the phenolphthalein endpoint with 0.1 N sodium hydroxide. Dissolve by gentle warming, if necessary, add phenolphthalein TS, and titrate with 0.1 N sodium hydroxide VS. Each mL of 0.1 N sodium hydroxide is equivalent to 23.03 mg of C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

# **Naproxen Oral Suspension**

» Naproxen Oral Suspension contains not less than 90.0 percent and not more than 110.0 percent of the labeled amount of naproxen  $(C_{14}H_{14}O_3)$ .

**Packaging and storage**—Preserve in tight, light-resistant containers. Store at room temperature.

# **USP Reference standards** (11)—USP Naproxen RS

**Identification**—Prepare a mixture of the *Standard preparation* and the *Assay preparation* (1:1), prepared as directed in the *Assay*, and chromatograph as directed in the *Assay*: the chromatogram thus obtained exhibits two main peaks corresponding to naproxen and the internal standard.

#### Uniformity of dosage units (905)—

FOR ORAL SUSPENSION PACKAGED IN SINGLE-UNIT CONTAINERS: meets the requirements.

#### **Deliverable volume** (698)—

FOR ORAL SUSPENSION PACKAGED IN MULTIPLE-UNIT CONTAINERS: meets the requirements.

**pH** (791): between 2.2 and 3.7.

#### Assay-

Mobile phase—Prepare a mixture of 500 mL of methanol, 500 mL of water, and 2.46 g of anhydrous sodium acetate, and mix until dissolved. Adjust with glacial acetic acid to a pH of 5.8. Make adjustments if necessary (see *System Suitability* under *Chromatography* (621)).

Internal standard solution—Prepare a solution of ethylparaben in methanol containing about 1.1 mg per mL.

Standard preparation—Transfer about 62.5 mg of USP Naproxen RS, accurately weighed, to a 50-mL volumetric flask, add about 30 mL of methanol, and sonicate to dissolve. Add 5.0 mL of *Internal standard solution*, dilute with methanol to volume, and mix. Transfer 2.0 mL of this solution to a 50-mL volumetric flask, dilute with *Mobile phase* to volume, and mix. This solution contains about 50 µg of USP Naproxen RS and 4.4 µg of ethylparaben per mL.

Assay preparation—Transfer an accurately measured volume of Oral Suspension, previously well-mixed and free from air bubbles, equivalent to about 125 mg of naproxen, to a 100-mL volumetric flask, using a "to contain" pipet. Rinse the pipet several times with methanol, and add the rinsings to the volumetric flask. Add 10.0 mL of Internal standard solution, dilute with methanol to volume, and mix. Transfer 2.0 mL of this solution to a 50-mL volumetric flask, dilute with Mobile phase to volume, and mix. Filter, if necessary, to obtain a clear solution.

Chromatographic system (see Chromatography (621))—The liquid chromatograph is equipped with a 254-nm detector and a 3.9-mm × 30-cm column that contains packing L1. The flow rate is about 2 mL per minute. Chromatograph the Standard preparation, and record the peak responses as directed for Procedure: the relative retention times are about 0.6 for ethylparaben and 1.0 for naproxen; the resolution, R, between ethylparaben and naproxen is not less than 3.0; the tailing factor for the naproxen peak is not more than 2.0; and the relative standard deviation for replicate injections is not more than 1.5%.

*Procedure*—Separately inject equal volumes (about 35  $\mu$ L) of the *Standard preparation* and the *Assay preparation* into the chromatograph, record the chromatograms, and measure the responses for the major peaks. Calculate the quantity, in mg, of naproxen ( $C_{14}H_{14}O_3$ ) in each mL of the Oral Suspension taken by the formula:

### $2.5(C/V)(R_U/R_S)$

in which C is the concentration, in  $\mu g$  per mL, of USP Naproxen RS in the *Standard preparation; V* is the volume, in mL, of Oral Suspension taken to prepare the *Assay preparation;* and  $R_U$  and  $R_S$  are the ratios of the response of the naproxen peak to the response of the ethylparaben peak obtained from the *Assay preparation* and the *Standard preparation*, respectively.