

them with the clip, then wet the inside of the filter holder with several mL of purified water for particulate matter test. Clean the outer surface of the container, and mix the sample solution gently by inverting the container several times. Remove the cap, clean the outer surface of the nozzle, and pour the sample solution into a measuring cylinder which has been rinsed well with purified water for particulate matter test. Repeat the process to prepare 25 mL of the test solution. Pour the test solution into the filter holder along the inner wall of the holder. Apply the vacuum and filter mildly so as to keep the solution always on the filter. As for viscous sample solution, dilute suitably with purified water for particulate matter test or suitable diluent and then filter as described above. When the amount of the solution on the filter becomes small, add 30 mL of purified water for particulate matter test or suitable diluent in such manner as to wash the inner wall of the filter holder. Repeat the process 3 times with 30 mL of the water. Apply the vacuum gently until the surface of the membrane filter is free from water. Place the filter in a petri dish, and dry the filter at a temperature below 50°C with the cover slightly ajar. After the filter has been dried, place the petri dish on the stage of the microscope, and count the number of particles which are equal to or larger than 300 μm within the effective filtering area of the filter according to the same procedure of the microscope as described above. In this case the particle is sized on the longest axis.

Ophthalmic solutions which are dissolved before use

Proceed as directed in Aqueous Ophthalmic Solutions after dissolving the sample with the constituted solution.

Suspension type ophthalmic solutions

Proceed as directed in Aqueous Ophthalmic Solutions. Take 25 mL of the sample in a vessel, which has been rinsed well with purified water for particulate matter test, add a suitable amount of a suspension-solubilizing solvent or an adequate solvent, shake to dissolve the suspending particles, and use this solution as the sample solution. Use a membrane filter which is not affected by the solvent to be used.

Ophthalmic solutions contained in a single-dose container

Proceed as directed in Aqueous Ophthalmic Solutions, using 10 samples for the test. A 13-mm diameter membrane filter and a 4-mm diameter filter holder for retaining insoluble particulate matter are used.

26. Iron Limit Test

The Iron Limit Test is a limit test for iron contained in drugs. The limit is expressed in term of iron (Fe).

In each monograph, the permissible limit for iron (as Fe) is described in terms of ppm in parentheses.

Preparation of test solutions and control solutions

Unless otherwise specified, test solutions and control solutions are prepared as follows:

(1) Method 1

Weigh the amount of sample specified in individual monograph, add 30 mL of acetic acid-sodium acetate buffer solution for iron limit test, pH 4.5, dissolve by warming if necessary, and designate this solution as the test solution.

Prepare the control solution as follows: To the amount of Standard Iron Solution specified in individual monograph add 30 mL of acetic acid-sodium acetate buffer solution for

iron limit test, pH 4.5.

(2) Method 2

Weigh the amount of sample specified in individual monograph, add 10 mL of dilute hydrochloric acid, and dissolve by warming if necessary. Dissolve 0.5 g of L-tartaric acid, and add one drop of phenolphthalein TS. Add ammonia TS dropwise until the solution develops a pale red color. Add 20 mL of acetic acid-sodium acetate buffer solution for iron limit test, pH 4.5, and designate this solution as the test solution.

Prepare the control solution as follows: To the amount of Standard Iron Solution specified in individual monograph add 10 mL of dilute hydrochloric acid, and proceed as directed for the test solution.

(3) Method 3

Place the amount of sample specified in individual monograph in a crucible, moisten with a small amount of sulfuric acid, heat cautiously and gently at first, and then incinerate by ignition. After cooling, add 1 mL of diluted hydrochloric acid (2 in 3) and 0.5 mL of diluted nitric acid (1 in 3), evaporate on a water bath to dryness, and to the residue add 0.5 mL of diluted hydrochloric acid (2 in 3) and 10 mL of water. After dissolving by warming, add 30 mL of acetic acid-sodium acetate buffer solution for iron limit test, pH 4.5, and designate this solution as the test solution.

Prepare the control solution as follows: Transfer the amount of Standard Iron Solution specified in individual monograph to a crucible, and add 1 mL of diluted hydrochloric acid (2 in 3) and 0.5 mL of diluted nitric acid (1 in 3), evaporate on a water bath to dryness, and proceed as directed for the test solution.

In this procedure, use a quartz or porcelain crucible, which is immersed in boiling dilute hydrochloric acid for 1 hour and washed thoroughly with water and dried.

Procedure

Unless otherwise specified, proceed as follows:

(1) Method A

Transfer the test solution and the control solution to separate Nessler tubes, to each add 2 mL of a solution of L-ascorbic acid (1 in 100), mix well, and allow to stand for 30 minutes. Add 1 mL of a solution of α , α' -dipyridyl in ethanol (95) (1 in 200), add water to make 50 mL, and allow to stand for 30 minutes. Then compare the colors developed in both solutions against a white background. The test solution has no more color than the control solution.

(2) Method B

Dissolve 0.2 g of L-ascorbic acid in the test solution and the control solution, and allow to stand for 30 minutes. Add 1 mL of a solution of α , α' -dipyridyl in ethanol (95) (1 in 200), and allow to stand for 30 minutes. Then add 2 mL of a solution of 2,4,6-trinitrophenol (3 in 1000) and 20 mL of 1,2-dichloroethane, shake vigorously, collect the 1,2-dichloroethane layer, and filter through a pledget of absorbent cotton in a funnel on which 5 g of anhydrous sodium sulfate is placed if necessary. Then compare the colors developed in both solutions against a white background. The test solution has no more color than the control solution.