Fast HPLC for Rapid Screening of Pharmaceutical Compounds

An array of samples for HPLC screening
Dear Colleague,

Innovation begins as a concept or idea, which is driven by creating value for our customers. This can be in the form of new and improved products and protocols, leading to novel and unique solutions. Our innovation process is guided by assessing current market needs and technologies and combining them with our internal strengths to develop an idea or product perceived as new, creative and unique to the market.

Our innovation success begins with identifying customer-specific application solutions and combining them with our strengths in particle technology and surface chemistry to achieve our goal to:

Accelerate our customers’ success by identifying and addressing critical customer needs with proprietary, unique, and valued application solutions. These application solutions must meet real customer needs via proprietary and unique intellectual property and proprietary capabilities such as particle platform technology and surface chemistry.

Implementing this strategy provides rewarding challenges, which have lead to new, unique and exciting products to the analytical market. Among them are:

Ascentis® Express HPLC Columns – Based on Fused-Core™ technology, these columns provide fast HPLC with high resolution at backpressures suitable for use in standard HPLC systems. These columns provide sub-2 μm like performance without the drawback of ultra-high backpressures. This breakthrough in HPLC column performance delivers extreme performance on any LC system. (see page 3)

SupelMIP™ – Molecularly imprinted polymers engineered for the highly selective extraction of trace analytes from complex sample matrices. Each phase is application specific and optimized to reduce ion-suppression and achieve lower detection limits through superior selectivity. Each phase comes with a recommended protocol, thereby minimizing method development. (see page 12)

MiniTip™ SPE products – Designed for micro-scale extraction and concentration of small molecules and biological macromolecules. The sorbent bed is held in place using a patented high-purity adhesive allowing the tube to act a solid phase extraction medium for your work. Currently available in C18 or carbon with other phases available very soon. (see page 15)

We are committed to developing innovative solutions driven by our customer’s inputs and specific market needs. You will find these products in this issue as well as future issues of our Reporter and also on our website at sigma-aldrich.com/chromatography. Put our staff to work for you, let us know what we can do for you today.

Regards,

Kristen Schultz
Product Manager - Sample Preparation and Purification
Fast HPLC Using Fused-Core Particle Technology for Rapid Screening of Pharmaceutical Compounds

Hillel Brandes, Craig Aurand and Wayne K. Way
wayne.way@sial.com

Introduction

HPLC is critical to the discovery, development and eventual commercialization of pharmaceutical products. HPLC is the benchmark analytical method in the pharmaceutical industry due to its ability to score such high marks in analytical validation characteristics including accuracy, precision, limit of detection, specificity, linearity and range, and ruggedness. No other analytical techniques can consistently score high in all characteristics on compounds and matrices that are of interest to the pharmaceutical industry.

A major benefit of the Fused-Core particle is the small diffusion path

Furthermore, it has been generally accepted that a typical HPLC analysis takes 15-30 minutes with some as great as an hour. When multiplied by the number of samples to be analyzed either in discovery or product release, the total instrument time required is staggering. This overwhelming amount of instrument time has resulted in a growing number of instruments, around-the-clock analysis, and a push for faster methods.

Fast HPLC, using short columns (3-10 cm) packed with small particles (<3 μm) and high flow rates has recently become an effective means to reduce analysis time. This is primarily due to the improved quality of sub-3 μm particle columns and the introduction of new instrumentation to meet the requirements of higher column backpressure and low instrument dispersion. The reasons for using sub-3 μm particle columns in fast HPLC are evident by examining Van Deemter plots for various particle sizes. The smaller particles yield lower HETP or higher efficiency per unit length. Furthermore, the optimum flow rate is higher for smaller particles. Smaller particle columns have less efficiency loss at high flow rates because mass transfer is less sensitive to velocity changes as illustrated by “flatter” Van Deemter plots.

Unfortunately, column backpressure increases at a greater rate than column efficiency as you decrease particle size. This increase in backpressure is so great for sub-2 μm particle columns that they are practically unusable using standard HPLC systems, such as Agilent® 1100. For this reason, a particle with high efficiency plus low backpressure would be a more suitable candidate for Fast HPLC.

Fused-Core Particle Technology Delivers High Efficiency at Low Backpressure

Ascentis Express columns provide a breakthrough in fast HPLC performance. Based on Fused-Core particle technology, Ascentis Express provides the high efficiency based benefits of sub-2 μm particles but at much lower backpressure. Due to the high efficiencies at low back pressures, Ascentis Express can provide Fast HPLC chromatography that was previously unattainable on commercial LC systems.

The Fused-Core particle consists of a 1.7 μm solid core and a 0.5 μm porous shell. A major benefit of the Fused-Core particle is the small diffusion path (0.5 μm) compared to conventional fully porous particles. The shorter diffusion path reduces axial dispersion of solutes and minimizes peak broadening. In fact, Ascentis Express columns are able to achieve efficiencies similar to that obtained with sub-2 μm particle columns, even though the backpressures are only 50% of that achieved under similar conditions with sub-2 μm particles. This means that Ascentis Express can turn almost any LC system into a fast HPLC workhorse for your lab.

Fast HPLC of Pharmaceutical Compounds

Shown in Figures 1-3 on page 4 are the chromatograms for the separation of three sets of closely related pharmaceutical compounds. These examples include both basic and neutral as well as polar and non-polar compounds. While each example utilizes 2.1 mm I.D. columns, three different flow rates and three unique mobile phase conditions are presented to demonstrate the versatility of fast HPLC with Fused-Core particle columns.
Shown in Figure 1 is the separation of six tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs). The separation of these closely related compounds was performed under isocratic mobile phase conditions with mass spectrometric (MS) detection. Baseline resolution was achieved with a total separation time of 3 minutes demonstrating not only the potential speed of the Ascentis Express columns but also the resolving power. Note the MS compatible mobile phase and flow rate. Furthermore, the use of 2.1 mm I.D. columns provides a reduction in solvent consumption compared to typical flow rates for 4.6 mm I.D. or monolithic columns.

Data in Figure 2 further illustrates the speed in which closely related compounds can be resolved using the Fused-Core particle. In this example, four β-blockers are resolved in less than one minute under isocratic conditions utilizing MS detection. While a 10 cm column was utilized for the TCAs separation, a 5 cm column was used for the β-blockers example.

The separation of three steroids as well as a related impurity and degradant is shown in Figure 3. A high mobile phase flow rate of 0.6 mL/min was utilized and is suitable for Ascentis Express columns due to the Van Deemter curve associated with these columns. Isocratic mobile phase conditions were utilized as well as UV detection at 200 nm.
a common detection wavelength for impurity profiling. Again, baseline resolution was achieved for all compounds with a total runtime of less than two minutes. It should be noted that the isocratic conditions used in these examples further enhances sample throughput versus gradient conditions due to no need for column re-equilibration. With a backpressure of just 4500 psi, this analysis could be performed on almost any HPLC system. A similar separation was attempted using a sub-2 μm particle column but was not possible given the same instrument constraints put on the Ascentis Express column.

Conclusions

Fast HPLC is increasingly becoming a reality for all phases of pharmaceutical product development from discovery to production. Ascentis Express HPLC columns provide the high efficiency and low backpressure that make it a suitable candidate for fast HPLC using conventional instruments such as an Agilent 1100. These columns also provide proportionate performance improvements on new, ultra-high pressure systems compared to sub-2 μm particles because the higher efficiency per unit backpressure characteristic of the innovative Fused-Core particle is a fundamental technology advance.

### Selecting the Right Buffer

A partial list of common buffers and their corresponding useful pH range is supplied. Perhaps the most common buffer in HPLC is the phosphate ion. Although, with the growth of LC-MS, volatile buffers such as TFA, acetate, formate, and ammonia are becoming more frequently used. Remember, the purpose of a buffer in the mobile phase is to inhibit a pH change in the mobile phase after the introduction of a sample. When developing a method, it is important to select a mobile phase with a final pH at least one pH unit away from any analytes pK value. As a rule of thumb, one should work within a ±1 pH unit of the buffer pKa. Typical buffer concentrations for HPLC tend to be 10-100 millimolar level.

### Related Information

For more information on Ascentis Express columns, request T407044 (JHD) or visit sigma-aldrich.com/express

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<td>Phosphate 3</td>
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Chiral HPLC Separations Using Astec CHIROBIOTIC™ TAG Stationary Phases

Tom Beesley
tom.beesley@sial.com

Broad chiral selectivity, easy method development protocols, good resolution, fast analysis time, robustness, and reproducibility are all desired attributes of a superior chiral stationary phase (CSP). Astec CHIROBIOTIC CSPs offer many of these attributes for a wide variety of chiral compounds.

CHIROBIOTIC stationary phases are manufactured by linking various macrocyclic glycopeptides through multiple covalent bonds to silica surfaces. To date, vancomycin (V/V2), teicoplanin (T/T2) and ristocetin (R) glycopeptides have been commercialized. The difference in V/V2 and T/T2 pairs is the technology used in the bonding process. The alternative attachment to the surface often provides complementary differences in chiral selectivity. An additional CSP has been developed whereby the sugar moiety of teicoplanin glycopeptide has been removed prior to bonding. This is referred to as teicoplanin aglycone or TAG.

The CHIROBIOTIC TAG CSP has proven especially unique in the CHIROBIOTIC series. TAG has demonstrated effectiveness in resolving the enantiomers of underivatized amino acids with simple mobile phases like methanol/water with excellent selectivity. TAG has been applied to chiral amino acid separations of serine, isoleucine and many other underivatized amino acids. Separation conditions are often appropriate for LC-MS analyses. Figure 1 shows an excellent separation of serine enantiomers using a very simple, LC-MS compatible mobile phase. CHIROBIOTIC TAG has not only shown improved separation over other CSPs, it provides unique selectivity. TAG is the only known CSP to separate carnitine (gamma amino acid) and all of its analogs. See Figure 2.

Astec CHIROBIOTIC CSPs offer many desirable attributes for chiral separations. Alternative bonding strategies as in the V/V2 and T/T2 series as well as modifications of the glycopeptide itself as in the T/TAG series show unique and complementary selectivity toward a wide variety of chiral compounds. Selectivity of TAG toward amino acid enantiomers using simple, LC-MS compatible mobile phases as shown in this report is just a sample of what the CHIROBIOTIC series of CSPs can accomplish.
Supelco has what you need.

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- Connectors/Tees
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An article in a previous issue of The Reporter discussed the fast analysis of trans fats (1). This article will focus on the fast analysis of omega-3 and -6 fatty acids.

The Need for a Fast GC Column

The analysis of food products containing the omega-3 and -6 fatty acids is typically performed according to the Association of Official Analytical Chemists (AOAC) Method 991.39 (2). This method uses a polar, wax-type capillary column of 30 meters in length for the analysis of fatty acids as their corresponding methyl esters (FAMEs). The analysis is complex and requires approximately 30 to 40 minutes to complete. Recently, a new version Omegawax™ capillary column was developed at Supelco. This column has the ability to significantly reduce the time required to perform the analysis of omega-3 fatty acids.

Introduction

As a result of changes in nutritional labeling laws and consumers’ desire to have “healthier fat” in their diet, the analysis of the trans fat and the omega-3 and -6 fatty acid content of food products has become a very active area of research for many food companies. Trans fatty acids are currently noted as being a “bad fat” to have in a diet, as studies have linked their nutritional contribution to be similar to saturated fats and their possible role in coronary heart disease. The omega-3 and -6 fatty acids are important, as increased consumption of omega-3 fatty acids has been linked with reducing coronary heart disease. They also play an important role in brain development in babies.

Figure 1. Supelco 37-Component FAME Mix

column: Omegawax 100, 15 m x 0.10 mm I.D., 0.10 μm (23399-U)
oven: 140 °C, 40 °C/min. to 280 °C (2 min.)
inj.: 250 °C
det.: FID, 260 °C
carrier gas: hydrogen, 50 cm/sec constant
injection: 0.2 μL, 200:1 split
liner: 4 mm I.D., split, cup design
sample: Supelco 37-Component FAME Mix (47885-U)

1. Butyric Acid Methyl Ester (C4:0) at 4 wt %
2. Caproic Acid Methyl Ester (C6:0) at 4 wt %
3. Caprylic Acid Methyl Ester (C8:0) at 4 wt %
4. Capric Acid Methyl Ester (C10:0) at 4 wt %
5. Undecanoic Acid Methyl Ester (C11:0) at 2 wt %
6. Lauric Acid Methyl Ester (C12:0) at 4 wt %
7. Tridecanoic Acid Methyl Ester (C13:0) at 2 wt %
8. Myristic Acid Methyl Ester (C14:0) at 4 wt %
9. Myristoleic Acid Methyl Ester (C14:1) at 2 wt %
10. Pentadecanoic Acid Methyl Ester (C15:0) at 2 wt %
11. cis-10-Pentadecenoic Acid Methyl Ester (C15:1) at 2 wt %
12. Palmitic Acid Methyl Ester (C16:0) at 6 wt %
13. Palmitoleic Acid Methyl Ester (C16:1) at 2 wt %
14. Heptadecanoic Acid Methyl Ester (C17:0) at 2 wt %
15. cis-10-Heptadecenoic Acid Methyl Ester (C17:1) at 2 wt %
16. Stearic Acid Methyl Ester (C18:0) at 4 wt %
17. Oleic Acid Methyl Ester (C18:1) at 4 wt %
18. Elaidic Acid Methyl Ester (C18:1n9) at 2 wt %
19. Linoleic Acid Methyl Ester (C18:2n6) at 2 wt %
20. Linoleic Acid Methyl Ester (C18:2n6) at 2 wt %
21. Arachidic Acid Methyl Ester (C20:0) at 4 wt %
22. γ-Linolenic Acid Methyl Ester (C18:3n6) at 2 wt %
23. cis-11-Eicosenonic Acid Methyl Ester (C20:1) at 2 wt %
24. Linolenic Acid Methyl Ester (C18:3n3) at 2 wt %
25. Heneicosanoic Acid Methyl Ester (C21:0) at 2 wt %
26. cis-11,14-Eicosadienoic Acid Methyl Ester (C20:2) at 2 wt %
27. Behenic Acid Methyl Ester (C22:0) at 4 wt %
28. cis-6,11,14-Eicosatrienoic Acid Methyl Ester (C20:3n6) at 2 wt %
29. Erucic Acid Methyl Ester (C22:1n9) at 2 wt %
30. cis-11,14,17-Eicosatrienoic Acid Methyl Ester (C20:3n3) at 2 wt %
31. Arachidonic Acid Methyl Ester (C20:4n6) at 2 wt %
32. Tricosanoic Acid Methyl Ester (C23:0) at 2 wt %
33. cis-13,16-Docosadienoic Acid Methyl Ester (C22:2) at 2 wt %
34. Lignoceric Acid Methyl Ester (C24:0) at 2 wt %
35. cis-5,8,11,14,17-Eicosapentaenoic Acid Methyl Ester (C20:5n3) at 2 wt %
36. Nervonic Acid Methyl Ester (C24:1) at 2 wt %
37. cis-4,7,10,13,16,19-Docosahexaenoic Acid Methyl Ester (C22:6n3) at 2 wt %
(continued on page 10)
**Figure 2. Marine Source FAMEs**

- **Column:** Omegawax 100, 15 m x 0.10 mm I.D., 0.10 μm (23399-U)
- **Oven:** 140 °C, 40 °C/min. to 280 °C (2 min.)
- **Injection:** 250 °C
- **Detector:** FID, 280 °C
- **Carrier Gas:** Hydrogen, 50 cm/sec constant
- **Injection:** 0.2 μL, 200:1 split
- **Liner:** 4 mm I.D., split, cup design
- **Sample:** PUFA No. I - Marine Source (47033), diluted to 50 mg/mL in methylene chloride

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**Figure 3. Menhaden Oil FAMEs**

- **Column:** Omegawax 100, 15 m x 0.10 mm I.D., 0.10 μm (23399-U)
- **Oven:** 140 °C, 40 °C/min. to 280 °C (2 min.)
- **Injection:** 250 °C
- **Detector:** FID, 280 °C
- **Carrier Gas:** Hydrogen, 50 cm/sec constant
- **Injection:** 0.2 μL, 200:1 split
- **Liner:** 4 mm I.D., split, cup design
- **Sample:** PUFA No. II - Menhaden Oil (47085-U), diluted to 50 mg/mL in methylene chloride

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<td>18</td>
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**Figure 4. Animal Source FAMEs**

- **Column:** Omegawax 100, 15 m x 0.10 mm I.D., 0.10 μm (23399-U)
- **Oven:** 140 °C, 40 °C/min. to 280 °C (2 min.)
- **Injection:** 250 °C
- **Detector:** FID, 280 °C
- **Carrier Gas:** Hydrogen, 50 cm/sec constant
- **Injection:** 0.2 μL, 200:1 split
- **Liner:** 4 mm I.D., split, cup design
- **Sample:** PUFA No. III - Animal Source (47015-U), diluted to 50 mg/mL in methylene chloride

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FAMEs. Column length and internal diameter have been reduced, allowing for a shorter analysis time while still maintaining resolution of key FAMEs.

**37-Component FAME Mix**

Figure 1 demonstrates the analysis of the Supelco 37-Component FAME mix on the new 15 m x 0.10 mm I.D., 0.10 μm Omegawax 100 capillary column. The 37-Component mix is designed to mimic many types of fatty acid-containing samples including grains, dairy, fish oils, and vegetable oils. This standard can be used for the qualitative and quantitative analysis of fatty acid content in a wide variety of foods. As is typical for a polyethylene glycol-type stationary phase, the Omegawax column elutes the FAMEs according to carbon chain length and degree of unsaturation, with minimal carbon chain length overlap. The elution pattern is saturated, monoene, diene, and then triene, of a carbon chain length. The analysis time is less than 5 minutes.

Under these conditions, minimal resolution of the cis and trans isomers is achieved on this column as shown by the resolution of methyl oleate (peak 17) from methyl elaidate (peak 18) and methyl linoleate (peak 19) from methyl linolelaidic (peak 20). In both cases, the cis isomer elutes prior to the trans isomer. For detailed cis-trans isomer resolution, a polar biscyanopropyl phase, such as the SP-2560, is required.

**Polyunsaturated Fatty Acid (PUFA) FAME Mixes**

Figures 2-4 illustrate the separation of FAME isomers from several PUFA standards. These standards are derived from different natural sources (such as marine or animal) and reflect the ratios of the omega-3 and -6 fatty acids found in “real-world” samples. These standards can be used to identify the retention times of these key fatty acids for subsequent qualitative analysis. The analysis time required for each of these mixes was under 5 minutes. Note the ability of this column to resolve the important omega-3 PUFAs C20:5n3 (EPA) and C22:6n3 (DHA) as well as the important omega-6 PUFA C20:4n6 (peaks highlighted with yellow on page 9).

**Conclusion**

Supelco recognizes the need of food chemists to achieve faster analysis times and greater throughput in order to meet the demands of today’s stricter food labeling requirements. The new Omegawax 100 capillary column provides analysts with one of the tools necessary to satisfy this need, without sacrificing the quality of the chromatography.

**References**


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**Featured Products**

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**Related Products**

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<td>10 x 5 mL</td>
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<td>400 mL</td>
<td>33021</td>
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</table>

**Related Information**

For more information on the analysis of FAMEs, request Bulletin 855, T110855 (AYC) or visit sigma-aldrich.com/fame

For more information, see page 15 for fractionation of cis & trans fatty acids by SPE.
Generate High Purity Gas with Reliability and Safety

Robert F. Wallace and Michael D. Buchanan
bob.wallace@sial.com

Laboratory gas generators are a great alternative to gas cylinders. In addition to being a much more sensible source of gas from a cost standpoint, generators are safer, more aesthetically pleasing, take up less space, and do not require the labor needed to move bulky cylinders around the lab. Gas generators do not require switching systems or long runs of tubing to, or through, exterior walls. They just do their job – quietly, safely, year after year. Supelco offers gas generators from both Parker® and domnick hunter®. Additionally, high quality air compressors from Jun-Air® and critical particle and oil filters from Norgren® are offered.

Economical

Some gas chromatographers are unsure whether there is an economic advantage to replacing gas cylinders with gas generators. It is simple to compare the costs of using gas cylinders to the cost of purchasing and operating gas generators. In many situations, the change to a gas generator will result in large savings over time.

Table 1. Example Payback Time for Four GCs, Each with Dual FIDs
A total of 240 mL/min. of hydrogen is required (equates to 4,455 cubic feet of hydrogen per year)

| Gas Cylinders/Year: 23 (each contains 196 cubic feet of gas) | Cost/Cylinder: $110 (includes rental fees) | Cost of Gas/Year: $2,530 | Cost of Gas/Month: $211 | Cost of Generator: $8,661 (Parker Model H2PEM-260) | Payback Time: 41 months (3.4 years) | Savings/Year After Payback: $2,530 |

Note: Gas cylinder price and rental fees are based on costs at Bellefonte, PA, USA and are used for illustrative purposes. Your costs will probably differ.

To determine the costs of gas cylinders versus gas generators, estimate the total volume of gas needed for a year. For an accurate comparison, include other costs associated with gas cylinders, such as cylinder rental fees and direct labor for handling cylinders. Table 1 summarizes the time required to recover the purchase cost of a hydrogen generator (payback time). The savings result because gas generators operate for many years after the payback time, essentially generating free gas. To determine the number of months until payback, divide the monthly cost of using gas cylinders into the total cost of purchasing a gas generator. In most situations, the use of a gas generator often results in savings in the thousands after just a few years.

Because helium generators are not available, helium cylinders supplying carrier gas cannot simply be replaced with a gas generator. However, a switch from expensive helium to hydrogen as a carrier gas will allow the helium cylinders to be replaced with a hydrogen generator that will pay for itself in a very short time. In addition to the economy, hydrogen has a greater flow range over which efficiency is high and generally appears to be a better carrier gas for capillary GC.

Safe

Safety plays a major role in justifying hydrogen generators, but also plays a role in decisions concerning other gas generators. The explosive nature of hydrogen along with the many other safety issues associated with high-pressure gas cylinders should be considered.

- If a leak develops in a gas line, the entire contents of a gas cylinder will be emptied into the laboratory space. If the gas is hydrogen, it may result in an explosive mixture.
- Every time a gas cylinder valve is opened, a regulator can fail, releasing full pressure into the lines. Very few plumbing systems will withstand the 2000 to 3000 psi of pressure that would be instantly introduced into the system.
- Handling heavy gas cylinders may lead to back injuries. If a gas cylinder is dropped, it may crush a worker’s hands or feet.

All of these scenarios lead to a dangerous situation for laboratory workers. The use of gas generators can help avoid these potential problems. The safety benefits that gas generators have over gas cylinders are:

- A minimal volume of gas is stored
- The gas that is stored is at a relatively low pressure
- The risk of injury from moving heavy cylinders is eliminated

Convenient

Gas generators are more convenient and reliable than gas cylinders. Their use eliminates shutting down operations during gas cylinder change-out, shutting one gas cylinder into place while moving another out of the way, continuously handling orders and invoices, and delivery delays waiting for gas cylinders to arrive. Additionally, gas generators are more aesthetically pleasing than big, bulky gas cylinders.

Related Information

For more information on gas generators, request the Gas Generator Brochure, T407110 (JXP), or visit our website, sigma-aldrich.com/gc
The Extraction of Tobacco-Specific Nitrosamines Using Molecularly Imprinted Polymer SPE

Brian Boyd, David Lundberg, Sanja Kronauer, Anna-Karin Wihlborg1 and An Trinh2

1. MIP Technologies AB, Scheelevägen 22, 220 07 Lund, Sweden
2. Supelco, 595 N. Harrison Rd., Bellefonte, PA, 16823, USA

Introduction

Tobacco-specific nitrosamines (TSNAs) are created through the burning, curing, and fermentation of tobacco leaf and can be found in chewing, smoking, and snuff tobacco. They are believed to play a significant role as causes of cancer in people who use tobacco products and are found on the US Surgeon General list of carcinogens from 1989 (1). The most carcinogenic of the commonly occurring TSNAs are 4-(methylnitrosamino)-1-(3-pyridyl)-1-butanone (NNK) and N’-nitrosonornicotine (NNN). Because TSNAs are only found in tobacco products, their characterization is invaluable in the study of tobacco’s cancerous nature. The monitoring of humans for exposure to tobacco smoke (active or passive) is an important clinical test - NNK is found in tobacco smoke in significant amounts (2).

The extraction and quantitation of TSNAs in urine is a useful biomarker when assessing a subject’s exposure to tobacco smoke. TSNAs are not only found in smokers but in non-smokers (via second-hand smoke) as well. Because TSNAs are detected in urine at low ppt levels, a highly specific and sensitive assay is required. Although extraction and analysis protocols have been previously developed, many of them require extensive and time-consuming sample preparation (3). Also, such low detection limits (ppt) are not attainable using conventional SPE phases and MS/MS detection (4). A summary of the pathway of formation of TSNAs from tobacco is outlined in Figure 1.

Since there are several TSNAs formed from precursors present in tobacco, an analytical method that is ‘class selective’ for TSNAs is appealing. The SupelMIP SPE-TSNA is designed to offer class-selective binding sites for the 4-(methyl nitrosamino)-1-(3-pyridyl)-1-butanone (NNK), N’- nitrosonornicotine (NNN), N’- nitrosoanabasine (NAB), and N’- nitrosoanatabine (NAT) molecules.

In this article we will show the performance of the extraction of the four different TSNAs from urine samples using a class selective molecularly imprinted polymer SPE phase.

Molecularly Imprinted Polymers

Molecularly imprinted polymers (MIPs) are a class of highly cross-linked polymer-based molecular recognition elements engineered to bind one target compound or a class of structurally related compounds with high selectivity. Selectivity is introduced during MIP synthesis in which a template molecule, designed to mimic the analyte, guides the formation of specific cavities or imprints that are sterically and chemically complementary to the target analyte(s). As a result, multiple interactions (e.g., hydrogen bonding, ionic, Van der Waals, hydrophobic) can take place between the MIP cavity and analyte functional groups. The strong retention offered between a MIP phase and its target analyte(s) allows for the use of exhaustive wash procedures during solid phase extraction that results in superior sample cleanup prior to analysis. This leads to cleaner extracts, lower detection limits and a more efficient sample cleanup process. An illustration of the selective cavity is shown in Figure 2.

Extraction and Analysis of TSNAs (NNN, NNK, NAB and NAT) Using SupelMIP SPE-TSNAs

In this study, NNN, NNK, NAB and NAT were extracted from urine using SupelMIP SPE-TSNAs via the extraction procedure described in Table 1. Analysis of the resulting eluate was conducted by LC-MS-MS using the procedure (5) described in Table 2.
Table 1. SupelMIP Extraction Procedure for TSNAs

Sample Pre-Treatment:
Adjust sample pH to 5.5 with acetic acid. Add 1 ng/mL NNK-d₃, NNN-d₄, NAB-d₄ and NAT-d₄ internal standard.

SPE Procedure:
SupelMIP SPE-TSNAs, 25 mg/3 mL (LRC) (53222-U)
1. Condition and equilibrate MIP phase with 1 mL methanol, 1 mL DI water (Do not allow the cartridge to dry during conditioning).
2. Load 1 mL pre-treated urine sample.
3. Wash (elute interferences) using the following wash scheme:
   - 1 mL 10 mM ammonium acetate, pH 5.5
   - Apply full vacuum through cartridge for 10 min. to remove residual moisture from cartridge.
   - 1 mL heptane (selective removal of hydrophobic interferences)
   - Apply full vacuum through cartridge for 5 min. to remove residual solvent.
4. Elute TSNAs with 2 x 1 mL 10% methanol in dichloromethane.
5. Evaporate and reconstitute with 100 μL LC mobile phase prior to analysis.

Table 2. LC-MS-MS Conditions for TSNAs

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<th>Analyte</th>
<th>Rt (min)</th>
<th>Q1</th>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Time (ms)</th>
<th>DP</th>
<th>EP</th>
<th>CEP</th>
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<td>148.10</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>NNK</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>208.10</td>
<td>122.0</td>
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<td>NAB</td>
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<tr>
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<td>60</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10.0</td>
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</table>

Flow rate: 0.5 mL/min.
Detection: MS/MS

Lower Limits of Quantitation in Urine

Using the procedure described, trace levels of TSNAs were determined in spiked urine, and lower limits of quantitation (LLOQ) values were determined by measuring the signal-to-noise ratio for each analyte response. Using the SupelMIP SPE protocol and LC-MS-MS conditions described in this report for analyzing urine samples, the limits of detection were 5.1 pg/mL for NNN, 3.8 pg/mL for NNK, 4.7 pg/mL for NAB and 6.2 pg/mL for NAT.

The limits of quantification were 16.8 pg/mL for NNN, 12.7 pg/mL for NNK, 15.8 pg/mL for NAB and 20.8 pg/mL for NAT. Figures 3 and 4 (pg. 14) show a typical chromatogram of an extracted urine sample spiked with 100 pg/mL of each TNSA, and the chromatograms for the corresponding blank urine samples, respectively.

Recovery

Eight different urine samples were spiked to a level of 100 pg/mL with TSNAs. These samples were extracted by the procedure described in Table 1. The intermediate precision was established by testing the performance of the method using three different urine samples, three different analysts, three separate lots/batches of SupelMIP TSNAs and on two different LC-MS-MS instruments. The average recovery and variation (%RSD) of all the samples tested were 97.8 ± 8.1%, 103.1 ± 6.2%, 106.1 ± 11.6%, and 107.4 ± 18.6% for NNK, NNN, NAB, and NAT, respectively (data not shown).

It should be noted that during the analysis only the NNK-d₃ internal standard was available in the lab. The response from NNK-d₃ was used for the remaining three TSNAs also. Further improvements are possible for NNN, NAB and NAT if the equivalent internal standard is used.

Ion Suppression

Eight blank urine samples were also cleaned up according to the SPE procedure for SupelMIP SPE-TSNA. The resulting extracted eluate from the SupelMIP SPE cartridges were spiked with TSNAs before evaporation. Standards were prepared in the SupelMIP SPE elution solvent.

Samples and standard solutions were evaporated and redissolved in mobile phase prior to analysis and the responses between the post-SPE blank urine spiked samples and standards were compared; and the degree of ion-suppression was calculated. The average suppression due to matrix were 4.5, 2.9, 5.3, and 4.2% for NNK, NNN, NAB, and NAT, respectively (data not shown). In general, effects due to the matrix are low from three different urine samples demonstrating the accuracy of the method.

Conclusions

In this article, we have described a novel method for the extraction of TSNAs (NNN, NNK, NAT and NAB) from urine using SupelMIP SPE-TSNA. The SupelMIP SPE-TSNA assay described in this report took less than two hours to complete and offered the selectivity necessary to achieve detection limits in urine at the low ppt level. Recovery values for each TNSA are above 90% and ion suppression due to matrix effects is low. This performance allows for accurate determination with the required precision for measurement of TSNAs in urine using a simple, one-step SPE cleanup step.
References


5. SupelMIP SPE- TSNAs Instruction Sheet T706031, www.sigmaaldrich.com/supelmip

Related Information

For more information on the extraction of TSNAs, request the electronic format of T407117 (KAI), and for general information on SPE and SupelMIP SPE, please visit sigma-aldrich.com/spe and sigma-aldrich.com/supelmip respectively.
Discovery® Ag-Ion SPE Tubes

Silver-Ion SPE for the extraction and fractionation of cis & trans fatty acids

Retention: Normal-phase

Mechanism: Normal-phase

Sample Matrix: Organic solvents, oils, and lipids

Compatibility: Developed for the fractionation of FAMES based on degree of unsaturation and for the resolution of cis/trans isomers.

- Silver counter-ions are anchored onto a SCX support using a proprietary procedure to offer optimal resolution, performance, and capacity.

- Each lot is tested and quality controlled for cis/trans FAME resolution.

MiniTip SPE – Microscale Extraction

The MiniTip SPE product line is designed for the microscale extraction, concentration, and concentration of small molecules and biological macromolecules. These 10 μL pipette tips contain a sorbent bed bonded at the working end of the tip, using a patented high-purity adhesive.

The bed acts as a solid phase extraction medium to adsorb molecules of interest from the sample matrix. Subsequently, the concentrated, desalted analytes are eluted for downstream analysis.

MiniTip C18 Micropipette Tips are designed to extract, concentrate, and/or purify macromolecules (proteins, peptides, and other biological molecules) through hydrophobic interaction and can be used for sample preparation/cleanup prior to analysis using ESI-MS, MALDI-TOF-MS and other mass spectrometric/chromatographic methods.

MiniTip Carbon Micropipette Tips are designed for the extraction, desalting, and purification of oligosaccharides and glycoproteins prior to ESI-MS, MALDI-TOF-MS and other mass spectrometric/chromatographic methods.
VersaFlash High Throughput Flash Purification

Truly Unique

VersaFlash is one of the most simple and cost-effective disposable cartridge flash chromatography systems, yet it has capabilities that most flash systems do not have.

- Spherical Particles - provide improved efficiency and higher sample loading capacities
- Easy & Quick Scale-Up - from 1 g up to 190 g samples
- Fast Cartridge Change-Out - saves time between samples
- Stackable Cartridges - allow one-step bimodal purifications & easy solid sample loading
- Pre-Compressed Cartridges - no additional compression equipment needed
- Versatile Modular System - compatible with existing flash hardware
- Flexible Flow Direction - Rev-Elution saves solvent
- Various Sample Loading Options

Expand Flash Capabilities with Spherical Silica

- Quicker results by shorter run times
- Decreased solvent consumption
- Smaller, more concentrated fractions, demanding less rotary evaporator time
- Higher capacity spherical silica
- Lower pressure drop allows higher flow rates

The benefits of spherical silica are shown in Figure 1. To use the efficient VersaPak® cartridges with spherical silica on your existing flash system, simply use the VersaFlash station as your cartridge holder for your current set up or inquire about adapters for your system. Adapters for Teledyne Isco and other instruments are available from stock!

Figure 1. Benefits of Spherical Silica

NEW! VersaFlash Demonstration CD

The new VersaFlash demonstration CD shows short video demonstrations of our flash chromatography system with pre-packed flash cartridges. The CD includes video clips of the many versatile features of the VersaFlash system including scalability, quick cartridge change-out, cartridge stacking, rev-elution and other unique features. The CD also includes a copy of the VersaFlash brochure, which further explains the benefits of spherical silica and gives an overview of the entire product line.

For your free copy of the Supelco VersaFlash Demonstration CD, call your local Sigma-Aldrich office and request IZI, or select IZI on the attached postcard.
High-Purity Water for Ion Chromatography

Nicole Amann
nicole.amann@sial.com

Water is an omnipresent variable in many chemical analyses, whether it is used as a reagent, eluent mobile phase, cleaning agent, sample solvent or reference material. Its composition must be well-characterized and controlled in order to obtain sensitive, precise, accurate and error-free results and maintain instrument performance. To maintain the purity from the high-quality production, storage containers must be chosen that do not leach contaminants and are impermeable to atmospheric gases.

Ion chromatography (IC) is an area where the quality of the water is especially important because it is used as an eluent for ppm- to ppb- and sometimes even ppt-level determinations of anions and cations. Researchers at Sigma-Aldrich’s Fluka brand have developed a quality grade of water specifically for sensitive IC applications. This IC-grade water is suitable for trace analysis of anions, cations and also some organics that are typically analyzed by IC. To ensure long-term quality, it is supplied in special storage containers that have been proven in extended storage tests (Figure 1).

The importance of water quality is tested according to national and international norms that have been developed for the specification of purified water for different applications. ISO 3696:1987, for example, specifies three different types of water. Type 1 is the highest analytical grade for high-purity analysis like HPLC or IC trace analysis and is largely free of dissolved impurities (inorganic, organic), colloidal impurities, specified for conductivity, UV absorption at 254 nm and SiO2 content. ASTM D1193-91 also specifies high-purity water but also uses TOC, resistance, sodium and chloride levels to measure quality. Also, trace analysis by IC according to ASTM D5542-94, for example, requires high-purity water due to the low detection levels. At the very minimum, type 1 water is necessary to provide satisfactory results for trace analysis, as today’s instruments are sensitive to even ppt-levels of analytes and contaminants.

Sigma-Aldrich has long supplied a broad range of high quality water products tailored around the specific needs of the myriad analytical chemistry applications. In keeping with this tradition, we now offer an IC-grade of water produced at our Buchs, Switzerland facility using various purifying stages and highly sensitive online-analyses. The product packaging has been designed to ensure that the quality of the water will be maintained when it is put into use by the consumer.

Specifications for Fluka Brand IC-Grade Water

Anion Traces
- Bromide, chloride, fluoride, iodide, nitrate, nitrite, phosphate, sulfate: ≤ 1 μg/kg each

Cation Traces
- Al, Ba, Bi, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, Li, Mg, Mn, Mo, Ni, Pb, Sr, Zn: ≤ 5 μg/kg each; Ca, K, Na: ≤ 10 μg/kg each; NH₄⁺: ≤ 50 μg/kg

Organic Traces
- Acetate, formate, glycolate, oxalate: ≤ 10 μg/kg each

Conductivity
- ≤ 2 μS/cm

Figure 1. Anion chromatogram from a 4 month leaching test of the 2.5 L HDPE bottle

The black line shows the anions and organics in the concentration of the specification limits. The peaks are: (1) fluoride, (2) formate, (5) chloride, (7) nitrite, (8) bromide, (9) nitrate, (10) phosphate, (11) sulfate, (12) iodide with 0 μg/kg each (2) formate, (13) glycolate, (4) formate and (13) oxalate with 10 μg/kg each (6) system peak from carbonate eluent

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<td>Packaging: HDPE bottle with 45 mm thread</td>
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</table>
High-Purity CHROMASOLV® Solvents, Blends and Additives for LC-MS Analysis

Shyam Verma
shyam.verma@sial.com

LC-MS is a preferred analytical tool for chromatographic separation and detection due to its high sensitivity and specificity. A high level performance is required in identification and quantification of complex compounds. It is, therefore, necessary to use purified and well-specified solvents. Using pure solvents, blends and additives can help to improve detection for a complex spectral analysis and keep the instrument source clean.

**LC-MS CHROMASOLV Solvents:**
- Water
- Acetonitrile
- Methanol
- 2-Propanol
- Ethyl acetate

Presence of contaminants in the solvent can clog the inlet filter of a Nano-LC instrument. High purity LC-MS CHROMASOLV solvents offered by Sigma-Aldrich ensure clean system lines and a stable, low gradient baseline. Results of a suitability test for LC-MS CHROMASOLV solvents based on the reserpine specification test measured in LC-MS CHROMASOLV methanol shows a clean signal with no other clusters of peaks (Figure 1).

Low metal ion content (especially sodium and potassium) is an important specification for LC-MS solvents as these metal ions tend to form dominating clusters with many compounds, like peptides, and pose problems in downstream analysis. For example, the normal ionization product with electro spray for human gastrine peptide (M=2097) is the protonated, double charged molecular ion with m/z = 1049.8 [M+2H]^2+. When it is dissolved in 0.2% formic acid water solution with a very low amount of sodium and potassium (<0.1 ppm), only few metal ion clusters appear.

The molecule mass peak is sharp and further fragmented to yield amino acid sequence (Figure 2). The observed clusters are in a relatively low abundance. However, when the metal ion content is high (10 ppm), the clusters formed with these metal ions become dominating (Figure 3) and makes it difficult to identify true peaks.

**LC-MS CHROMASOLV Solvent Blends**

Use of highly specified solvents spiked with ultra pure salts and acids minimize the background and artifacts in LC-MS analysis. The most common additives
include trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), formic acid, acetic acid and ammonium acetate. Sigma-Aldrich offers a line of pre-mixed solvents ready to use.

**Mobile Phase Additives for LC-MS**

Buffers and other ionic additives are often added to LC-MS mobile phases. These additives offer many benefits, such as pH control, low adsorption, improved peak shape, selectivity or recovery, and optimized ionization at the MS interface. Some of the most popular LC-MS mobile phase additives are formic acid, acetic acid, ammonium acetate and TFA.

**LC-MS Flush Solution**

Flushing the LC-MS system at regular intervals allows a stable baseline. A commonly employed flush solution is 50% isopropanol in water. It is known to effectively solubilize both hydrophilic and moderately hydrophobic contaminants. CHROMASOLV flush solutions provide the required purity.

### Analytical Videos on sigma-aldrich.com/videos

We are pleased to announce the launch of analytical videos on our website. Through this interactive medium, we hope to provide a better understanding regarding the use and capabilities of our products and technologies.

On many of our web pages, you will find “movie strip” icons like these which are links to the pages where the videos reside. To view a video, click on the video camera icon.

**Featured Products**

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**Related Information**

For more information about the LC-MS CHROMASOLV product line and suitable additives not only for LC-MS visit sigma-aldrich.com/lc-ms-solvents

**Related Product**

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**Related Product**

To see the complete listing of available videos in one location, go to sigma-aldrich.com/videos

Video topics currently available are: Karl Fischer (HYDRANAL®) Reagents, Solid Phase Microextraction (SPME), and VersaFlash high-throughput flash purification.

- **Karl Fischer Reagents**: Learn about the use of HYDRANAL through 7 instructional videos that feature volumetric and coulometric titration, the use of ovens, and standardization of titer.
- **SPME**: 10 SPME videos illustrate the use, benefits, versatility, and portability of our unique, patented sampling technique.
- **VersaFlash**: This set of 12 videos explores the innovative aspects of our high throughput flash purification system to provide a better understanding of capabilities available to a medicinal chemistry laboratory.

**Coming soon!** We will be adding HPLC presentations to this list.

We invite your comments and suggestions via the on-line feedback form on any of our video pages.
Quality Pesticide Standards Available from Sigma-Aldrich

Vicki Yearick  
vicki.yearick@sial.com

Sigma-Aldrich offers an extensive collection of pesticide and pesticide metabolite analytical standards to meet most analysts’ needs. This collection includes carbamate, organophosphorus, organochlorine, and triazine pesticides. Standards are offered in the form of neats, single component and multi-component solutions. Free documentation and our award-winning technical service team support the quality of each product.

Neat and Single Component Pesticide Solutions

We stock more than 2000 neats and single component products for shipment every day, including Fluka brand PESTANAL® grade standards. PESTANAL grade products are high purity standards of pesticides and their metabolites. Most have a purity >99%. Each PESTANAL standard is formulated for single use to reduce waste and packaged in glass ampuls. A batch specific assay for each standard is provided on the product label, and details of this assay are found on the certificate of analysis accompanying each purchase.

To complement our PESTANAL grade standards, we stock several popular Chem Service brand pesticide and pesticide metabolite standards. We can also source many others for you in a timely manner, making it convenient to order all your chromatography supplies from Sigma-Aldrich. Each Chem Service standards grade pesticide, with the exception of technical grade, is shipped with documentation. Expiration dates are provided on the label for your convenience.

Multi-component Calibration Mixtures

Analysts monitoring for several pesticides in a given sample can choose from a variety of Supelco brand pesticide calibration mixtures for their application. These quantitative mixtures eliminate the time and money associated with sourcing individual raw materials, preparing the mix, and then disposing of unused hazardous materials. Supelco brand mixtures also meet the needs of commercial laboratories seeking a secondary reference standard.

* For a highly selective sample cleanup of triazines, molecularly imprinted polymer SPE is available. Visit sigma-aldrich.com/supelmip for details.

### Featured Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Pkg. Size</th>
<th>Cat. No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neat and Single Component Solutions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,4’-DDT solution PESTANAL, analytical standard</td>
<td>100 ng/μL in methanol</td>
<td>2 mL</td>
<td>36662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atrazine solution PESTANAL, analytical standard</td>
<td>100 ng/μL in methanol</td>
<td>2 mL</td>
<td>36665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azadictrin</td>
<td>10 mg</td>
<td></td>
<td>PS2075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cypermethrin PESTANAL, analytical standard, (mixture of isomers), 95% (HPLC)</td>
<td>100 mg</td>
<td></td>
<td>36128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fomoxadone solution PESTANAL, analytical standard</td>
<td>100 ng/μL in acetonitrile</td>
<td>2 mL</td>
<td>33495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fipronil PESTANAL, analytical standard</td>
<td>100 mg</td>
<td></td>
<td>46451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glufosinate-ammonium PESTANAL, analytical standard, 95.0%</td>
<td>100 mg</td>
<td></td>
<td>45520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glyphosate PESTANAL, analytical standard</td>
<td>100 mg</td>
<td></td>
<td>45521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isofenphos-methyl PESTANAL, analytical standard</td>
<td>50 mg</td>
<td></td>
<td>33436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malathion</td>
<td>500 mg</td>
<td></td>
<td>PS658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o,p’-DDT</td>
<td>50 mg</td>
<td></td>
<td>PS641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxidemeton-methyl</td>
<td>50 mg</td>
<td></td>
<td>PS86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraaxon</td>
<td>100 mg</td>
<td></td>
<td>PS810</td>
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<tr>
<td>trans-Permethrin solution PESTANAL, analytical standard</td>
<td>10 ng/μL in cyclohexane</td>
<td>2 mL</td>
<td>36893</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calibration Mixtures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TCL Pesticides Mix - 2000 μg/mL each component in hexane:toluene (50:50)</td>
<td>1 x 1 mL</td>
<td></td>
<td>48913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLP Organochlorine Pesticides Mix - 2000 μg/mL each component in hexane:toluene (50:50)</td>
<td>1 x 1 mL</td>
<td></td>
<td>47426-U</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trizine Pesticides Standard Mix - 100 μg/mL each component in methanol *</td>
<td>1 x 1 mL</td>
<td></td>
<td>48392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organophosphorus Pesticides Mix A - 2000 μg/mL each component in hexane:acetone (9:1)</td>
<td>1 x 1 mL</td>
<td></td>
<td>48391</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For a highly selective sample cleanup of triazines, molecularly imprinted polymer SPE is available. Visit sigma-aldrich.com/supelmip for details.
Manufacturing and testing information is available for each Supelco brand calibration mixture in the form of a data packet. Each data packet documents the rigorous analytical methods we use to verify raw material identity and purity, and provides certification as to purity and final concentration accuracy. Data packets can be requested free of charge with a standard order.

**Custom Standard Formulation Services**

If you prefer, we can formulate, test, and package pesticide calibration standards according to your exact specifications. Our custom standard chemists will gladly discuss stability and solubility concerns with you and make suggestions where needed to improve the quality of your purchase. If you are interested in a customized pesticide standard, please feel free to contact us by email at customstandards@sial.com, or use the quote request form on our website sigma-aldrich.com/standards.

Examples of the many neats, single and multi-component pesticide and pesticide metabolite standards available through Sigma-Aldrich are listed on the previous page. To view all our standards, please visit sigma-aldrich.com/standards.

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**radiello®**

**Diffusive Air Sampler Now Available from Sigma-Aldrich/Supelco**

*radiello®* diffusive samplers by the Fondazione Salvatore Maugeri/Padova, Italy (FSM), are now exclusively available from Sigma-Aldrich/Supelco.

The patented *radiello®* sampler provides:

- **High sampling rates** due to radial design - 3-8x quicker sampling compared to common axial diffusive sampler
- **High capacity** - more reliable results
- **Reusable hardware** - economic use
- **Robust** to bad weather conditions - usable for outdoor sampling

For further information, please request the *radiello* brochure (IXV) and/or *radiello* CD (IXW) by checking the appropriate box on the attached BRC, or by visiting sigma-aldrich.com/radiello.
DEA Drug Reference Materials Available from Sigma-Aldrich

Vicki Yearick
vicki.yearick@sial.com

Sigma Aldrich offers more than 2000 drug compounds as reference materials for use by toxicologists, forensic scientists, and medical researchers. The large collection of drug compounds includes controlled substances as defined by the Single Convention On Narcotic Drugs Treaty of 1961. This international treaty serves as the foundation for global drug control. Under this treaty, controlled substances are further classified as Schedule I, II, III, IV or V drugs. This classification is based on the degree to which dependency or drug induced physical and/or psychological impairment may occur (refer to Table 1).

Table 1. Definitions for Schedule I – V Drugs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Drugs</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Cat. No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>High potential for abuse</td>
<td>- No currently accepted medical use in the U.S.</td>
<td>1000 μg/mL</td>
<td>B8900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Lack of accepted safety for use of the drug under medical supervision</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>High potential for abuse</td>
<td>- Currently accepted medical use in the U.S.</td>
<td>1000 μg/mL</td>
<td>C6520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Abuse may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Potential for abuse less than schedule I and II drugs</td>
<td>- Currently accepted medical use in the U.S.</td>
<td>1000 μg/mL</td>
<td>C1653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Abuse may lead to moderate or low physical dependence or high psychological dependence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>Lower potential for abuse less than schedule III drugs</td>
<td>- Currently accepted medical use in the U.S.</td>
<td>1000 μg/mL</td>
<td>D3327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Abuse may lead to limited physical or psychological dependence relative to schedule III substances</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Low potential for abuse relative to schedule IV substances</td>
<td>- Currently accepted medical use in the U.S.</td>
<td>1000 μg/mL</td>
<td>D9900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Abuse may lead to limited physical or psychological dependence relative to schedule IV substances</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the United States, the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) regulates manufacturing, importation, and sale of these controlled substances. DEA drug compounds available from Sigma-Aldrich include the true illicit drugs like heroin and cocaine, therapeutic drugs that are commonly abused like the benzodiazepines, and drug metabolites. All drug compounds are of the highest quality possible to meet the needs of forensic investigators and medical personnel.

Packaging and Documentation

DEA drug compounds are offered as neat and single component solutions, in labeled and non-labeled forms. Neat compounds are available in a variety of milligram and gram packaging configuration, with larger packages available upon request. These pure compounds are shipped with a data sheet that describes the drug’s physical properties and provides the purity of the drug lot.

Single component solutions are prepared from carefully analyzed pure solids and packaged in flame sealed ampules. A certificate of analysis is supplied with every purchase and is also easily accessible at sigma-aldrich.com

Ordering Information

US Customers

Orders for neat controlled substances must be placed in writing and are available only to those licensed by the DEA. Telephone orders will not be accepted. For information on obtaining a DEA license, contact the DEA at 800-882-9539 or visit www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov

Orders for Schedule I and II neat drugs will also require the submission of DEA Form 222. Instructions on how to properly complete and submit the form can be found at sigma-aldrich.com or by calling 800-521-8956, ext. 2595. If you do not know the drug’s schedule number, please visit our website where information on the drug’s classification can be found under the product listing.

Outside of the US

For DEA sales outside of the USA, you may be required to submit an import license or import permit issued by your government agency that corresponds to the US Drug Enforcement Administration. Contact your local Sigma-Aldrich office if you are not sure which documents are required.

Below is a sampling of the many exempt single component DEA drug solutions available through Sigma Aldrich. Please visit sigma-aldrich.com to view all our DEA drug products.
Sigma-Aldrich offers thousands of high-quality vial, cap, and septum products to meet the needs of today’s analytical instruments, samples, and measurement techniques. Worldwide warehousing and on-line ordering ensure fast delivery of all vial orders. Because routine analyses can consume large quantities of vials, we also offer contract pricing to reduce costs. All of our vial products are backed by Sigma-Aldrich’s commitment to innovation, quality and service.

Our offerings include:

- GC and LC autosampler vials
- Headspace, SPME and EPA sampling vials
- Precleaned and silanized surface treatments
- Volume choices from 0.5 mL to 60 mL
- Septum materials that include rubber, silicone, PTFE, and Viton™
- Inserts for micro sampling
- Vial racks, crimpers and decappers

For more information on vial products email us at techservice@sial.com or visit sigma-aldrich.com/vials