



## Method development and validation for simultaneous estimation of netupitant and palonosetron in bulk and pharmaceutical dosage form by using RP-HPLC

Sridhar Siddiraju<sup>\*1</sup>, Akshay<sup>2</sup>, M. Sudhakar<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, <sup>2</sup>Department of Pharmaceutical Analysis,

<sup>3</sup>Department of Pharmaceutics, Malla Reddy College of Pharmacy, Osmania University, Secunderabad - 500010, Telanagana, India

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### ABSTRACT

A simple, Accurate, precise method was developed for the simultaneous estimation of the Netupitant and Palonosetron in Tablet dosage form. Chromatogram was run through Std Discovery C18 250 x 4.6 mm, 5 $\mu$ m. Mobile phase containing Buffer 0.1% OPA (2.2ph): Acetonitrile taken in the ratio 55:45 was pumped through column at a flow rate of 1 ml/min. Buffer used in this method was 0.1% OPA. Temperature was maintained at 30°C. Optimized wavelength selected was 230 nm. Retention time of Netupitant and Palonosetron were found to be 2.325min and 3.026min. %RSD of the Netupitant and Palonosetron were and found to be 0.9 and 0.6 respectively. %Recovery was obtained as 100.28% and 99.76% for Netupitant and Palonosetron respectively. LOD, LOQ values obtained from regression equations of Netupitant and Palonosetron were 1.01, 3.05 and 0.001, 0.003 respectively. Regression equation of Netupitant is  $y = 13900x + 26511$ , and  $y = 563617x + 1740.8$  of Palonosetron. Retention times were decreased and that run time was decreased, so the method developed was simple and economical that can be adopted in regular Quality control test in Industries.

**Keywords:** Netupitant, Palonosetron, Method development, RP-HPLC.

### INTRODUCTION

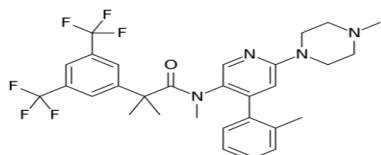
**Netupitant** is an antiemetic drug approved by the FDA in October 2014 for use in combination with palonosetron for the prevention of acute and delayed vomiting and nausea associated with cancer chemotherapy including highly emetogenic chemotherapy. Netupitant is a neurokinin 1 receptor antagonist. The combination drug is marketed by Eisai Inc. and Helsinn Therapeutics (U.S.) Inc. Under the brand Akynzeo.

**PALONOSETRON** (INN, trade name Aloxi) is an antagonist of 5-HT<sub>3</sub> receptors that is indicated for

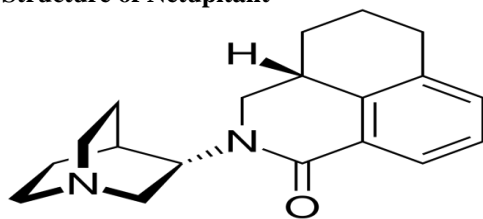
the prevention and treatment of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting (CINV). It is the most effective of the 5-HT<sub>3</sub> antagonists in controlling delayed CINV nausea and vomiting that appear more than 24 hours after the first dose of a course of chemotherapy and is the only drug of its class approved for this use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. As of 2008, it is the most recent 5-HT<sub>3</sub> antagonist to enter clinical use<sup>(10-14)</sup>.

**Address for Correspondence:** Sridhar Siddiraju, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Malla Reddy College of Pharmacy, Affiliated to Osmania University, Maisammaguda, Dhulapally Secunderabad-500100, Telangana, India; [drss.chem@gmail.com](mailto:drss.chem@gmail.com)

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Structure of Netupitant



Structure of Palonosetron

Figure-1: Structures of Netupitant and Palonosetron.

Several analytical methods have been documented, according to a thorough review of the literature. In the literature, there is no method reported for the stability indicating estimation. Hence a simple, cost-effective stability-indicating simultaneous estimation of Netupitant and Palonosetron by RP-HPLC in pharmaceutical dosage form has to be developed and validated as per the guidelines of ICH (Q2 specification) [15,21].

## MATERIALS AND REAGENTS

Spectrum Pharma research solutions, Hyderabad, provided the Netupitant and Palonosetron pure pharmaceuticals. The Netupitant and Palonosetron (AKYNZEO) combo tablet was purchased from a local pharmacy. Rankem in India provided all of the chemicals and buffers utilized in this Method.

### Instrumentation

Waters HPLC System series with Binary pumps and Photo diode array detector was used for the development and method validation, with an manual sample injector with software Empower 2.

### CHROMATOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS:

**Flow rate:** 1ml/min  
**Column :** Symmetry C18 (4.6 x 150mm, 5µm)  
**Mobile phase:** 55% 0.01N Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> buffer: 45% Acetonitrile  
**Detector:** 230.0 nm  
**Temperature:** Ambient  
**Injection volume :** 10.0 µL  
**Run time :** 6.0 mins  
**Diluent :** Water: Acetonitrile (50:50)

### Preparation of solutions

**Preparation of 0.01N Sodium hydrogen phosphate Buffer:** Accurately weighed 1.42gm of Sodium hydrogen phosphate in a 100ml of Volumetric flask add about 90ml of milli-Q water added and degas to sonicate and finally make up the volume with water..

**Preparation of Standard solution:** Accurately weighed 150 mg of Netupitant, 0.25mg of Palonosetron and transferred to individual 50 ml volumetric flasks separately. 3/4 th of diluents was added to both of these flasks and sonicated for 10 minutes. Flasks were made up with diluents and labeled as Standard stock solution 1 and 2. 1ml from each stock solution was pipetted out and taken into a 10ml volumetric flask and made up with diluent. (150µg/ml Netupitant of and 0.25µg/ml of Palonosetron)

**Preparation of Sample solution:** 5 tablets were weighed and the average weight of each tablet was calculated, then the weight equivalent to 1 tablet was transferred into a 100 ml volumetric flask, 5ml of diluents was added and sonicated for 25 min, further the volume was made up with diluent and filtered by HPLC filters. 0.5ml of filtered sample stock solution was transferred to 10ml volumetric flask and made up with diluent. (150µg/ml of Netupitant and 0.25µg/ml of Palonosetron)

### Method Validation

The validation of HPLC method was carried out for the simultaneous estimation of Netupitant and Palonosetron drug substance as per the ICH guidelines to demonstrate that the method is proposed for the routine analysis.

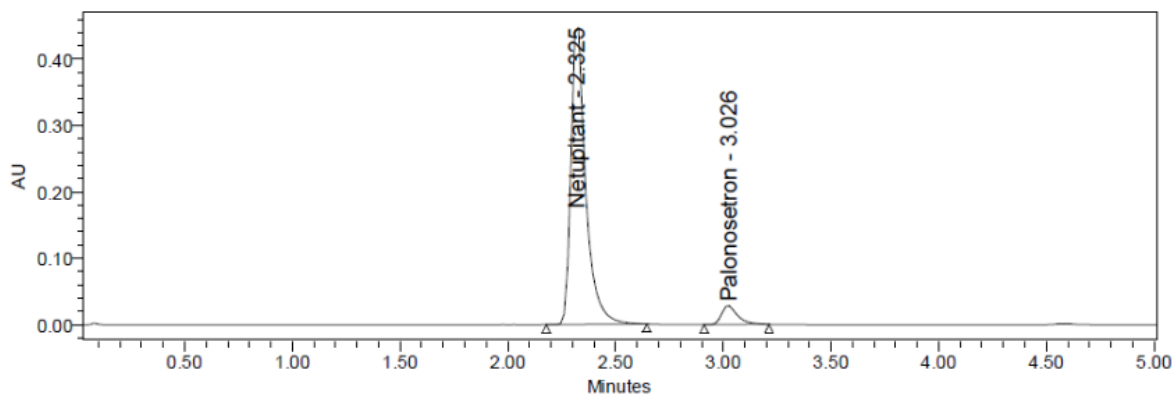
**System suitability:** The system suitability was performed for each validation parameters by injecting standard solution containing Netupitant 150µg/ml, Palonosetron 0.25µg/ml. System suitability chromatogram was shown in figure 2 and values are mentioned in the table 1.

**Specificity (Selectivity):** Checking of the interference in the optimized method. We haven't found interfering peaks in blank and placebo at retention times of these drugs in this method. So this method was said to be specific. Representative chromatogram is shown in Figure 3 and experimental data is given in Table 2.

S no	Netupitant	Palonosetron
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Inj	RT(min)	USP Plate Count	Tailing	RT(min)	USP Plate Count	Tailing	RS
1	2.325	6059	1.47	3.026	8554	1.38	5.4
2	2.325	6110	1.46	3.027	8468	1.38	5.4
3	2.326	6107	1.47	3.027	8479	1.41	5.4
4	2.327	6022	1.47	3.028	8411	1.41	5.3
5	2.327	6049	1.47	3.030	8354	1.48	5.2
6	2.328	6126	1.47	3.031	7946	1.51	5.2

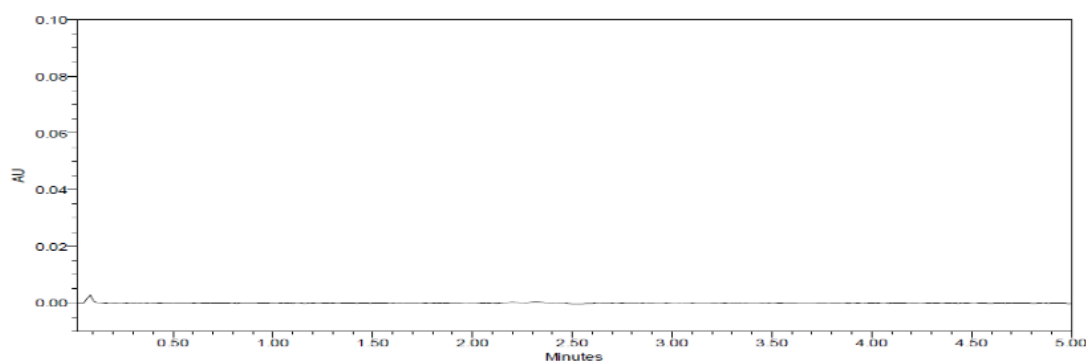
**Table 1: System suitability results**



**Figure 3: System suitability Chromatogram of Netupitant and Palonosetron**

Sample name	Retention time(mins)	Area
Netupitant	2.328	2108082
Palonosetron	3.030	146577

**Table 2: Specificity data**



**Blank Chromatogram**

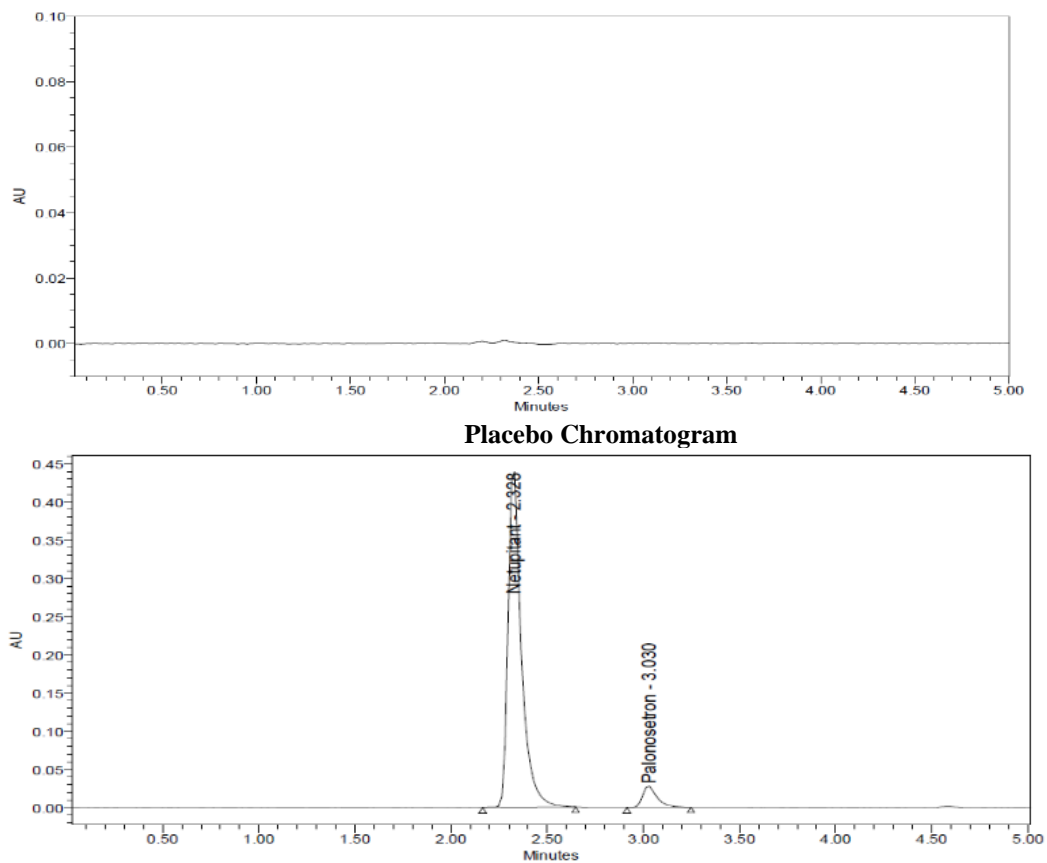


Figure 4: Specificity Chromatograms of Netupitant and Palonosetron.

Table 3: Netupitant Linearity

% Level	CONC	Area
0	0	0
25%	37.5	533177
50%	75	1109538
75%	112.5	1592104
100%	150	2150458
125%	187.5	2619082
150%	225	3127387
<b>R<sup>2</sup> value</b>		<b>0.999</b>

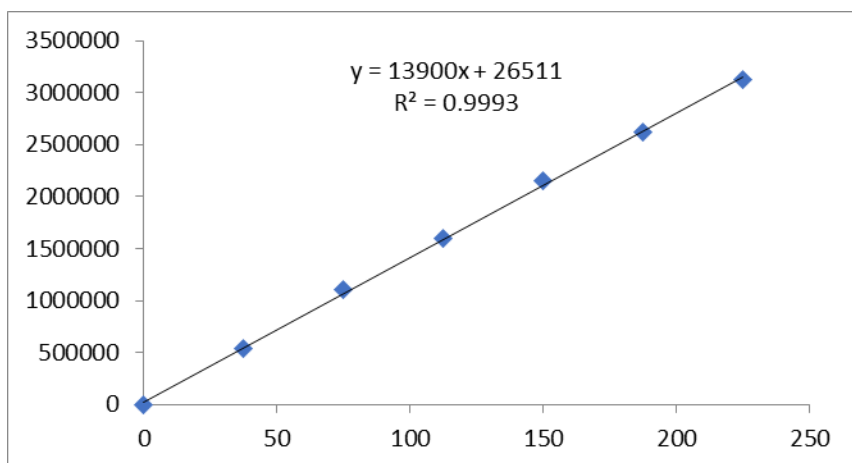


Figure 5: Netupitant Calibration curve

Table 4: Palonosetron Linearity

% Level	CONC	Area
0	0	0
25%	0.0625	35587
50%	0.125	74593
75%	0.1875	109017
100%	0.25	145422
125%	0.3125	175271
150%	0.375	212044
<b>R<sup>2</sup> value</b>		<b>0.999</b>

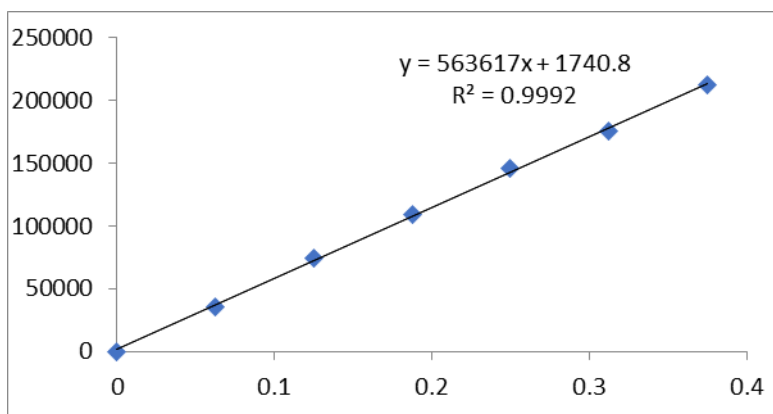


Figure 6: Palonosetron Calibration curve

Table 5: Accuracy (%Recovery data)

%Level	%Recovery					
	Netupitant			Palonosetron		
	Amt added	Amt found	%Rec	Amt added	Amt found	%Rec
50% Level	75	74.66	99.55	0.125	0.12	99.78
	75	75.56	100.75	0.125	0.12	99.73
	75	75.63	100.84	0.125	0.12	99.66
	150	149.72	99.81	0.25	0.25	100.97

100%Level	150	149.20	99.47	0.25	0.25	100.45
	150	149.82	99.88	0.25	0.25	100.68
150%Level	225	227.10	100.93	0.375	0.38	100.72
	225	227.02	100.90	0.375	0.38	100.02
	225	225.93	100.41	0.375	0.37	99.76
<b>Mean%</b>			<b>100.0</b>			<b>99.76</b>

**System Precision:** The system precision was performed by analyzing six replicate injections of standard solution at 100% of the specified limit

with respect to the working strength of Netupitant and Palonosetron. Results of peak area are summarized in Table 7.

**Table 6: System precision data**

Inj	Netupitant	Palonosetron
1	2123440	144590
2	2123114	145723
3	2134157	145411
4	2097548	143740
5	2106005	145965
6	2152700	145701
<b>Avg</b>	<b>2122827</b>	<b>145188</b>
<b>Std dev</b>	<b>19714.1</b>	<b>855.2</b>
<b>%RSD</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.6</b>

The % RSD for the peak areas of Netupitant and Palonosetron obtained from six replicate injections of standard solution was within the limit.

Netupitant and Palonosetron (Six individual sample preparations). Data obtained is summarized in Table 8.

**Method Precision:** The precision of the method was determined by analyzing a sample of

**Table 7: Method precision data**

Injection	Netupitant	Palonosetron
1	2107058	146925
2	2110065	144866
3	2146355	144826
4	2109543	144398
5	2128307	145195
6	2114707	145158
<b>Avg</b>	<b>2119339</b>	<b>145228</b>
<b>Std dev</b>	<b>15261.3</b>	<b>879.5</b>
<b>%RSD</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.6</b>

From the above results, the % RSD of method precision study was within the limit for Netupitant and Palonosetron.

**Table 8:** Robustness results

Chromatographic condition	Netupitant (RSD)	Palonosetron (RSD)
Flow(-)	0.4	0.8
Flow(+)	0.1	0.7
Temp(Ambient-)	0.8	0.6
Temp(Ambient+)	0.7	0.2
Mobile phase(-)	0.3	0.5
Mobile phase (+)	1.1	0.8

**Table 9:** Forced degradation conditions for Netupitant and Palonosetron.

Stress condition	Solvent	Temp( <sup>o</sup> C)	Exposed time
Acid	2N HCL	60 <sup>o</sup> c	30 mins
Base	2N NAOH	60 <sup>o</sup> c	30 mins
Oxidation	20% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	60 <sup>o</sup> c	30 mins
Thermal	Diluent	105 <sup>o</sup> c	6 hours
Photolytic	Diluent	-	-
Hydrolytic	Water	60 <sup>o</sup> c	

From the results, no degradation was observed when the samples were exposed to acid, base, hydrolysis, thermal, light and water.

According to the stress study, none of the degradant co-eluted with the active drug peaks formed.

**Table 10:** Degradation profile results

Degradation condition	Netupitant % Degraded	Palonosetron Degraded %
Acid	5.38	5.44
Base	4.46	5.09
Oxidation	3.22	3.73
Thermal	2.42	2.52
Photolytic	2.05	1.45
Hydrolytic	0.93	1.01

**Table 11:** Assay results for Netupitant and Palonosetron

Drug name	Label claim dose	%Assay
Netupitant	300mg	99.64%
Palonosetron	0.5mg	99.83%

## CONCLUSION

The RP-HPLC methodology was used to create and evaluate a new stability indicating analytical approach. The sample preparation is straightforward, uses less mobile phase, and takes very little time to analyse. The results of the study will be highly beneficial for quality monitoring of Netupitant and Palonosetron in pharmaceutical dosage forms. The assay examination of two medications from a combination dosage form using this devised method yielded results that were nearly

100 % accurate. The results of the recovery studies were good, indicating that there was no interference from excipients.

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