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OF ADVANCED RESEARCH****RESEARCH ARTICLE****UV – SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC METHOD DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF  
ACAMPROSATE CALCIUM IN BULK AND TABLET DOSAGE FORM****Shah Megha\*, Rohit Minal**Department of Quality Assurance, Pioneer Pharmacy Degree College, At & Post Sayajipura,  
Vadodara 390019, Gujarat, (INDIA).**Manuscript Info      Abstract****Manuscript History:**Received: 11 December 2013  
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dosage form.**\*Corresponding Author****Shah Megha**

A simple, rapid, accurate, precise, and economical spectrophotometric method for estimation of Acamprosate calcium in tablet dosage form has been developed. Beer-Lambert's law was followed in the concentration range of 10-50 µg/ml ( $r^2 = 0.989$ ). LOD and LOQ were found to be 0.183 µg/ml & 0.55 µg/ml respectively. The result of percentage recovery and placebo interference shows that the method was not affected by the presence of common excipients. The method was validated by determining its accuracy and precision which proved suitability of the developed method for the routine estimation of Acamprosate calcium in solid dosage form.

*Copy Right, IJAR, 2013, all rights reserved***INTRODUCTION**

Acamprosate (Calcium bis acetyl- homotaurine), a homotaurine derivative, a structural analogue of  $\gamma$  – aminobutyric acid and an upper analogue of taurine, is a relatively new drug used to prevent relapse in weaned alcoholics. [Besson, J et al. 1998] The drug is official in European Pharmacopeia 5.0 [European Pharmacopeia, 2005], British Pharmacopeia 2009 [British Pharmacopeia 2009]. To date, three medications - Disulfiram, naltrexone, and acamprosate - have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for treatment of alcohol dependence. Naltrexone and acamprosate are categorized as anti- craving drugs. Treating alcohol dependence usually consists of two phases: detoxification and rehabilitation. The initial detoxification stage deals with acute withdrawal symptoms. The later rehabilitation stage attempts to prevent relapse and develops a lifestyle compatible with long-term abstinence. After oral administration, few side- effects and adverse reactions have been observed, with nausea and diarrhoea being the most frequent. [Mason BJ. 2001]

**Mechanism of Action**

Acamprosate helps to modulate and normalize brain activity, particularly in the glutamate and gamma-aminobutyric neurotransmitter systems. It stabilizes the chemical balance in the brain that would otherwise be disrupted by alcoholism, possibly by antagonizing glutamatergic N- methyl-D- aspartate receptors and agonizing gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) type A receptors. [NDA Application 21-431 CAMPRAL]

Literature survey reveals that few analytical methods like spectrophotometric methods [Kiran A et al. 2013], capillary electrophoresis [Fabre H, Perrin C. 1999], RP-HPLC-MS/MS [Luo M, Qin Y-P, Yu Q, et al. 2007], RP-HPLC [Fang T, Shasha Z et al. 2009], LC/MS/MS [Rhee YS, Park JH, et al. 2008], several bio-analytical methods like quantifying acamprosate in beagle dog plasma using QTRAP- resolution system. [Zhou G, Wang C, et al]

**MATERIALS**

Shimadzu UV- Visible Spectrophotometer-1800 was used for all spectral measurements. Sample standard acamprosate calcium bulk drug was obtained from Sun Pharmaceuticals and Acamprol tablets were obtained from Baroda Pharma.

### **Solubility Criteria for Acamprosate Calcium**

From Pharmacopoeial survey, acamprosate calcium is reported as freely soluble in water. [European Pharmacopeia 2005, British Pharmacopeia, 2009] Based on reported methods, phosphate buffer pH 6.8 and distilled water are used as vehicle for method development. [Kiran A et al. 2013]

The present article reflects use of hydrotropic agent such as Potassium di-hydrogen phosphate having a defined concentration (3 M) for enhancing the solubility of Acamprosate calcium and thereby developing a simple UV spectrophotometric method

## **EXPERIMENTAL METHOD**

### **Preparation of Standard Stock Solution**

An accurately weighed 25mg of acamprosate calcium was taken and diluted in 25ml of distilled water to get a concentration of 1000 µg/ml and it is named as stock I. From the stock I, 10 ml of solution was taken and diluted in 50 ml 3 M  $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$  and the final volume was made up to mark with distilled water to get a concentration of 100 µg/ml and it is named as stock II. From the stock II, various working standards were prepared by further dilution with distilled water. The solutions were scanned on spectrophotometer in UV range 200- 400nm. Acamprosate calcium showed absorbance maxima at 217 nm. The scanned spectrum is shown in the figure 2.

### **Preparation of Calibration curve**

Working standard solutions with concentrations ranging from 10-50µg/ml were prepared from stock II solution. The calibration curve was plotted by taking concentration on x-axis and absorbance on y-axis. The curve showed linearity with correlation coefficient ( $r^2$ ) 0.989, shown in figure 3.

### **Analysis of Marketed Formulation**

The tablets were grinded to provide a homogeneous powder and a quantity equivalent to one tablet was weighed and transferred in to 100 mL dried volumetric flask, containing about 50 mL of 3M Potassium di-hydrogen phosphate and sonicated for 5 minutes with intermittent shaking made up to the volume with distilled water, mixed well and filtered. Further 1 mL of the solution is diluted to 100 mL with distilled water. The final sample solution was prepared in such a way to get a concentration of 13.32 µg/ml. Absorbance of the resulting solution was measured at 217nm (figure 4).

## **METHOD VALIDATION**

As per the ICH Guidelines, method was validated for different parameters like Linearity, Precision, Limit of Detection, Limit of Quantification, and Accuracy. [ICH Q2A, 1994]

### **1. Linearity**

The linearity study verifies that the sample solutions are in a concentration range where analyte response is linearly proportional to the concentration. Calibration curves were performed by analysis of working standard solutions prepared from the formulation with at least five different concentrations in the range between 3.3 µg / ml – 16.65 µg/ml. The equation of the regression line for Acamprosate Calcium,  $y = 0.0081x + 0.0115$  ( $R^2 = 0.989$ ) shown in table 2.

### **2. Precision**

The intra-day and inter-day variation for determination of Acamprosate calcium was carried out in the same day under same conditions and on different days and % RSD were calculated. The method was found to be precise due to low values of the %RSD as shown in table 3.

### **3. Accuracy (% Recovery)**

Accuracy of the method was determined in terms of % recovery of standard. Recovery studies were carried out by addition of standard drug solution at the level of 50 %, 100 % and 150 % to the pre-analysed sample. In this method the known concentration standard drug was added to the assay sample. Three set for each concentration levels was prepared and the recovery was calculated with respect to the standard solutions. The accuracy results are shown in table 4.

### **4. Limit of Detection, Limit of Quantification**

The limit of detection is defined as the lowest concentration of an analyte that an analytical process can reliably differentiate from background levels. The limit of quantification is defined as the lowest concentration of the standard curve that can be measured with an acceptable accuracy and precision. In this study, LOD and LOQ were based on the standard deviation of the response and the slope of the corresponding curve using the following equations: (table 5)

$$\text{LOD} = 3.3 \sigma / S$$

$$\text{LOQ} = 10 \sigma / S$$

Where,

$\sigma$  = standard deviation of absorbance of sample

S = slope of calibration curve

## Results

Acamprosate calcium shows  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  at 217nm and the linearity plot yielded a correlation co-efficient ( $R^2$ ) of 0.989 over the Beer- Lambert's range of 10 – 50 ug / ml. the regression equation was found to be  $Y = 0.0032x + 0.0288$ . The developed method was found to be precise as the % RSD values for intra – day and inter – day were found to be less than 2%.

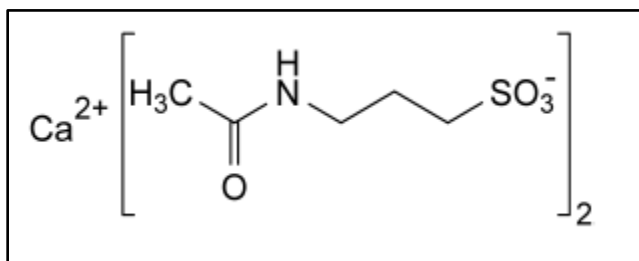


Fig 1. Molecular structure of acamprosate calcium

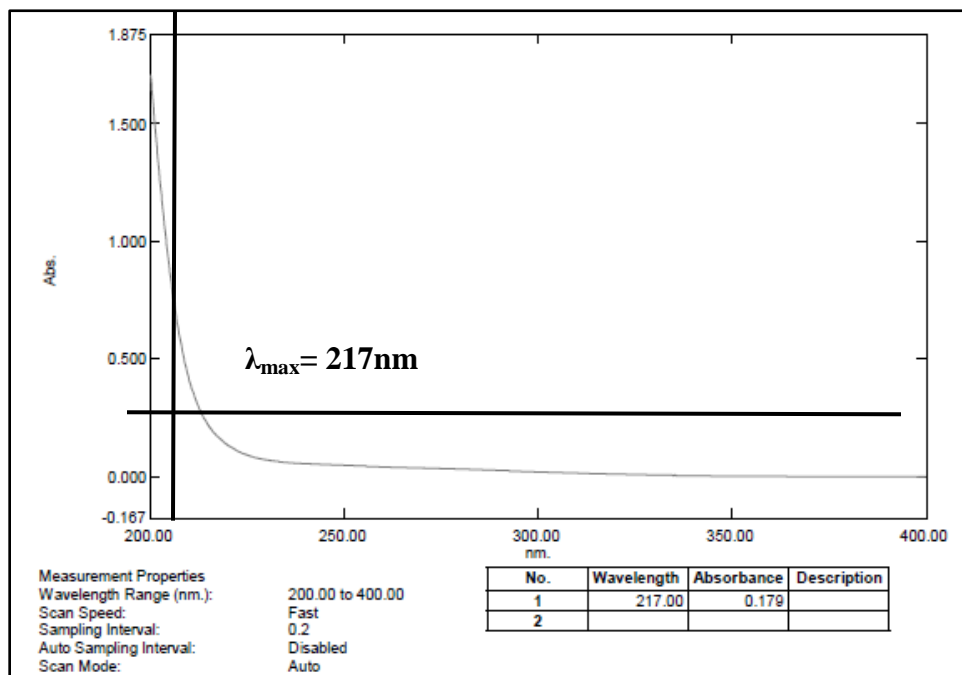


Fig 2. UV Spectrum of Acamprosate Calcium at 217 nm.

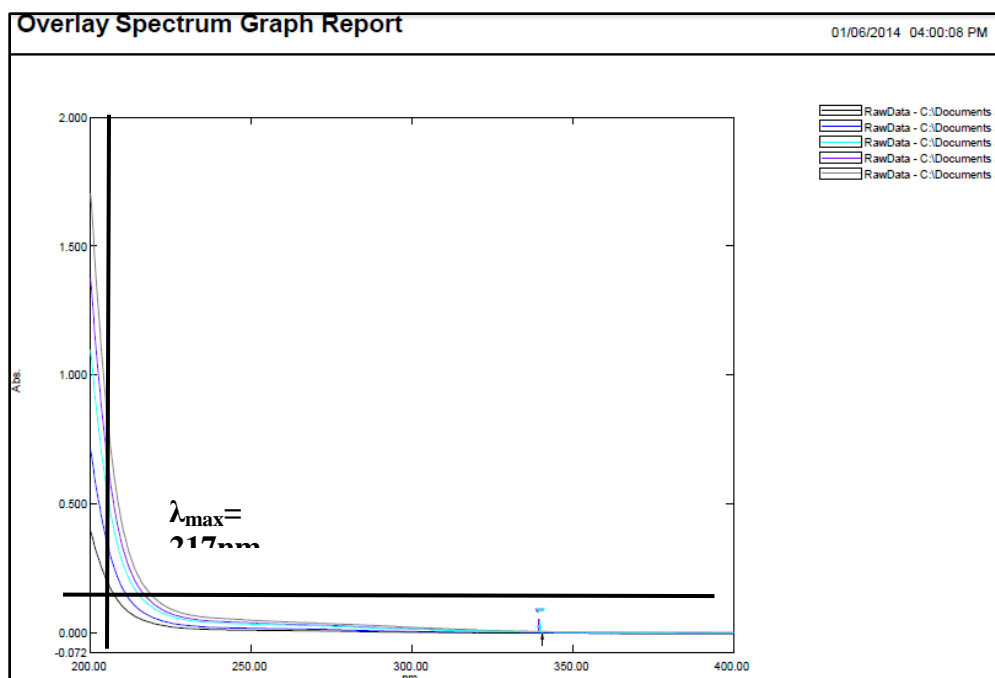


Fig 3. Calibration curve of Acamprosate calcium

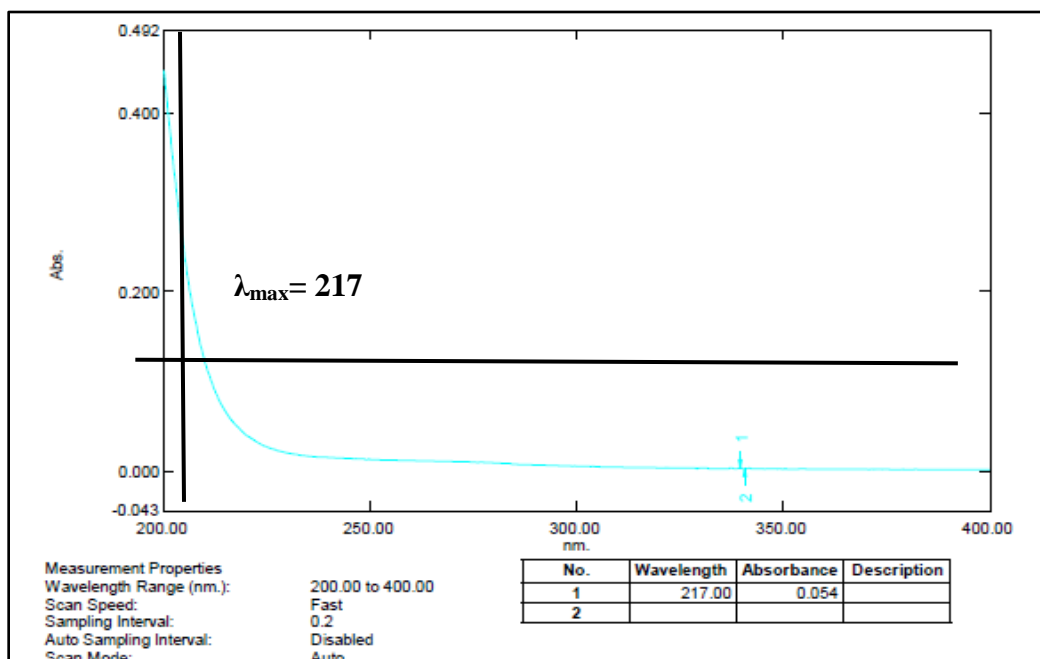


Fig 4: Sample Analysis of acamprosate calcium tablet

Table 1. Calibration curve of Acamprosate Calcium reported here

Concentration	Absorbance (217 nm)
10	0.049
20	0.077
30	0.124
40	0.146
50	0.179
Slope	0.003

<b>Intercept</b>	0.016
<b>Regression Co-efficient (<math>R^2</math>)</b>	0.989

**Table 2. Linearity of Acamprosate Calcium**

<b>Concentration</b>	<b>Absorbance</b>
3.3	0.019
6.6	0.027
9.9	0.038
13.32	0.044
16.65	0.051
<b>Slope</b>	0.0081
<b>Regression co-efficient</b>	0.0115
<b>A Intercept</b>	0.9899

**Table 3. Results of Precision study (Intra- day and Inter- day)**

<b>Precision</b>	<b>Sample Concentration (ppm)</b>	<b>Obtained Concentration (ppm) (n=6)</b>	<b>% Relative Standard Deviation</b>
<b>Intra – day precision</b>	13.32	12.36 12.36 12.33 12.33 12.33 12.33	0.13%
<b>Inter- day precision</b>	13.32	10 10 9.84 10 10 10	0.65%

**Table 4. Recovery study of Acamprosate Calcium**

Drug	% Amount added	Concentration added	Concentration Recovered	% Recovery	% Relative Standard Deviation
Acamprosate Calcium	80	9	6.95	77.22	0.33 %
		9	6.95	77.22	
		9	6.99	77.66	
	100	15	16.41	109.4	0.60%
		15	16.41	109.4	
		15	16.58	110.5	
	120	21	22.61	105.76	0.52%
		21	22.41	106.71	
		21	22.61	105.76	

**Table 5. LOD and LOQ for Acamprosate Calcium**

Limit of Detection	0.183 ug/ml
Limit of Quantification	0.55ug/ml

## CONCLUSION

The proposed UV method was found to be simple, sensitive, accurate, precise, and linear which can be used in determination of acamprosate calcium in bulk and tablet dosage form. The method is economical, rapid and does not require any sophisticated instruments. Hence it can be effectively employed for routine quality control analysis of acamprosate calcium in bulk and in tablet dosage form.

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