

**METHOD DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF STABILITY  
INDICATING RP-HPLC METHOD FOR SIMULTANEOUS  
ESTIMATION OF AZILSARTAN AND CHLORTHALIDONE IN PURE  
AND PHARMACEUTICAL DOSAGE FORM**

**N. Sunitha<sup>1\*</sup>, Subash C Marihal<sup>2</sup>, T.Sai Sushma<sup>3</sup>, A.Venu<sup>3</sup>, B.V.Narasimha Rao<sup>3</sup>,  
B.Appa Rao<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>SIMS College of Pharmacy, Guntur - 522001, Andhra Pradesh, India.

<sup>2</sup>HLT College of Pharmacy, Channapatna, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India.

<sup>3</sup>Victoria College of Pharmacy, Guntur - 522005, Andhra Pradesh, India.

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**\*Correspondence for  
Author**

**N. Sunitha**

SIMS College of  
Pharmacy, Guntur -  
522001, Andhra Pradesh,  
India.

**ABSTRACT**

A simple, accurate, precise method was developed for the simultaneous estimation of the Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone in Tablet dosage form. Retention times of Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone were found to be 2.876min and 3.652min. %RSD of the Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone were found to be 0.28 and 0.47 respectively. %Recover was obtained as 100.08 and 100.18 for Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone respectively. LOD, LOQ values are obtained from regression equations of Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone were 0.49, 1.49 and 0.74, 2.23 respectively. Regression equation of azilsartan is  $y = 18208x + 2709$  and of Chlorthalidone is  $y = 29300x + 6534$ .

Regression co-efficient was 0.999. Retention times are 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:** Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone, RP-HPLC, Validation.

**INTRODUCTION**

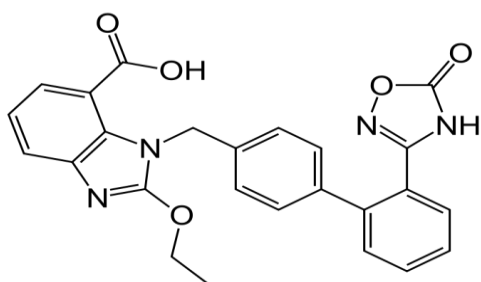
Azilsartan<sup>[1-2]</sup> is chemically (5 - Methyl - 2 - oxo -1,3 - dioxol -4 - yl) methyl 2 - ethoxy - 1 - {[ 2' - ( 5 - oxo -4,5 - dihydro - 1, 2, 4 - oxadiazol -3 - yl) biphenyl - 4 - yl ] methyl } - 1H - benzimidazole -7 - carboxylate. It is a white crystalline powder which is practically insoluble in water, freely soluble in methanol, dimethyl sulfoxide and dimethyl formamide,

soluble in acetic acid, slightly soluble in acetone and Acetonitrile and very slightly soluble in Tetra Hydro furan and 1- octanol.

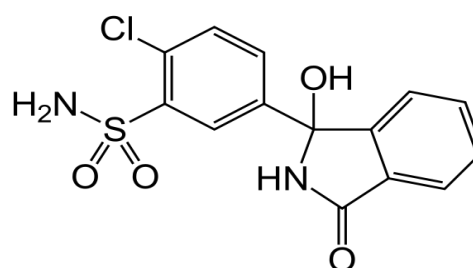
Chlorthalidone<sup>[3-7]</sup> is chemically (*RS*)-2-Chloro-5-(1-hydroxy-3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-isoindol-1-yl)benzene-1-sulfonamide. It is a thiazide type diuretic used to treat hypertension. It acts similarly to the thiazides in causing diuresis but does not have benzothiadiazine moiety in it. It acts at the proximal portion of the distal convoluted tubule of the nephron and shows longest duration of action when compared to other thiazide diuretics. Chlorthalidone is practically insoluble in water, ether and chloroform, soluble in methanol and slightly soluble in alcohol.

This Azilsartan Medoxomil and Chlorthalidone fixed-dose combination is found to show superior antihypertensive efficacy in blood pressure reduction in patients with stage 2 hypertension when compared with the maximum approved dose of olmesartan/hydrochlorothiazide.

The literature survey shows that spectroscopic and chromatographic methods<sup>[8-15]</sup> for individual drugs but there is only a single method available for quantitation of Azilsartan Medoxomil and Chlorthalidone in solid dosage forms simultaneously. Thus it is inevitable to develop such a sensitive, accurate, precise, rapid and economical method for routine analysis of this combination in pharmaceutical dosage form successfully.



**Fig.1: Molecular structure of Azilsartan**



**Fig.2: Molecular structure of chlorthalidone**

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Materials

Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone, Combination of Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone tablets, distilled water, acetonitrile, phosphate buffer, ammonium acetate buffer, glacial acetic acid, methanol, potassium dihydrogen phosphate buffer, tetra hydrofuran, tri ethyl amine, ortho phosphoric acid etc.

### Instrument

HPLC instrument used was of WATERS HPLC 2965 SYSTEM with auto injector and PDA Detector. Software used is Empower 2. UV-VIS spectrophotometer PG Instruments T60 with special bandwidth of 2mm and 10mm and matched quartz was be used for measuring absorbance for Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone solutions.

### Method development

#### Optimization of the chromatographic conditions

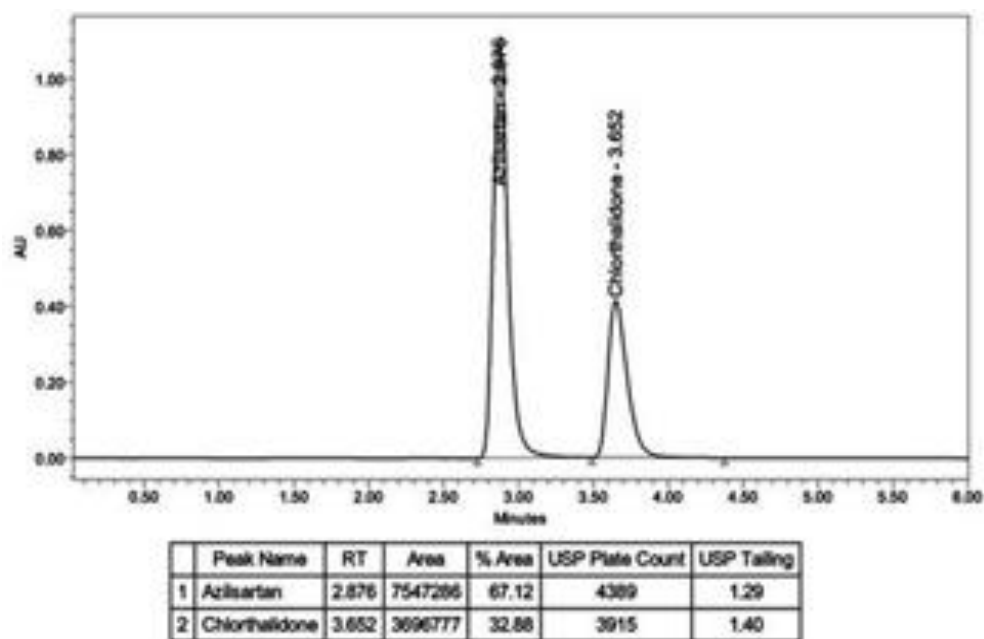
The mobile phase consisted of buffer and acetonitrile taken in the ratio 45:55A.

#### Optimized Method

Drugs were eluted with good retention time, resolution, all the system suitable parameters like Plate count and Tailing factor were within the limits.

**Table 1: Optimization of the chromatographic conditions**

Flow rate	:	1 ml/min
Column	:	std ODS 250 x 4.6 mm, 5 $\mu$ .
Detector wave length	:	270nm
Column temperature	:	30°C
Injection volume	:	10 $\mu$ L
Run time	:	6 min
Diluents		Firstly dissolve in Methanol and finally made up with Water: Methanol (50:50)



**Fig.3: Optimized chromatogram of Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone**

### Preparation of buffer

**Buffer:** Accurately weighed and transferred 1.36gm of potassium dihydrogen ortho phosphate in a 1000 ml of volumetric flask add about 900ml of milli-Q water added and degas to sonicate and finally make up the volume with water, then  $P^H$  adjusted to 4.8 with dil. orthophosphoric acid solution.

### Preparation of standard stock solutions

#### Standard preparation: (400ppm of Azilsartan and 125ppm of Chlorthalidone)

Accurately weighed and transferred 40mg and 12.5mg of Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone working standards into a 10 ml clean dry volumetric flask, add 7ml of diluent, sonicated for 30 minutes and make up to the final volume with diluents. From the above stock solution, 1 ml was pipeted out in to a 10ml volumetric flask and then make up to the final volume with diluent.

### Sample preparation

5 tablets were weighed and calculate the average weight of each tablet then the weight equivalent to 5 tablets was transferred into a 50 mL volumetric flask, 30mL of diluent added and sonicated for 25 min, further the volume made up with diluent and filtered. From the filtered solution 1ml was pipeted out into a 10 ml volumetric flask and made up to 10 ml with diluent.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Linearity:** Six linear concentrations of azilsartan (100-600) and chlorthalidone (31.25ppm to 187.5ppm) are prepare and injected. Regression equation of the the azilsartan and chlorthalidone are found to be,  $y = 18203x + 5058$  and  $y = 29259x + 12197$  and regression co-efficient was 0.999.

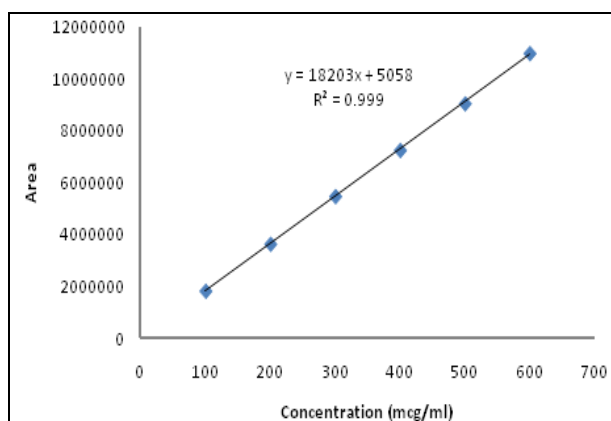


Fig.4: Calibration curve of azilsartan

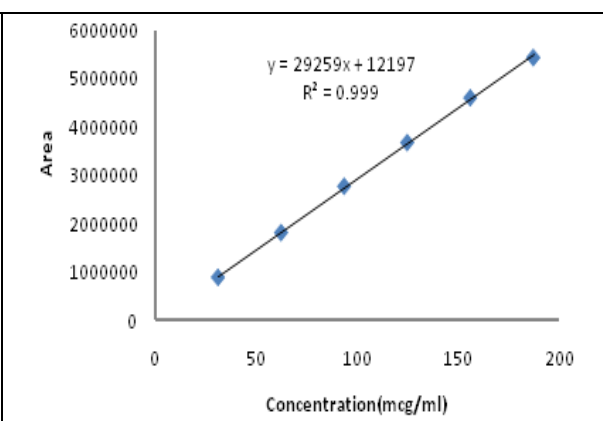


Fig.5: Calibration curve of Chlorthalidone

### Precision

**Intraday precision (Repeatability):** Intraday Precision was performed and % RSD for Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone were found to be 0.28% and 0.5% respectively.

**Inter day precision:** Inter day precision was performed with 24 hrs time lag and the %RSD obtained for Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone were 0.2 % and 0.2 %.

**Table 2: Intraday precision and Interday precision data for Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone**

S. No.	Intraday precision		Interday precision	
	Azilsartan	Chlorthalidone	Azilsartan	Chlorthalidone
1	7605514	3898185	7557153	3715239
2	7585790	3912659	7520625	3722729
3	7594019	3908387	7530307	3707298
4	7618545	3930311	7560977	3722944
5	7577944	3945641	7555359	3717508
6	7634607	3937265	7634607	3737265
Mean	7602737	3922075	7544884	371744
S.D	21218.9	18442.8	18167.3	64332
%RSD	0.28	0.5	0.2	0.2

### Accuracy

Three concentrations 50%, 100%, 150%, were injected in a triplicate manner and amount Recovered and % Recovery were displayed. Each concentration was analyzed 3 times and average recoveries were measured.

**Table 3: Accuracy data of Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone**

Sample	Amount taken (µg/ml)	Amount recovered (µg/ml)	Recover (%)	% RSD
Azilsartan	50	200.22	100.11	0.60
	100	401.56	100.39	0.70
	150	597.54	99.59	0.40
Chlorthalidone	50	62.3	99.68	0.65
	100	125.26	100.21	0.77
	150	187.46	99.48	0.48

**LOD:** Limit of detection was calculated by intercept method and LOD for Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone were found to be 0.49 and 1.49 respectively.

**LOQ:** Limit of Quantification was calculated by intercept method and LOQ for Azilsartan and Chlorthalidone are found to be 0.74 and 2.23 respectively.

**Robustness:** Small deliberate changes in method like flow rate, mobile phase ratio, and temperature are made but there were no recognized change in the result and are within range as per ICH guide lines.

**Table 4: Results of robustness study**

S.No	Robustness condition	%RSD	
		Azilsartan	Chlorthalidone
1	Flow minus	0.31	0.31
2	Flow Plus	0.32	0.63
3	Mobile phase minus	0.41	0.31
4	Mobile phase Plus	0.33	0.32
5	Temperature minus	0.31	0.23
6	Temperature Plus	0.52	0.22

**Assay:** Standard preparations are made from the API and sample preparations are from formulation. Both sample and standards are injected six homogeneous samples. Drug in the formulation was estimated by taking the standard as the reference. The average % assay was calculated and found to be 100.08% and 100.18% for azilsartan and chlorthalidone respectively.

**Table.5: Assay results**

S.No	% Assay	
	Azilsartan	Chlorthalidone
1	100.11	99.57
2	99.85	99.94
3	99.96	99.83
4	100.29	100.39
5	99.75	100.78
6	100.50	100.57
Mean	100.08	100.18
SD	0.2793	0.47
% RSD	0.28	0.47

### Degradation studies

Degradation studies were performed with the formulation and the degraded samples were injected. Assay of the injected samples was calculated and all the samples passed the limits of degradation.

**Table. 6: Degradation Data of azilsartan**

S.No	Degradation Condition	Azilsartan			Chlorthalidone		
		% Drug Degraded	Purity Angle	Purity Threshold	% Drug Degraded	Purity Angle	Purity Threshold
1	Acid	7.57633	2.053	7.968	7.24201	0.070	0.276
2	Alkali	6.09319	2.070	7.969	6.68862	0.154	0.280
3	Oxidation	5.39893	1.995	7.461	5.98028	0.120	0.279
4	Thermal	4.79276	2.067	7.643	4.52133	0.083	0.273
5	UV	1.52859	1.794	6.262	1.50644	0.098	0.277
6	Water	0.71269	1.794	6.338	0.64458	0.128	0.276

**Table. 7: Data for degradation chromatogram**

Thermal degradation chromatogram								
S.No	Peak Name	RT	Area	%Area	Purity1 Angle	Purity1 Threshold	USP Platecount	USP Tailing
1	Azilsartan	2.877	7234607	66.97	2.067	7.643	4329	1.3
2	Chlorthalidone	3.657	3372726	33.03	0.083	0.275	3851	1.4
UV degradation chromatogram								
1	Azilsartan	2.874	7482645	65.34	1.794	6.262	3807	1.3
2	Chlorthalidone	3.653	3844959	34.66	0.098	0.277	3599	1.4
Water degradation chromatogram								
1	Azilsartan	2.876	7544643	65.50	1.794	6.338	3948	1.3
2	Chlorthalidone	3.656	3878604	34.50	0.128	0.276	3707	1.4
Water degradation chromatogram								
1	Azilsartan	2.875	7188545	66.90	1.995	7.461	4342	1.3
2	Chlorthalidone	3.656	3670311	33.01	0.120	0.279	3844	1.4

**Table. 8: Validation parameters**

Parameters	Azilsartan	Chlorthalidone
Range (mcg / ml)	100-600	31.25-187.5
Optimized wavelength	270	270
Mobile phase (Acetonitrile : Buffer)	Buffer: Acetonitrile:Methanol (50:40:10)	Buffer: Acetonitrile:Methanol (50:40:10)
Column	ODS (250mm 4.6mm, 5 $\mu$ )	ODS (250mm 4.6mm, 5 $\mu$ )
Retention time	2.876	3.652
Regression equation (Y)	y = 18203x + 5058	y = 29259x + 12197
Correlation coefficient( $r^2$ )	0.999	0.999
Precision (% RSD)	0.28	0.47
% Recovery	100.08	100.18
LOD (mcg / ml)	0.49	0.74
LOQ(mcg / ml)	1.49	2.23

## CONCLUSION

A simple, rapid, accurate and precise stability indicating HPLC analytical method has been developed and validated for the routine analysis of azilsartan and chlorthalidone in pharmaceutical formulations. The proposed method was validated by testing its linearity,

accuracy, precision, limits of detection, and quantitation, and specificity. The method proved able to separate the peaks of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) from the degradation products (produced during forced degradation studies). The results of the stress testing reveal that the method is selective and stability indicating. The proposed method is used to separate these drugs from their degradation products; excipients found in tablet dosage forms and can be applied to the analysis of samples obtained during stability studies.

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