

## ISOCRATIC RP-HPLC METHOD DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION FOR PHARMACEUTICAL TABLETS USING C18 COLUMN: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

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### ABSTRACT

Reverse phase high-performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC) is a popular analytical technique in pharmaceutical analysis for estimating drug concentrations in tablet dosage forms. The current review focuses on the development and validation of isocratic RP-HPLC techniques for analyzing pharmaceutical tablets utilizing C18 columns. In recent years, a great variety of analytical methods have been published for determining single and mixed drug formulations using simple and low-cost isocratic systems. The selection of an appropriate mobile phase composition, detection wavelength, flow rate, and column conditions is critical for obtaining accurate and exact results. The paper also discusses crucial validation criteria such as linearity, accuracy, precision, specificity, limit of detection (LOD), limit of quantification (LOQ), and robustness in accordance with ICH guidelines. This page summarizes many documented approaches for different drug types, such as

analgesics, anti-diabetics, and cardiovascular medicines, in tablet dose forms. This review is valuable for researchers and postgraduate students who are developing analytical methods employing RP-HPLC. This study will be valuable for postgraduate students and researchers involved in pharmaceutical analysis, particularly in academic laboratories that use isocratic RP-HPLC equipment with C18 columns for routine tablet analysis.

**KEYWORDS:** RP-HPLC; Method Development; Method Validation; Isocratic HPLC; C18 Column; Pharmaceutical Tablets; Analytical Method; ICH Guidelines; Tablet Dosage Form; Pharmaceutical Analysis.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Importance of Pharmaceutical Analysis

Pharmaceutical analysis is critical to the development, manufacture, and quality control of pharmaceutical products. The primary goal of pharmaceutical analysis is to assure the quality, safety, and efficacy of pharmaceuticals before they are introduced onto the market. Every pharmaceutical product must contain the required amount of active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) and be free of contaminants and degradation products. As a result, precise and reliable analytical procedures are required for the identification, separation, and quantification of pharmacological compounds in pharmaceutical dosage forms.

Pharmaceutical analysis has grown in importance in recent years as new drug compounds, combination medicine formulations, and sophisticated dosage forms have emerged.<sup>[1]</sup>

Pharmaceutical analysis is also required to ensure the quality of pharmaceuticals during manufacturing, storage, and delivery. Analytical techniques are commonly employed to detect contaminants, degradation products, and stability-related changes in pharmaceutical formulations. To ensure that each batch of medicine satisfies regulatory criteria, the pharmaceutical sector employs stringent quality-control systems. Several open-access review publications have stressed the importance of analytical methodologies in quality assurance, stability testing, and pharmaceutical product validation. These analytical investigations contribute to ensuring that medicines are safe and beneficial for patients.<sup>[2]</sup>

Furthermore, pharmaceutical analysis contributes significantly to the development of novel pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical research. During drug development, analytical techniques are employed to determine the purity, stability, and concentration of medicinal molecules. Analytical approaches are also necessary to validate pharmaceutical formulations and investigate drug-excipient interactions. Advanced analytical techniques such as high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), gas chromatography (GC), and spectroscopic approaches are commonly utilized in pharmaceutical enterprises and academic research facilities. Several recent open-access studies have emphasized the value of chromatographic

techniques in pharmaceutical analysis due to their great sensitivity, accuracy, and reproducibility.

Furthermore, pharmaceutical analysis is directly linked to worldwide regulatory criteria such as the ICH, WHO, and FDA quality standards. Before pharmaceutical goods may be approved, analytical methods must be developed and validated to ensure that they meet regulatory standards. The quality of pharmaceutical products has a direct impact on patient safety; thus, dependable analytical procedures are essential to detect even trace levels of contaminants or degradation products. Many review articles have indicated unequivocally that pharmaceutical analysis is one of the most significant fields of pharmaceutical research since it ensures the quality and effectiveness of medicines.<sup>[3]</sup>

### **1.2 Importance of HPLC in Pharmaceutical Tablet Analysis**

High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) is one of the most popular analytical techniques for separating, identifying, and quantifying pharmaceutical substances. When compared to other analytical techniques, the methodology has higher sensitivity, accuracy, repeatability, and speed of analysis. Because of these benefits, HPLC is widely utilized in the pharmaceutical industry and academic research laboratories. Many research publications have described the use of HPLC to estimate pharmaceuticals in tablet dosage forms, including single-component and combination medication formulations.<sup>[4]</sup>

### **1.3 Importance of RP-HPLC in Pharmaceutical Analysis**

Among the various HPLC modes, reverse phase high-performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC) is the most widely utilized in pharmaceutical analysis. RP-HPLC uses a non-polar stationary phase, such as a C18 column, in conjunction with a polar mobile phase, making it appropriate for the analysis of both moderately polar and non-polar pharmaceuticals. Several open-access research articles describe the development and validation of RP-HPLC methods for estimating pharmaceuticals in pharmaceutical Formulations. The widespread usage of RP-HPLC in pharmaceutical analysis demonstrates the value of this approach in analytical method development studies.<sup>[5]</sup>

### **1.4 Importance of Isocratic RP-HPLC Methods**

In addition to column selection, the type of chromatographic method used is a significant factor in analytical method development. Isocratic RP-HPLC procedures are commonly used because they are simpler, less expensive, and easier to operate than gradient methods.

Isocratic methods keep the composition of the mobile phase constant throughout the analysis, making them easier to develop and reproduce. Many studies have reported isocratic RP-HPLC procedures for drug quantification in tablet dosage forms, which are suited for routine quality-control analysis.<sup>[6]</sup>

### **1.5 Importance of C18 Column in RP-HPLC**

C18 columns are the most often used stationary phases in RP-HPLC due to their excellent separation, peak form, and reproducibility. Several open-access research articles have described the use of C18 columns to develop and validate analytical procedures for pharmaceuticals in tablet dosage forms. The widespread usage of C18 columns in pharmaceutical analysis highlights the importance of this stationary phase in chromatographic technique development.<sup>[7]</sup>

### **1.6 Method Development and Validation in RP-HPLC**

Analytical method development is a critical step in pharmaceutical analysis that involves selecting appropriate chromatographic conditions such as mobile phase composition, column type, detection wavelength, and flow rate. After developing an appropriate approach, it must be validated to guarantee that it produces accurate and dependable results. Method validation is often performed in accordance with ICH criteria, which include factors such as linearity, accuracy, precision, specificity, limit of detection (LOD), limit of quantification (LOQ), and robustness. Many open-access research articles have reported RP-HPLC method development and validation based on ICH guidelines.<sup>[8]</sup>

### **1.7 Relevance of RP-HPLC in Academic Laboratories**

Many academic institutes employ HPLC devices for postgraduate research in pharmaceutical analysis. Several research publications published by pharmacy institutions have described the use of RP-HPLC to estimate medicines in tablet dosage forms. The availability of an isocratic RP-HPLC system with a C18 column in university laboratories gives an ideal opportunity for postgraduate students to gain practical experience with analytical method development and validation.<sup>[9]</sup>

## **2. INSTRUMENTATION USED IN RP – HPLC**

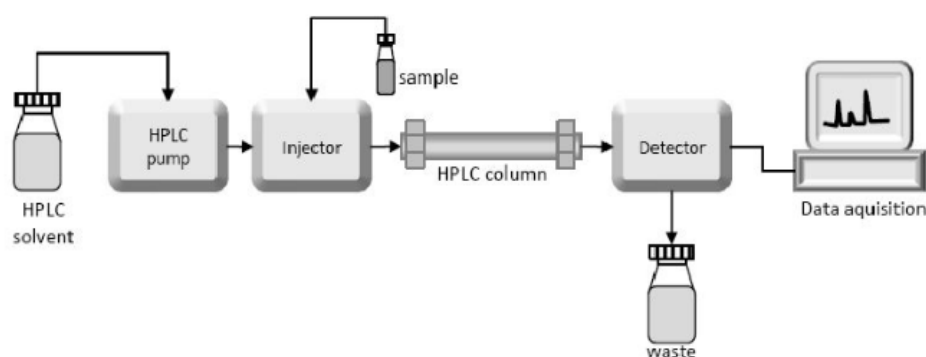
High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) technology is critical in pharmaceutical analysis since precise separation and quantification of pharmacological compounds are mostly dependent on the chromatographic system's effectiveness. A typical RP-HPLC system

in pharmaceutical research laboratories includes a solvent supply system (pump), sample injector, analytical column, detector, and data-processing system. Several open-access research articles have discussed the use of these components in method development and validation studies for pharmaceutical formulations. For example, a published RP-HPLC method for dexibuprofen tablets clearly stated the usage of a Shimadzu HPLC system with a pump, injector, UV detector, and C18 column, demonstrating that these components are required for pharmaceutical analysis.<sup>[10]</sup>

## 2.1 HPLC System and Solvent Delivery Pump

The solvent delivery system is a critical component of an RP-HPLC apparatus since it regulates the flow rate of the mobile phase and enables proper separation of pharmacological molecules. In isocratic RP-HPLC, the pump maintains a consistent flow rate of the mobile phase throughout the analysis, improving repeatability and peak symmetry. Many research articles have revealed that pharmaceutical technique development studies frequently use isocratic HPLC systems with high-pressure pumps capable of providing mobile phase at precise flow rates. For example, an open-access RP-HPLC approach for montelukast describes the use of a Shimadzu LC-2010 system with a solvent delivery pump and UV detector to accurately estimate drug levels.<sup>[11]</sup>

In many academic laboratories, HPLC systems manufactured by Shimadzu Corporation are commonly used for pharmaceutical analysis due to their reliability and ease of operation.



**Fig. no. 1: Schematic diagram of an RP-HPLC system used for pharmaceutical analysis. Sample Injector System.**

The sample injector is an essential component of the RP-HPLC system because it injects a precise volume of sample into the chromatographic column while maintaining the mobile-phase flow. Because HPLC runs at high pressures, direct injection with a syringe is not practical; thus, a

specialized injection mechanism is needed. Most HPLC instrumentation research publications describe the injector as a six-port valve with a fixed-volume sample loop for precise and repeatable injection. The analytical method's efficiency is highly dependent on the injection system's precision, as any variation in injected volume has a direct impact on the peak area and quantitative results.<sup>[12]</sup>

### **2.2.1 Manual Sample Injector**

Manual injection systems are widely employed in academic laboratories because to their simplicity, dependability, and low cost. A manual injector uses a syringe to enter the sample into a fixed-volume loop that is connected to a rotating valve. The injector has two main positions: "load" and "inject." When the valve is in the load position, the sample fills the loop; when it is shifted to the inject position, the mobile phase transports the sample from the loop to the column for separation. This approach, which is extensively employed in postgraduate research laboratories, has good reproducibility when the loop is entirely filled. Open educational chromatography materials and instrumentation articles provide a full overview of manual injection systems and loop-based injectors.<sup>[12]</sup>

The RP-HPLC system available in our college laboratory is equipped with a manual injection system, which provides an excellent opportunity for postgraduate students to understand the practical aspects of sample injection and method development.

### **2.2.2 Automatic Sample Injector (Autosampler)**

Modern RP-HPLC systems include automatic sample injectors, sometimes known as autosamplers. An autosampler automatically and precisely puts the sample into the column, allowing several samples to be analyzed without operator intervention. In this technique, the sample is sucked from a vial using a needle and transported to a sample loop before being injected into the mobile phase stream. Autosamplers are frequently utilized in the pharmaceutical industry due to their improved consistency, less human error, and faster sample analysis speed. Several chromatography research publications and instrumentation reviews have thoroughly explained the operation and benefits of autosamplers in current HPLC systems.<sup>[12]</sup>

### **2.2.3 Importance of the Injection System in Method Development**

The injection mechanism is critical in the development of RP-HPLC methods because precise and repeatable injection is required for dependable analytical findings. In pharmaceutical

research, both manual and automatic injectors are employed; however, manual injectors are more prevalent in academic laboratories, whereas autosamplers are widely used in industrial laboratories for routine quality-control analysis. According to research publications on modern HPLC instruments, the repeatability of peak area, retention time, and calibration curve is heavily influenced by the injection system's performance.

### 2.3 Analytical Column (C18 Column)

The analytical column is considered the heart of the HPLC system since drug molecules are separated inside it. C18 columns are commonly employed in RP-HPLC for pharmaceutical analysis because they give improved separation, peak shape, and high reproducibility for the majority of pharmacological molecules. Several open-access research articles have discussed the use of C18 columns to analyze pharmaceutical tablets. For example, a study on the RP-HPLC analysis of paracetamol, ibuprofen, and caffeine used a C18 column to separate pharmacological molecules, demonstrating that C18 columns are the most widely used stationary phases in pharmaceutical research.<sup>[13]</sup>



**Fig.2 Structure of C18 stationary phase used in RP-HPLC.**

### 2.4 UV Detector in RP-HPLC

UV detectors are commonly employed in HPLC due to the majority of chemicals absorbing in the UV/visible range. The functional group of eluting molecules determines their reaction to a given class or substance.<sup>[14]</sup> Optical detectors work by detecting changes in intensity as electromagnetic radiation travels through the detector flow cell. The detectors come in three types: Detectors include fixed and variable wavelengths, as well as diode arrays. Many research articles have reported the use of UV detection in RP-HPLC methods for the estimation of drugs in pharmaceutical dosage forms.<sup>[14,15]</sup> For example, a method developed

for dexibuprofen tablets used a UV detector to quantitatively estimate the drug, proving that UV detection is one of the most reliable procedures in pharmaceutical testing.<sup>[10]</sup>

They operate based on Beer's Law, measuring light absorption by the eluent, with 254 nm and 214 nm being common wavelengths, usually employing deuterium (D<sub>2</sub>) lamps.

### **2.5 Data Processing System (Software)**

Modern RP-HPLC systems are equipped with computer software for recording chromatograms and calculating peak area, retention time, and calibration curves. The data-processing system helps researchers to perform accurate quantitative analysis and method validation studies. Many published research articles have reported the use of chromatographic software for data acquisition and analysis in pharmaceutical method- development studies. This clearly shows that software plays a key role in improving the accuracy and reliability of RP-HPLC analysis.

In pharmaceutical research laboratories, HPLC analysis is typically performed using a number of chromatography software tools. LC-Solutions software, the predecessor to the present Lab Solutions software, was frequently used to operate Shimadzu HPLC systems. The RP-HPLC system in our college laboratory is programmed using LC-Solutions software, which is still frequently used in academic laboratories for chromatogram processing and peak-area calculation. In addition to Shimadzu software, Waters chromatography systems frequently incorporate Empower software, including Empower Version 1, Empower Version 2, and the most recent Empower Version 3, which is widely used in pharmaceutical enterprises and research facilities. Modern analytical laboratories also use advanced chromatography software, such as Chromeleon (Thermo Scientific) and OpenLab CDS (Agilent), for data collecting and technique validation experiments. These software programs improve the accuracy, reliability, and reproducibility of RP-HPLC analysis in pharmaceutical research.

### **2.6 Instrumentation Available in Academic Laboratories**

RP-HPLC apparatus is commonly available in pharmacy schools and academic research laboratories because it is one of the most important analytical techniques utilized in postgraduate research. According to several open-access review studies, RP-HPLC systems are widely utilized in university laboratories for method development, validation, and pharmaceutical formulation analysis. The availability of an isocratic RP-HPLC system with a

C18 column in university laboratories gives a fantastic opportunity for postgraduate students to gain practical experience with analytical method development.

### 3. Working principle of RP – HPLC

One of the most extensively utilized analytical techniques in pharmaceutical analysis is reversed-phase high-performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC), which allows accurate and reproducible separation of pharmacological compounds found in pharmaceutical formulations. The stationary phase in RP-HPLC is nonpolar, whereas the mobile phase is moderately polar. When the sample solution is injected into the system, the drug molecules interact differently with the stationary phase based on their polarity and chemical composition. As a result, each chemical elutes at varied retention duration, facilitating identification and quantitative quantification. Several research publications on pharmaceutical analysis have thoroughly detailed the operation of RP-HPLC and its use in tablet dosage forms.<sup>[16]</sup>

#### 3.1 Principle of Chromatographic Separation in RP-HPLC

The separation of drug compounds in RP-HPLC is mostly based on the hydrophobic interaction of the analyte and stationary phase. Non-polar molecules interact more strongly with the C18 stationary phase, requiring more time to elute, whereas polar compounds interact less strongly and elute more quickly. This difference in interaction causes the chromatogram to show different peaks. Several recent research articles on RP- HPLC method development have detailed the mechanism of separation used to analyze pharmaceutical tablets and bulk medicines. For example, a recent open-access research article published which is entitled that the development and validation of an RP-HPLC method for estimating metformin and teneligliptin in tablet dosage form using a C18 column and UV/PDA detector, demonstrating the mechanism of separation in RP- HPLC.<sup>[17]</sup>

#### 3.2 Mechanism of Separation in C18 Column

In a C18 column, separation occurs primarily through hydrophobic interactions between analyte molecules and the non-polar stationary phase. In reversed-phase HPLC, the stationary phase is made up of silica particles bound with octadecyl (C18) hydrocarbon chains, whereas the mobile phase is often a mixture of water and organic solvents like methanol or acetonitrile. When the sample solution is injected into the system, the drug molecules are distributed between the mobile and stationary phases according to their polarity and chemical structure. Non-polar molecules interact more strongly with the long C18 chains, causing them

to linger in the column for extended periods of time, whereas polar compounds interact less strongly and elute quickly. This variation in interaction causes the separation of pharmacological compounds, resulting in discrete peaks in the chromatogram with varied retention periods.<sup>[18]</sup>

### 3.3 Retention Time and Peak Formation

Retention time is one of the most essential characteristics in RP-HPLC since it aids in the identification of drugs. When the sample is fed into the HPLC system, the drug molecules move through the column at varying rates based on their polarity and chemical structure. The detector captures the signal as a peak at a predetermined time known as retention time.

Several studies on RP-HPLC technique development have clearly demonstrated the significance of retention time and peak area in quantitative analysis.<sup>[19]</sup>

### 3.4 Working Process of RP-HPLC

The RP-HPLC process consists of multiple steps, including mobile-phase preparation, sample injection, column separation, detection, and chromatogram creation. The mobile phase is first produced with appropriate solvents, such as water, methanol, or acetonitrile. The sample solution is subsequently injected into the system using a manual or automatic injector. The separation of drug molecules occurs within the column, and the detector records the chromatogram based on UV absorbance. Several recent research articles on RP-HPLC technique development and validation have documented the step-by-step procedure for testing pharmaceutical formulations.<sup>[20]</sup>

## 4. Method Development in Isocratic RP-HPLC

Method development in isocratic RP-HPLC is a critical stage in pharmaceutical analysis because it ensures accurate separation and quantification of drug compounds found in tablet dosage formats. The creation of a chromatographic method requires careful consideration of analytical factors such as column type, mobile-phase composition, detection wavelength, and flow rate. Several recent studies on RP-HPLC method development for pharmaceutical formulations found that rigorous modification of chromatographic conditions increases peak symmetry, retention time, and resolution.<sup>[21]</sup>

#### 4.1 Selection of Analytical Column

The most critical stage in developing an RP-HPLC method is selecting an analytical column since drug molecules are separated within the column. Most pharmacological research investigations use C18 columns because they provide superior peak shape, higher resolution, and reproducibility. The column length, particle size, and internal diameter all have an impact on separation efficiency and retention time. An open-access research article on the development and validation of an RP-HPLC method for cefpodoxime proxetil and dicloxacillin sodium tablets reported successful separation using a C18 column (250 mm × 4.6 mm, 5 μm) with good peak symmetry and resolution.<sup>[22]</sup>

#### 4.2 Selection of Mobile Phase

In RP-HPLC, the mobile phase is critical for separating medicinal molecules. During method development, several combinations of water, methanol, and acetonitrile are examined to determine the best retention duration and peak shape. The pH of the mobile phase influences drug molecule separation, particularly for acidic and basic medicines. Several studies on RP-HPLC technique development for pharmaceutical tablets have found that optimizing the mobile-phase composition is critical for attaining good chromatographic separation.

#### 4.3 Selection of Detection Wavelength

Because most pharmaceutical chemicals absorb UV radiation, selecting the detection wavelength is another critical step in the development of an RP-HPLC technique. During method development, a UV spectrophotometer records the drug's UV spectrum to determine the maximum absorption wavelength ( $\lambda_{max}$ ). The chosen wavelength should provide adequate sensitivity and precise detection of the drug component. Several studies on the development of RP-HPLC methods have described the use of UV detection at specific wavelengths to accurately estimate pharmaceutical substances.

#### 4.4 Optimization of Chromatographic Conditions

The optimization of chromatographic settings is an important aspect of RP-HPLC technique development. The flow rate, column temperature, and mobile-phase composition are all tuned to achieve adequate separation and peak symmetry. Several studies on RP-HPLC method development for pharmaceutical tablets have found that thorough optimization of chromatographic conditions increases the accuracy and reliability of the produced method.<sup>[23]</sup>

#### 4.5 Preparation of Standard and Sample Solution

The production of standard and sample solutions is an important stage in developing RP-HPLC methods since accurate drug molecule quantification is dependent on good sample preparation. Tablet dosage forms are powdered and dissolved in an appropriate solvent, then filtered and diluted before being injected into the HPLC machine. Several research articles on RP-HPLC method development for pharmaceutical tablets have provided detailed descriptions of the production of standard and sample solutions during analytical method development.

#### 4.6 Trials-and-Error Method in Method Development

Method development in RP-HPLC is often accomplished through trial-and-error trials until adequate chromatographic conditions are achieved. Initially, various mobile-phase compositions, flow rates, and detecting wavelengths are evaluated to ensure appropriate drug molecule separation. Following multiple trials, the optimal chromatographic settings are chosen based on retention time, peak symmetry, and resolution. Several recent research studies on RP-HPLC method development have indicated that optimal chromatographic conditions were reached after conducting several trial experiments.

### 5. Method Validation in RP-HPLC

Method validation is an important stage in pharmaceutical analysis because it assures that the proposed analytical method is reliable, accurate, and appropriate for routine analysis of pharmaceutical tablets. Method validation in RP-HPLC is carried out in accordance with international criteria like as ICH Q2(R1), which specify numerous validation parameters such as linearity, accuracy, precision, specificity, robustness, and system adaptability. Many review articles on analytical technique validation state that validation establishes the reliability of the established chromatographic process and ensures consistent findings during routine analysis.<sup>[24]</sup>

**Table 1: Validation Parameters Used in RP-HPLC Method Validation.**

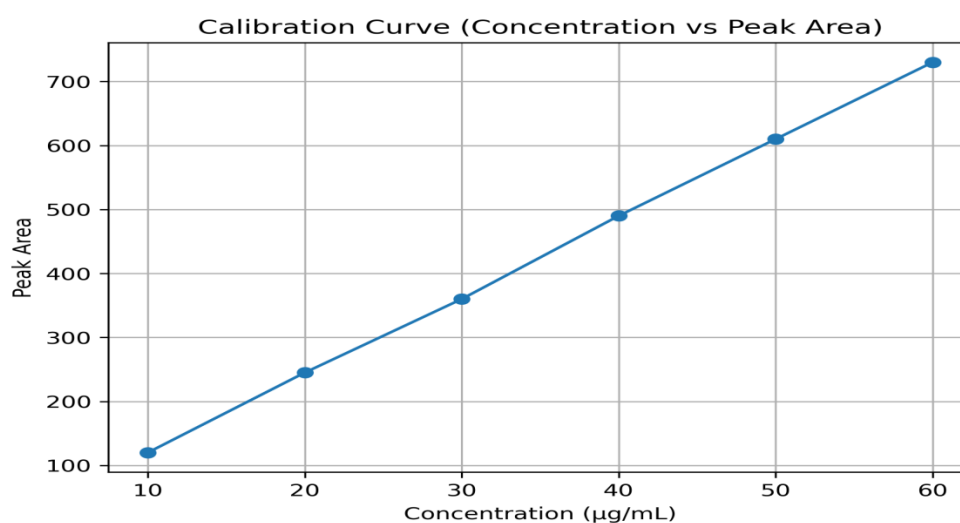
Parameter	Purpose in Validation
Linearity	To check the relationship between concentration and peak area
Accuracy	To check the closeness of the measured value to the true value
Precision	To check reproducibility of the method
LOD	To determine minimum detectable concentration

LOQ	To determine minimum quantifiable concentration
Specificity	To check interference from excipients
Robustness	To check method stability after small changes

### 5.1 Linearity

Linearity is one of the most essential validation characteristics in RP-HPLC since it ensures that the detector response is proportionate to the drug concentration. During method validation, several concentrations of drug solution are produced and injected into the HPLC system to generate a calibration curve. The correlation coefficient ( $R^2$ ) measures the linearity of the approach. Several recent validation studies on RP-HPLC methods have found excellent linearity with correlation values greater than 0.999, confirming the reliability of the established technology. For example, a recent open-access research study presenting the validation of an RP-HPLC technique for lignocaine hydrochloride and tibezoneium iodide clearly documented linearity over an appropriate concentration range, highlighting the significance of linearity in method validation.<sup>[25]</sup>

The linearity of the method was evaluated using different concentrations of the drug solution. The calibration curve was constructed by plotting concentration versus peak area (Figure 1). A straight-line relationship was observed between concentration and peak area. This result confirms that the method shows good linearity within the selected concentration range.



**Fig. 5: Calibration curves showing the relationship between concentration and peak area in RP-HPLC method validation.**

## 5.2 Accuracy

Accuracy refers to the closeness of the measured value to the true value and is usually determined by recovery studies. In RP-HPLC method validation, recovery studies are performed by adding known amounts of drug to the sample at different concentration levels such as 80%, 100%, and 120%. Many recent validation studies on pharmaceutical dosage forms have reported recovery values between 98% and 102%, which confirms the accuracy of the developed RP-HPLC method.<sup>[26]</sup>

## 5.3 Precision

Precision is used to determine the reproducibility of an analytical process. It is typically stated as %RSD (Relative Standard Deviation) and is measured through repeated injections of the same sample solution. Precision is typically classified into two types: intraday precision and interday precision. Several recent research articles on RP-HPLC validation found %RSD values of less than 2%, confirming the new method's superior precision.<sup>[26]</sup>

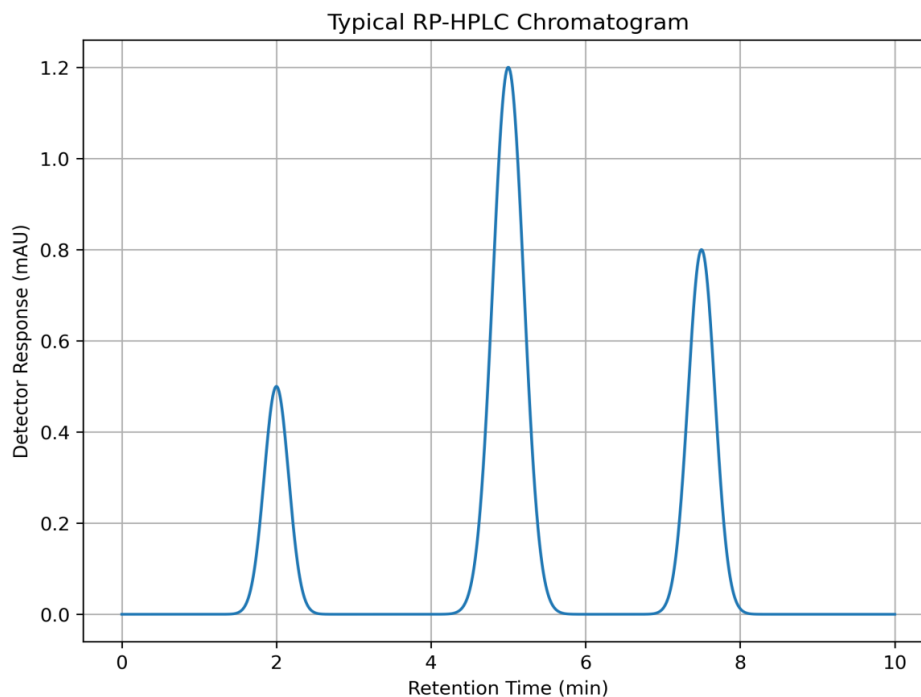
## 5.4 Limit of Detection (LOD) and Limit of Quantification (LOQ)

LOD and LOQ are critical parameters in RP-HPLC method validation because they determine the sensitivity of the established analytical technique. LOD is the minimum drug concentration that can be identified, whereas LOQ is the smallest concentration that can be properly quantified. Many validation studies have found that LOD and LOQ are determined using the standard deviation and slope of the calibration curve, as per ICH guidelines. Recent validation studies in pharmaceutical analysis have clearly demonstrated the importance of limit of detection and limit of quantification in technique validation.<sup>[26]</sup>

## 5.5 Specificity

The method's specificity refers to its capacity to evaluate the drug in the presence of other components such as excipients, contaminants, and degradation products. Specificity in RP-HPLC technique validation is established when the chromatogram displays a distinct drug peak with no interference from other components. Several studies on RP-HPLC validation have found that specificity is one of the most significant factors in pharmaceutical analysis. For example, recent open-access validation studies have clearly demonstrated that no excipient influence was seen during RP-HPLC analysis.<sup>[28]</sup>

The specificity of the method was evaluated to ensure that there is no interference from excipients present in the tablet formulation. The results showed that the drug peak was well separated and the method was found to be specific for the analysis of the drug.



**Fig. 6: Typical RP-HPLC chromatogram showing a well-resolved drug peak without interference.**

In Figure 6 the graphic depicts a calibration curve generated by plotting concentration on the X-axis and peak area on the Y-axis. As the concentration increases, the points on the graph move in a straight line. This indicates that as the amount of medication increases, the peak area grows correspondingly.

### 5.6 Robustness

Robustness is used to assess the method's reliability when slight modifications are made to chromatographic circumstances such as flow rate, mobile-phase composition, and detection wavelength. Several recent validation experiments found that tiny changes in chromatographic settings had no major effect on retention time or peak area, confirming the method's resilience.

**Table 2: Robustness Study of the Developed Analytical Method.**

S. No.	Parameter Changed	Condition	Peak area	% Assay
1	Flow rate	0.9 ml/min	482	99.1
2	Flow rate	1.0 ml/min	490	100.0
3	Flow rate	1.1 ml/min	497	100.8
4	Wavelength	253nm	486	99.4
5	Wavelength	254nm	490	100.0
6	Wavelength	255nm	495	100.6

## 6. DISCUSSION

Reverse-phase high-performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC) is commonly used to analyze pharmaceutical tablet dosage forms, with many studies selecting the C18 column due to its excellent separation and repeatable retention times. Method validation is critical, with emphasis on criteria such as linearity, precision, accuracy, robustness, and limit of detection. Calibration curves between concentration and peak area establish linearity, and precision and accuracy verify the reliability of analytical data. Most reported methods adhere to ICH validation requirements, making them appropriate for routine pharmaceutical analysis.

The availability of RP-HPLC systems in academic laboratories allows postgraduate students to obtain practical experience in method development and validation. Common configurations include isocratic systems with C18 columns, manual injectors, and UV detectors. Instruments such as the Shimadzu RP-HPLC with LC Solutions software and Rheodyne injectors facilitate practical training in chromatographic analysis and validation investigations. Overall, isocratic RP-HPLC is a straightforward, dependable, and cost-effective technology suitable for both academic research and everyday pharmaceutical applications.

## 7. CONCLUSION

This review focuses on isocratic reverse-phase high-performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC), which is a dependable and frequently used technology for evaluating pharmaceutical tablets. The approach is inexpensive and appropriate for routine analysis since it employs C18 columns and simple mobile phase systems. It focuses on essential validation characteristics such as linearity, precision, accuracy, robustness, limit of detection, and limit of quantification to ensure accurate and reproducible results. The review also describes the phases involved in method development, such as optimizing the mobile phase, flow rate, detection wavelength, and column selection. Furthermore, the availability of RP-HPLC

systems in academic laboratories allows postgraduate students to obtain hands-on experience with analytical techniques, method development, and validation studies.

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