



**OPTIMIZED AND VALIDATED STABILITY INDICATING RP-HPLC METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF PRISTINAMYCIN IN BULK AND PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULATIONS**

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**ABSTRACT**

**Key Words**

Pristinamycin, RP-HPLC, Repeatability, Accuracy, Precision and Reproducibility and Linearity.



A reverse phase high performance liquid chromatographic method (RP-HPLC) was developed for the determination of the amount of Pristinamycin present in bulk and pharmaceutical formulations. Waters-Alliance High Performance Liquid Chromatographic system equipped with Auto Sampler, PDA detector and Symmetry C18 (250 x 4.6mm, 5 $\mu$ , Make: ACE-5) column were used for the method development. Separation of the components were carried out by using 0.2% ortho phosphoric acid and acetonitrile in the ratio 63:37 v/v as mobile phase at a flow rate of 1.5 mL per minute and the detection of the components was carried out at a wavelength of 206nm. System suitability parameters such as retention time, tailing factor and USP theoretical plate count of the developed method were found to be 3.31 minute, 1.02 and 3750 respectively. The linearity between area of the peak and concentration of the drug was found to be 25-150 $\mu$ g/mL. The % mean recovery of Pristinamycin were found to be 99.08(50%), 99.37(100%) and 99.85(150%) respectively. From the study of forced degradation the percent of recovery of the drug was found to be 79.98, 84.62, 81.00, 88.09 and 85.57 under different degradation conditions such as acid (0.5N HCl), alkali (0.5N NaOH), peroxide (3% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) and UV light. The developed method was found to be simple, fast, repeatable, reproducible, robust, rugged and economical hence it can be used as a new analytical method for the analysis of pharmaceutical formulations in any pharmaceutical industries.

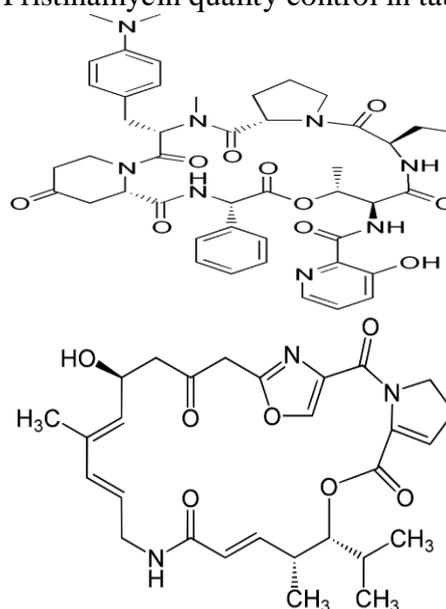
**INTRODUCTION**

Pristinamycin also spelled pristinamycine, is an antibiotic used primarily in the treatment of staphylococcal infections, and to a lesser extent streptococcal infections. It is a streptogramin group antibiotic, similar to virginiamycin, derived from the

bacterium *Streptomyces pristinaespiralis*. Pristinamycin is a mixture of two components that have a synergistic antibacterial action. Pristinamycin IA is a macrolide, and results in pristinamycin's having a similar spectrum of action

to erythromycin. Pristinamycin IIA (streptogramin A) is a depsipeptide. PI and PII are coproduced by *S. pristinaespiralis* in a ratio of 30:70. Each compound binds to the bacterial 50 S ribosomal subunit and inhibits the elongation process of the protein synthesis, thereby exhibiting only a moderate bacteriostatic activity. However, the combination of both substances acts synergistically and leads to a potent bactericidal activity that can reach up to 100 times that of the separate components. Despite the macrolide component, it is effective against erythromycin-resistant staphylococci and streptococci. It is active against methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). Its usefulness for severe infections, however, may be limited by the lack of an intravenous formulation owing to its poor solubility. Pristinamycin is chemically known as N-(3-benzyl-12-ethyl-4,16-dimethyl-2,5,11,14,18,21,24-hepta-oxo-19-phenyl-17-oxa-1,4,10,13,20-pentazatricyclo[20.4.0.06,10]hexacosan-15-yl)-3-hydroxypyridine-2-carboxamide;(12Z,17Z,19Z)-21-hydroxy-11,19-dimethyl-10-propan-2-yl-9,26-dioxa-3,15,28-triazatricyclo[23.2.1.03,7]octacosan-1(27),6,12,17,19,25(28)-hexaene-2,8,14,23-tetrone,  $C_{71}H_{84}N_{10}O_{17}$ , molecular weight 1349.506g/mol. Mallikharjunarao Nagasarapu et al.<sup>1</sup> developed a stability indicating RP-HPLC method for the assay of Pristinamycin in bulk and formulation. John NG<sup>2</sup> developed a Successful oral pristinamycin therapy for osteoarticular infections due to methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and other *Staphylococcus* spp. V. Loncle et al.<sup>3</sup> developed Analysis of Pristinamycin-Resistant *Staphylococcus epidermidis* Isolates Responsible for an Outbreak in a Parisian Hospital. Suresh Kannan V et al.<sup>4</sup> developed spectrophotometric method for estimation

of Pristinamycin bulk and pharmaceutical dosage form. S. Drogue et al.<sup>5</sup> developed Separation of pristinamycins by high-speed counter-current chromatography I. Selection of solvent system and preliminary preparative studies. Andre M. A Van Wageningen et al.<sup>6</sup> developed Sequencing and analysis of genes involved in the biosynthesis of a vancomycin group antibiotic. The aim of the present study was to develop and validate rapid, simple, and selective liquid chromatography method for Pristinamycin quality control in tablets.



**Figure 1:** Molecular structure of Pristinamycin

## Materials and Methods

**Equipment:** Waters-Alliance HPLC system equipped with auto sampler, binary gradient pump, and PDA detector was used for the separation. An analytical column; Symmetry C18 (250mm x 4.6mm, 5 $\mu$ m, Make: ACE-5) was used in the analysis. Chromatographic software Empower -3 was used for data collection and processing. Double beam, 1cm length quartz coated optics and wavelength range 190-400nm UV-Visible Spectrophotometer is used for measuring absorption spectrum.

**Materials:** Pristinamycin pure drug was gifted Sample. The commercially available

formulations of Pristinamycin were purchased from the local market. The HPLC grade water was prepared by double glass distillation and filtration through 0.45 µm filters. Acetonitrile of HPLC grade was obtained from E.Merck. (India) Ltd., Mumbai. Ortho phosphoric acid analytical grade are purchased from Qualigens Fine Chemicals Ltd., Mumbai. The mobile phase was prepared by mixing thoroughly, 0.2 % Acetonitrile and ortho phosphoric acid in 37:63 (v/v) mobile phase was prepared and degassed for 10 minutes by sonication. Water: ACN (60:40 v/v) was used as diluent. The pH of the resulting solution was adjusted and filtered through 0.45µm membrane filter.

**Preparation of standards:** Stock solution (1 mg/mL) of the Pristinamycin was prepared by dissolving accurately weighed 100mg of Pristinamycin standard in 100mL of diluent in a volumetric flask, sonicated and made up to the mark. Further working standard (100µg/mL) was prepared by transferring 10mL of the stock solution into 100mL volumetric flask and diluted up to the mark with diluent, sonicated and filter through 0.45µm filter. A series dilute solution ranging from 25.0-150.0 µg/mL were prepared by taking different aliquots (0.25 – 1.50mL) of the stock solution and diluted in similar manner. **Preparation of test solution:** Twenty tablets of Pristinamycin were accurately weighed and finely powdered in a mortar. An amount of tablet mass equivalent to 25mg was transferred to a 250mL volumetric flask and dissolved in 100 mL of diluent and then the flask was placed in sonicator for 30 min. The resulting solution was diluted to volume with diluent and then filtered through 0.45µm membrane. Further sample (100µg/mL) was prepared by transferring 10mL of the stock solution into 10mL volumetric flask and diluted up to the mark with diluent, sonicated and filter through 0.45µm filter.

**Developing optimum chromatographic conditions:** Absorption spectrum of Pristinamycin working standard was scanned from 200nm to 400nm range of wavelength with 2nm variation. From the absorbance spectrum it was found that 206 nm was the wavelength of maximum absorbance. The chromatographic separation was carried out under the isocratic conditions. The mobile phase was allowed to flow through the column at a flow rate of 1.5mL/min for 2 minutes to equilibrate the column at ambient temperature. Chromatographic separation was achieved by injecting a volume of 10 µl of standard into Symmetry C18 (250mm x 4.6mm, 5µm, Make: ACE-5) column, the mobile phase of composition 0.2% orthophosphoric acid and Acetonitrile in the ratio 63:37 v/v was allowed to flow through the column. Detection of the component was carried out at a wavelength of 206 nm. After some different trails with varying chromatographic parameters such as column, flow rate and injection volume were tested for obtaining best system suitability parameters such as peak shape, minimum run time and less tailing factor. The set of chromatographic conditions and the suitability parameters in four different trails were presented in Table-I and Table-II respectively.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**System suitability parameters:** To evaluate system suitability parameters, a volume of 10 µl of Pristinamycin working standard solution was injected into the analytical column, mobile phase was allowed to flow at a rate 1.5mL/min. for 2.0 minutes and the components were detected at 206nm using PDA detector. System suitability parameters such as retention time, tailing factor and USP theoretical plate count of the developed method were found to be 3.3 minute, 1.02 and 3750 respectively.

**Table-I: Optimization of the proposed HPLC method**

Chromatographic conditions in different trails					
Trail Number	Column	Flow Rate mL/min	Wavelength nm	Column Temp°C	Run Time min
1	ACE-5, C18 -HL (250 mmx 4.6 mmx 5µm)	10	206	40	10
2	ACE-5, C18 -HL (250 mm x 4.6 mm x 5µm)	12	206	35	15
3	ACE-5, C18 -HL (250 mm x 4.6 mm x 5µm)	15	206	45	12
4	ACE-5, C18 -HL (250 mm x 4.6 mm x 5µm)	15	206	40	10

*Optimized experimental conditions are achieved in Trail-4*

**Table-II: Chromatographic parameters obtained in various trails**

Trail Number	Retention Time min	Peak area	Height	Plate count	Tailing factor	Remarks
1	2.82	195810	66233	2747	1.64	Peak appears to be sharp having high tailing factor and an additional unknown peak was appeared
2	3.00	3137446	18025	11509	1.41	Peak shape was broad and diffused
3	3.50	2742864	43261	13598	1.34	Peak shape was not symmetric
4	3.31	2357904	43914	3750	1.02	Peak was symmetric having high area, height, plate count, valid tailing factor and comparable retention time relative to other chromatograms

**Table-III: Intra –Day and Inter-Day Precision of the proposed method**

Injection	Area	
	Intraday precision	Inter day precision
Injection-1	2374647	2362254
Injection-2	2389435	2377449
Injection-3	2378819	2381227
Injection-4	2465466	2370243
Injection-5	2368944	2343256
Injection-6	2389054	2350655
Average	2394394	2364181
Standard Deviation	35733.9	15019.2
%RSD	1.49	0.64

**Table-IV: Linearity of the peak area against amount of the drug**

Level No	Concentration $\mu$ g/mL	Area
1	25	589411
2	50	1170650
3	75	1756406
4	100	2357904
5	125	2920982
6	150	3553921
Slope		23629
Correlation Coefficient		0.9998

**Table -V(i): Accuracy of the proposed method**

%Concentration	Amount Added	Amount Found	% Recovery	Mean Recovery
50%	50	49.63	99.26%	99.08%
50%	50	49.78	99.55%	
50%	50	49.21	98.42%	

**Table -V(ii): Accuracy of the proposed method**

%Concentration	Amount Added	Amount Found	% Recovery	Mean Recovery
100%	100	99.56	99.56%	99.37%
100%	100	99.37	99.37%	
100%	100	99.19	98.19%	

**Table -V(iii): Accuracy of the proposed method**

%Concentration	Amount Added	Amount Found	% Recovery	Mean Recovery
150%	150	149.99	99.99%	99.85%
150%	150	149.76	99.84%	
150%	150	149.57	99.71	

**Table- VI Study of Robustness of the proposed HPLC method**

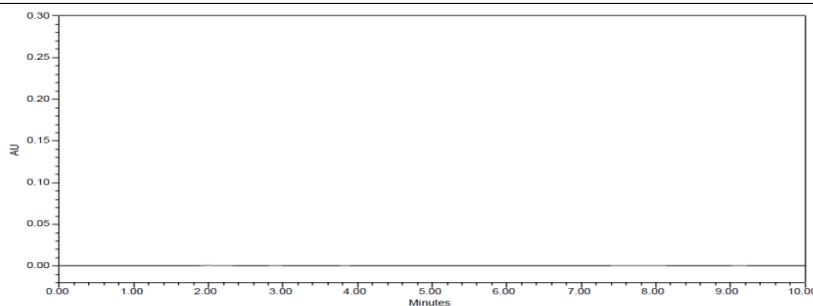
S.No.	Parameter	Retention time	Plate count	Tailing factor
1	Mobile phase 1.3mL/min	2.81	3308	1.14
	Mobile phase 1.5mL/min	3.40	4134	1.17
	Mobile phase 1.7mL/min	4.19	3676	1.29
2	Column Temp 38°C	3.37	3454	1.22
	Column Temp 40°C	3.40	4156	1.17
	Column Temp 42°C	3.38	3470	1.20
3	wavelength 204nm	3.25	3547	1.21
	wavelength 206nm	3.31	3750	1.05
	wavelength 208nm	3.30	3652	1.15

**Table -VII: Study of degradation of the drug**

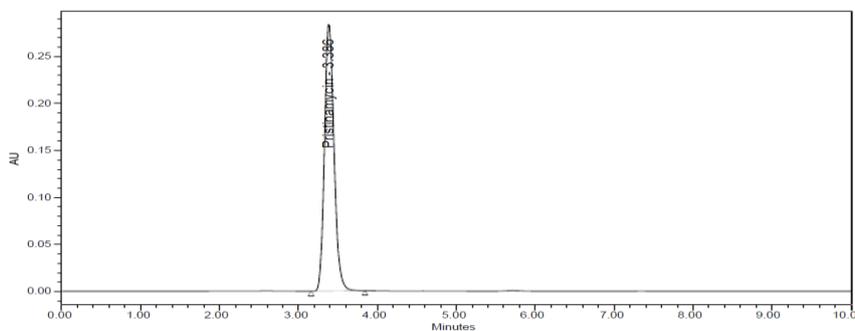
Degradation Parameter	% Assay	% Degradation	Purity Angle	Purity Threshold
Acid	79.98	19.68	0.320	0.605
Base	84.62	15.04	0.244	0.902
Peroxide	88.09	11.57	0.109	0.655
UV	85.57	14.09	0.178	0.506

**Table -VIII: Assay data of Pristinamycin Tablets**

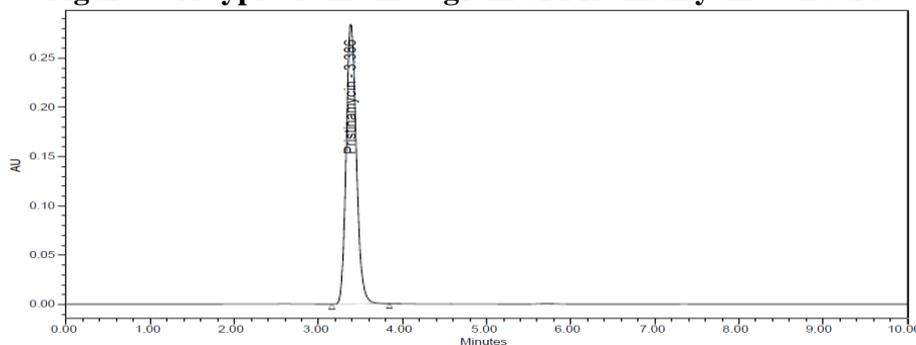
Tablet	Label Claim(mg)	Amount Found(mg/ tablet)	% Label claim*± S.D	% Recovery
Pristinamycin	500	499.90	99.89±0.125%	99.43



**Figure 2: A typical chromatogram of Blank**



**Figure 3: A typical chromatogram of Pristinamycin standard**



**Figure 4: A typical chromatogram of Pristinamycin sample**

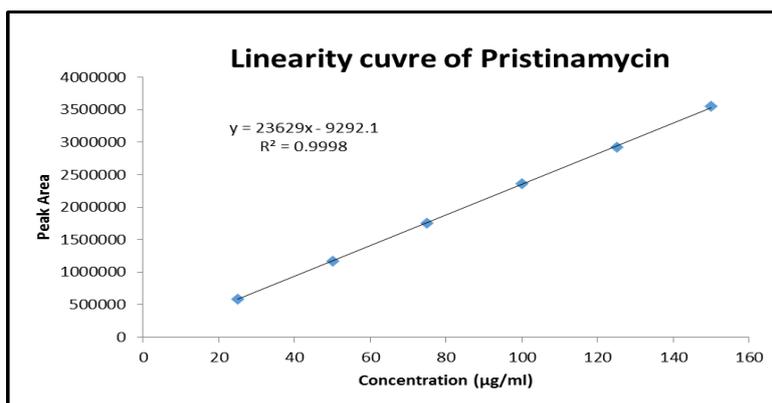


Figure5: Linearity plot of peak area against to amount of Pristinamycin

Typical chromatograms for standard and test were shown in Figure2 and Figure3 respectively.

**Intraday and inter day precision:** Intraday precision of a method was the study of repeatability of the results. The repeatability was determined by injecting working standard (100µg/mL) solution of Pristinamycin five times, chromatograms were obtained, and the %RSD of the area of five replicates was calculated and found to be 1.49%. The intermediate precision of the method was the study of reproducibility of the results in different days and was determined on five replicates from same lot by spiking. The %RSD of the area of five chromatograms was evaluated and found to be 0.64%. The results thus obtained were shown in Table-III and present within the acceptance criterion of NMT 2% RSD.

**Linearity:** To determine the linearity of the proposed method, a series of six different concentrated solutions of the standard Pristinamycin were prepared and about 10µL of each solution was injected in duplicate into the HPLC system, chromatograms were recorded under the optimum chromatographic conditions. A plot between mean peak area and concentration was found to be linear in the range of concentration 25-150.0% and it was presented in Figure4. Slope and

correlation coefficient were calculated by least square regression method and were presented in Table-IV.

**Accuracy:** Accuracy of the proposed method was determined by analyzing Pristinamycin sample spiked at three different concentration levels in triplicate. To find out the accuracy a known amount of standard drug was added to the fixed amount of pre-analyzed sample solution at three different concentration levels in triplicate. Percent recovery of the drug was calculated by comparing the area before and after the addition of the standard drug. The mean recovery of the drug was found to be 99.4% and shown in Table -V.

**Robustness:** The study of robustness was performed by slight modification in chromatographic conditions such as flow rate, wavelength and column temperature. The working standard solution of Pristinamycin was analyzed under these new set of experimental conditions. Only one parameter was changed while the others were kept unaltered. The system suitability parameters were evaluated as per the test method in all the cases and found to be within limits shown in Table-VI.

**Forced Degradation Studies:** The percent of drug that was degraded in the presence

of different stressed conditions like acid, base, peroxide, photolytic and UV light were studied. The drug standard was exposed to 0.5N HCl solution, 0.5N NaOH and 3% peroxide solutions for 24 hours at UV light. To study the percent of degradation in the presence of light the standard was exposed to UV light for about 24 hours. In each case a working standard (100 µg/mL) solution was prepared, injected into the system and the chromatograms were recorded. The amount of drug degraded was calculated by comparing the area of the standard with that of the area of the degraded sample. The results are presented in Table-VII.

**Assay:** The Developed method was functionalized for the tablet of Pristinamycin and the mean % assay was found to be 100%. The results of % assay were shown in Table-VIII.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

The system suitability parameters such as tailing factor and number of theoretical plates are found to be within the limits and the retention time of the component was found to be 3.31 min. The intra-day precision and inter-day precision of a method was expressed in terms of %RSD found to be less than 2.0. The percentage recovery (accuracy) of the drug at three different concentration levels and the mean percent of recovery were found to be within the specified limits. The proposed method was linear in the range of concentration 25-150% with good correlation coefficient. Degradation of the drug under different stressed conditions was found to be negligible. Hence the proposed method was found to be simple, fast, precise, accurate, rugged, robust and economic; therefore, the method can be used for routine analysis in quality control.

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