

# Electrochemical Determination of β-Blocker Alprenolol Hydrochloride in Its Pharmaceutical Formulations

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The construction and performance characteristics of alprenolol selective electrodes were developed. Two types of electrodes *i.e.*, plastic membrane (I) and coated wire (II) were constructed based on the incorporation of alprenolol hydrochloride with phosphomolybdic acid. The influence of membrane composition, kind of plasticizer, pH of the test solution, soaking time and foreign ions on the electrodes were investigated. The electrodes showed a Nernstian response with a mean calibration graph slope of  $58.54 \pm 0.2$  and  $57.83 \pm 0.4$  mV/decade at 25 °C for electrodes (I) and (II) respectively, over alprenolol hydrochloride concentration range from  $3.0 \times 10^{-6} - 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$  and  $5.0 \times 10^{-6}$   $- 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$  mol/L, with detection limit of  $1.6 \times 10^{-6}$  mol/L and  $2.5 \times 10^{-6}$  mol/L for electrodes (I) and (II) respectively. The constructed electrodes gave average selective precision and accuracy within the pH range (3-8). Interferences from common cations, alkaloids, sugars, amino acids and drug excipients were reported. The results obtained by the proposed electrodes were also applied successfully to the determination of the drug in pharmaceutical preparations.

Key Words: Plastic membrane, Coated wire electrode, Ion-selective electrode, Alprenolol hydrochloride, Potentiometric determination.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Alprenolol hydrochloride, 1-[(1-methyl ethyl) amino]-3-[2-(prop-2-enyl) phenoxy] propan-2-ol hydrochloride is one of the adrenergic  $\beta$ -antagonists used as anti-hypertensive, antianginal and anti-arrhythmic agent<sup>1</sup> (Fig. 1).

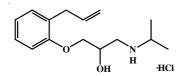


Fig. 1. Chemical structure of alprenolol hydrochloride

Several methods have been reported for the determination of alprenolol hydrochloride, including high performance liquid chromatography<sup>2-4</sup>, gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry<sup>5-7</sup> and capillary electrophoresis<sup>8,9</sup>. Although potentiometric methods of analysis using ion-selective electrodes are simple, low cost and applicable to samples, no selective electrode is so far available for the determination of alprenolol hydrochloride. This work describes new selective membrane electrodes of two types *i.e.*, plastic membrane (I) and coated wire electrode (II) for the determination of alprenolol hydrochloride in pure form and in its pharmaceutical formulations.

## **EXPERIMENTAL**

**Standard drug solution:** Stock alprenolol hydrochloride solution  $(1.0 \times 10^{-1} \text{ mol/L})$  was prepared daily by dissolving an appropriate amount of the drug in distilled water. More dilute solutions were prepared by appropriate dilution using double distilled water.

**Preparation of alprenolol-phosphomolybdate ion-pair:** The ion-pair was prepared by mixing stoichiometric amounts of  $1.0 \times 10^{-2}$  mol/L phosphomolybdic acid with an equimolar solution of alprenolol hydrochloride, stirred for 10 min. The resulting yellowish precipitate was filtered through G4 sintered glass crucible and washed thoroughly with deionized water then dried at room temperature for 24 h. The ion-pair should be stored in a desiccator.

**Membrane composition:** The membrane composition was studied by varying the percentages (w/w) of the ion pair, poly (vinyl chloride) PVC and plasticizer *o*-nitrophenyl octyl ether (*o*-NPOE), until the optimum composition that exhibits the best performance characteristics was obtained. The membranes were prepared by dissolving the required amount of the ion-pair *i.e.*, PVC and *o*-NPOE, in 5 mL tetrahydrofuran. The solution mixture was poured into a petri dish (3 cm in diameter), covered with a filter paper and the solvent was allowed to evaporate slowly at room temperature. To obtain

TABLE- 1 OPTIMIZATION OF MEMBRANE COMPOSITION (w/w %) OF ALPRENOLOL SENSORS								
Types of sensors	m	PVC (w%)	o-NPOE (w%)	Ion-pair (w%)	Slope	RSD (%)	r	Linear conc. range
Plastic membrane	(a)	45.0	45.0	10.0	58.54	0.2	0.9999	$3.0 \times 10^{-6} - 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$
electrode	(b)	46.0	46.0	8.0	55.48	0.4	0.9993	$1.0 \times 10^{-5} - 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$
	(c)	48.0	48.0	4.0	52.69	1.2	0.9996	$1.0 \times 10^{-5} - 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$
Coated wire	(a)	45.0	45.0	10.0	57.83	0.4	0.9999	$5.0 \times 10^{-6} - 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$
electrode	(b)	46.0	46.0	8.0	54.83	0.9	0.9995	$1.0 \times 10^{-5} - 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$
	(c)	48.0	48.0	4.0	50.97	0.6	0.9993	$5.0 \times 10^{-5} - 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$

the uniform membrane thickness, the amount of tetrahydrofuran was kept constant and its evaporation was fixed for 24 h.

#### **Electrode construction**

Plastic membrane electrode: A punched circular membrane was attached to a poly-ethylene tube (8 mm in diameter) in an electrode configuration by means of PVC-THF solution. A mixture containing equal volumes of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$ mol/L alprenolol hydrochloride and potassium chloride was used as internal reference solution in which the Ag/AgCl reference electrode was dipped. The constructed electrode was pre-conditioned after preparation by soaking for 6 h in  $1 \times 10^{-3}$ mol/L alprenolol hydrochloride and stored in the same solution. All potentiometric measurements were performed using the following cell assembly: Ag/AgCl/internal solution/membrane/ test solution//KCl salt bridge//SCE.

Coated wire electrode: Pure aluminum wire of 4 cm length was tightly insulated by polyethylene tube leaving 1 cm at one end for the coating and 0.5 cm at the other end for connection. The coating solution was described previously under membrane composition. Prior to coating, the polished aluminum surface was washed with a detergent, thoroughly rinsed with distilled water and dried with acetone. Then the wire was rinsed with chloroform and allowed to dry. Afterwards, the aluminum wire was coated by quickly dipping it into the coating solution several times and allowing the film left on the wire to dry for about 3 min. The process was repeated several times until a plastic membrane of approximately 1 mm thickness was formed. The prepared electrode was conditioned by soaking for 4 h in  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  mol/L alprenolol hydrochloride solution. All potentiometric measurements were performed using the following cell assembly: Al/membrane/test solution/ /KCl salt bridge//SCE.

#### Determination of alprenolol hydrochloride in dosage forms

Aptine® tablets: Ten aptine tablets (200 mg/tablet) were finely powdered and accurate weight equivalent to prepare  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  mol/L was prepared using distilled water. Serial dilutions were made to obtain different concentrations in the range of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$ - $1 \times 10^{-2}$  mol/L, of alprenolol hydrochloride for both electrodes (I) and (II). The prepared solutions were adjusted to pH 4 using 0.1 mol/L hydrochloric acid. The alprenolol-electrode(s) was immersed in the solution. The electrode(s) system was allowed to equilibrate with stirring and the e.m.f. recorded and compared with the calibration graph.

Content uniformity assay of aptine® tablets: Ten individual tablets of aptine® (200 mg/tablet) were placed separately in 100 mL volumetric flask and dissolved in 25 mL distilled water, then completed to volume with distilled water. The electrode(s) was directly immersed into 10 mL of each sample solution for five times and should be washed with deionized water to reach steady potential between the individual measurements. The mean potential was used to evaluate the content uniformity from the calibration graph.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Optimization of membrane composition:** In this study three membrane compositions were investigated, the results were summarized in Table-1. The results showed that the electrode(s) made by membrane of type (a) with 10 w % alprenolol-phosphomolybdate ion pair, 45 w % PVC and 45 w % plasticizer o-nitrophenyl octyl ether exhibited the best performance characteristics ( $58.54 \pm 0.2$  and  $57.83 \pm 0.4$  mV/ decade at 25 °C) for electrodes (I) and (II) respectively, over alprenolol hydrochloride concentration ranges from  $3 \times 10^{-6}$ - $1 \times 10^{-2}$  and  $5 \times 10^{-6}$ -1  $\times 10^{-2}$  mol/L for the previously mentioned electrodes respectively.

Nature and response characteristics of the electrodes: Alprenolol reacts with phosphomolybdic acid to form a stable alprenolol-phosphomolybdate ion-pair complex which is water insoluble but readily soluble in an organic solvent such as tetrahydrofuran. The complex was prepared and tested as active material with o-nitrophenyl octyl ether as a solvent mediator in a poly (vinyl chloride) membrane response for alprenolol. The critical response characteristics of plastic membrane and coated wire electrodes were determined and results are summarized in Table-2. The electrode(s) exhibited a Nernstain response over the concentration ranges from  $3 \times 10^{-6}$ -1  $\times 10^{-2}$  and 5  $\times$  $10^{-6}$ -1 ×  $10^{-2}$  mol/L alprenolol hydrochloride with slopes of  $58.54 \pm 0.2$  and  $57.83 \pm 0.4$  mV/decade at 25 °C for electrodes (I) and (II), respectively as shown in Fig. 2. The choice of THF as a membrane solvent to achieve the required selectivity is based on its electric permitivity and its immiscibility with aqueous phase, high viscosity, low solubility of the matrix in the membrane and ability to dissolve ion-pair complex.

Life time: The response time of the electrode(s) was tested for  $3 \times 10^{-6}$ -1  $\times 10^{-2}$  mol/L alprenolol hydrochloride solutions. The sequence of measurements was from low to high concentrations. The electrode(s) exhibited a fast and dynamic response of 35 and  $\leq$  25 s for a period of 30 and 35 days for electrodes (I) and (II) respectively, without significant change in the electrode(s) parameters.

Effect of plasticizer: In this study, three plasticizers, di-butylphthalate (DBP), di-octylphthalate (DOP) and onitrophenyl octyl ether (o-NPOE) were used to examine the optimization of the membrane with plasticizer entailed the use of plasticizer content ratio, 45, 46 and 48 w % and the use of PVC contents of 45, 46 and 48 w %. The electroactive compound (alprenolol-phosphomolybdate) contents were 10, 8 and

Parameter <sup>a</sup>	Alprenolol-phosphomolybdate plastic membrane electrode	Alprenolol-phosphomolybdate coated wire electrode	
Slope (mV/decade)	$58.54 \pm 0.2$	57.83 ± 0.4	
Intercept	329.39	396.24	
Correlation coefficient (r)	0.9999	0.9999	
Linear range (mol/L)	$3.0 \times 10^{-6} - 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	$5.0 \times 10^{-6} - 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	
Detection limit (mol/L)	$1.6 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.5 \times 10^{-6}$	
Response time for $10^{-3}$ mol/L (s)	35	≤ 25	
Working pH range	3-8	3-8	
Lifetime/day	30	35	
Accuracy (%)	99.89	99.32	
Standard deviation	± 0.5	$\pm 0.4$	
Repeatability (% RSD)	0.8	0.6	
Between day variability (% RSD)	0.9	0.7	
Robustness <sup>b</sup>	$99.75 \pm 0.445$	$99.56 \pm 0.610$	
Ruggedness <sup>c</sup>	$99.82 \pm 0.576$	$99.24 \pm 0.356$	

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"Mean of three measurements; "A small variation in method parameters were studied as pH of buffer (phosphate buffer 6) "Comparing the results by those obtained by different sensors assemblies using -Orion 420 A

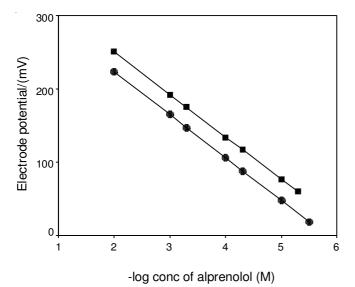


Fig. 2. Typical calibration graph of alprenolol-phosphomolybdate sensors: (●) plastic membrane electrode, (■) coated wire- electrode

4 w %. The results obtained showed that the response performances of the prepared membranes were rather different depending on the use of plasticizer, the proportion of the plasticizer towards PVC and of the electroactive compound. The typical potential responses of the electrodes constructed with three plasticizers were given in Fig. 3. As shown in Fig. 3, the *o*-NPOE-PVC electrodes were superior to DBP- and DOP-PVC electrodes in both the response slope and linear concentration range. So *o*-NPOE was selected as the plasticizer of the membranes. The best membrane composition of the *o*-NPOE-PVC electrode(s) was 45 w % PVC, 45 w % *o*-NPOE and 10 w % ion-pair.

**Effect of soaking:** The performance characteristics of the alprenolol-phosphomolybdate electrode(s) was studied as a function of soaking time. For this purpose the electrode(s) was soaked in  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  mol/L solution of alprenolol, the calibration graphs were plotted and the optimum soaking time was found to be 6 h and 4 h at which the slope of the calibration curve was  $58.54 \pm 0.2$  and  $57.83 \pm 0.4$  mV/decade, at 25 °C for electrodes (I) and (II) respectively. The influence of prolonged

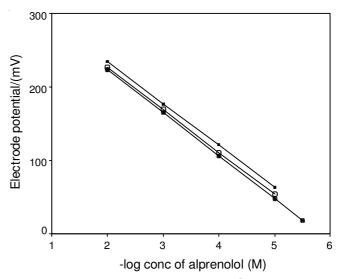


Fig. 3. Optimization of plasticizers. *o*-NPOE (●) (PVC membrane composition: *o*-NPOE 45 w %, PVC 45 w %, ion-pair, 10 w %), DOP (□) (PVC membrane composition: DOP 46 w %, PVC 46 w %, ion pair, 8 w %), DBP (●) PVC membrane composition: DBP 48 w %, PVC 48 w %, ion-pair, 4 w %)

soaking on the lifetime of alprenolol-phosphomolybdate electrode(s) was followed by constructing calibration plots. The electrode(s) was soaked continuously on  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  mol/L solution of alprenolol hydrochloride for 24 h, 7, 15, 20, 28 and 30 days. The calibration plot slopes decreased slightly to 55.65, 53.87 mV/decade after 28 and 30 days for electrodes (I) and (II), respectively. Figs. 4 and 5 show the effect of prolonged soaking time and the lifespan of the alprenolol-phosphomolybdate electrodes.

**Regeneration of the electrode:** The above discussion revealed that soaking of the electrode(s) in the drug solution for a long time has a negative effect on the response of the membrane towards alprenolol. The same effect appears after working with the electrode(s) for a long time. The regeneration of the electrode(s) was tried simply by reformation of the ion-exchange on the external gel layer of membrane<sup>10</sup>. The regeneration of alprenolol-phosphomolybdate membrane was successfully achieved by soaking the exhausted electrode(s)

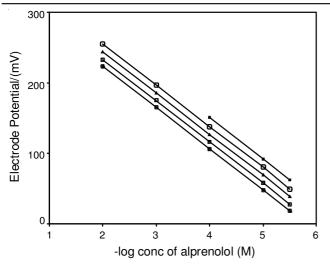


Fig. 4. Calibration graphs obtained at 25 ± 1 °C after soaking the alprenolol-phosphomolybdate plastic membrane electrode for (●) 24 h, (□) 7 days, (▲) 15 days, (○) 20 days and (■) 30 days

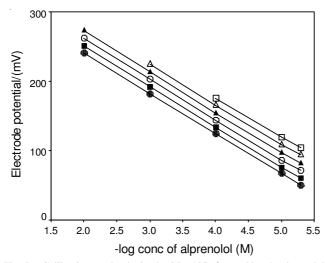


Fig. 5. Calibration graphs obtained at 25 ± 1 °C after soaking the alprenolol-phosphomolybdate coated wire electrode for (●) 24 h, (■) 7 days, (○) 15 days, (▲) 20 days and (△) 30 days and (□) 35 days

for 24 h in a solution that was  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  mol/L phosphomolybdic acid, followed by soaking for 3 h in  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  mol/L alprenolol solution. Figs. 6 and 7, show the calibration graphs for an exhausted electrode(s) (slopes 55.65, 53.87 mV/decade) for electrodes (I) and (II) respectively and for the same electrode(s) after regeneration (slopes 56.59, 55.18 mV/decade) for electrodes (I) and (II), respectively. It was found that the lifespan of the regenerated electrode(s) is limited to 3 h due to the ease of leaching of the lipophilic salts from the gel layer at the electrode(s) surface compared with those that are attached homogeneously to the PVC network through the solvent mediator.

**Effect of pH:** The effect of pH of the alprenolol solution using  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  mol/L alprenolol hydrochloride on the electrode(s) potential was investigated. The solution was acidified by the addition of very small volumes of 0.1 mol/L hydrochloric acid then the pH value was increased gradually using 0.1 mol/L sodium hydroxide for each pH value, the potential was recorded and thus the potential-pH curves for alprenolol concentration were constructed (Fig. 8). The pH range was 3-8 for both electrodes. The electrode(s) potential is practically independent of pH and in this range the electrode(s) can be safely used for alprenolol hydrochloride determination.

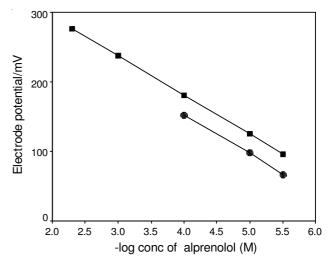


Fig. 6. Regeneration of alprenolol-phosphomolybdate plastic membrane sensor (•) exhausted electrode (•) regenerated electrode

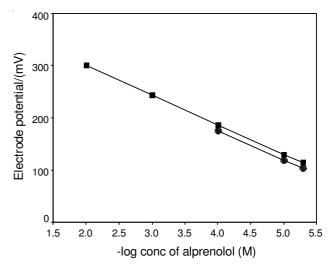


Fig. 7. Regeneration of alprenolol-phosphomolybdate coated wire sensor (●) exhausted electrode (■) regenerated electrode

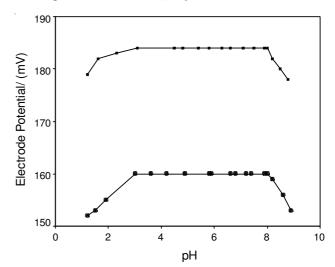


Fig. 8. Effect of pH on potential /mV of alprenolol sensors using 1 × 10<sup>-3</sup>
(●) Electrode potential/mV for plastic membrane electrode, (■) Electrode potential/mV for coated wire electrode

Selectivity of the electrode: The influence of various basic substances on the response of alprenolol hydrochloride sensors was investigated by measuring the potentiometric interference from different kinds of sugars, inorganic cations, certain alkaloids and amino acids. The selectivity coefficients were evaluated by the separate solution method. Table-3 showed that the proposed alprenolol-phosphomolybdate membrane electrode(s) is highly selective towards alprenolol hydrochloride. The electrode(s) showed no response to a number of potentially interfering ionic excipients usually used in the manufacturing of the pharmaceutical preparations, such as starch and lactose. The inorganic cations did not interfere due to the differences in their mobilities and permiabilities as compared with alprenolol cation. In the case of amino acids, the high selectivity is mainly attributed to the difference in polarity and lipophilic character of their molecules relative to alprenolol.

#### TABLE-3

SELECTIVITY COEFFICIENTS OF THE ALPRENOLOL-PHOSPHOMOLYBDATE SENSORS CALCULATED BY SEPARATE SOLUTION METHOD (1  $\times$  10<sup>-3</sup> mol/L OF BOTH ALPRENOLOL AND INTERFERENT AT 25 °C)

	K <sup>por</sup> tetr.				
Interferent	Alprenolol-	Alprenolol-			
interferent	phosphomolybdate	phosphomolybdate			
	plastic membrane	coated wire			
Sodium chloride	$3.7 \times 10^{-3}$	5.6× 10 <sup>-3</sup>			
Potassium chloride	$4.8 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.3 \times 10^{-3}$			
Ammonium chloride	$4.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.6 \times 10^{-3}$			
Calcium chloride	$1.2 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.1 \times 10^{-3}$			
Magnesium chloride	4.5 ×10 <sup>-3</sup>	$2.9 \times 10^{-3}$			
Urea	$2.7 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.8 \times 10^{-3}$			
Quinidine	$8.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.8 \times 10^{-3}$			
Atropine sulphate	$4.1 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-4}$			
Lactose	$5.6 \times 10^{-4}$	$9.2 \times 10^{-4}$			
Maltose	$1.9 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.4 \times 10^{-4}$			
Glucose	$3.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.7 \times 10^{-4}$			
L-leucine	$4.6 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.3 \times 10^{-3}$			
L-Valine	$7.7 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.4 \times 10^{-3}$			
L-Cystine	$2.9 \times 10^{-4}$	$6.7 \times 10^{-3}$			
Starch	$3.0 \times 10^{-4}$	$9.8 \times 10^{-4}$			
Propranolol hydrochloride	$2.4 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.3 \times 10^{-3}$			
Atenolol	$5.6 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.3 \times 10^{-3}$			

**Quantification of alprenolol:** Direct potentiometric determination of alprenolol hydrochloride using alprenolol-phosphomolybdate electrode(s) type (I) and (II) was performed and calculated from the calibration curve. The direct potentiometric determination of alprenolol in pure form using the proposed electrodes gave average % recovery of  $99.89 \pm 0.494$  and  $99.32 \pm 0.391$  for electrodes (I) and (II) respectively. Furthermore, the results obtained were compared with those of the official method<sup>11</sup>, which involved a potentiometric titration using 0.1 mol/L sodium hydroxide, for determination of alprenolol hydrochloride and the results are listed in Table-4.

#### Validation of the proposed method

**Linearity:** Under the optimal experimental ion selective electrode conditions, a linear relationship exists between the electrode potential/mV and the logarithm of corresponding concentration of the investigated drug. The regression data, correlation coefficient (r) and other statistical parameters were previously listed in Table-2.

TABLE- 4							
DETERMINATION OF ALPRENOLOL IN PURE FORM USING							
ALPF	ALPRENOLOL-PHOSPHOMOLYBDATE SENSORS IN						
	COMPARIS	SON WITH OFFIC	CIAL METH	łOD			
Statistical	Plastic membrane electrode Coated wire electrode						
parameter	Official	Calibration	Official	Calibration			
parameter	method <sup>11</sup>	method	method <sup>11</sup>	method			
Mean %	99.73	99.89	99.10	99.32			
n	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00			
Variance	0.244	0.282	0.445	0.153			
±SD	0.494	0.531	0.198	0.391			
SE	0.221	0.217	0.182	0.160			
RSD	0.496	0.532	0.451	0.394			
t-test		0.517 (2.228)*		0.907 (2.228)*			
F-test		1.16 (5.05)*		2.91 (5.05)*			

\*Theoretical values of t and F at P = 0.05

**Detection limit:** The detection limit of the investigated drug was calculated according to IUPAC<sup>12</sup> recommendation which stated that the detection limit is the concentration at which the measured potential differs from that predicted by the linear regression by more than 18 mV. The values were previously reported in Table-2; indicate that the proposed method is sensitive for detection of very small concentrations of alprenolol hydrochloride.

Robustness and ruggedness: The robustness of the proposed ion selective electrode method was tested by investigating the capacity of the method to remain unaffected by a small but a deliberate variation in method parameters and provide an indication of its reliability during normal usage<sup>13</sup>. The robustness of the proposed method was carried out by using phosphate buffer pH  $6 \pm 1$  and the percentage recoveries were 99.75  $\pm$  0.445 and 99.56  $\pm$  0.610 for the two prepared electrodes, these results were closely in agreement with those obtained from standard drug solutions, (Table-2). While the ruggedness of the proposed method was investigated by measuring the degree of reproducibility at test results obtained by the analysis of the same samples under a variety of conditions such as different laboratories, analysts and instruments. Table-2, indicates the reproducibility upon using another model of pH-meter (Orion 261 S). The obtained results are close and also reveal validity of the method.

Accuracy: The accuracy of the proposed method was investigated by the determination of alprenolol in spiked placebo samples prepared from serial concentrations of alprenolol hydrochloride reference standards. The results summarized in Table-5, show that the proposed ion selective electrode method is an accurate one for the determination of alprenolol hydrochloride in its pharmaceutical preparation without interfering from the coformulated adjuvants as indicated by the percentage recovery values.

	TABLE- 5						
DETERMI	NATION OF ALPRENOL	OL-SPIKE					
PLACEBO	SAMPLES USING ALPR	ENOLOL-					
PHOS	SPHOMOLYBDATE SENS	SORS					
Ctatistics1							
Statistical	Statistical Plastic membrane Coated v						
parameters electrode electrode							
n	9	9					
Mean (%)	99.24	99.07					
± SD	± SD 0.435 0.717						
RSD (%)	RSD (%) 0.438 0.724						

DETERMINATION OF ALPRENOLOL HYDROCHLORIDE IN APTINE <sup>®</sup> TABLETS USING ALPRENOLOL PHOSPHOMOLYBDATE SENSORS IN COMPARISON WITH OFFICIAL METHOD							
Statistical Alprenolol-phosphomolybdate plastic membrane electrode Alprenolol-phosphomolybdate coated wire electrode					e coated wire electrode		
parameter	Official	Direct	potentiometry	Official	Direct p	Direct potentiometry	
	method <sup>11</sup>	Calibration method	Standard addition method	method <sup>11</sup>	Calibration method	Standard addition method	
Mean (%)	99.54	99.12	99.84	99.47	99.73	99.16	
n	6.00	6.00	7.00	6.00	7.00	7.00	
Variance	0.171	0.103	0.399	0.151	0.189	0.295	
±SD	0.414	0.321	0.632	0.389	0.435	0.543	
SE	0.169	0.131	0.239	0.391	0.164	0.205	
RSD (%)	0.416	0.323	0.633	0.391	0.436	0.548	
t-test		1.964 (2.228)*	1.025 (2.201)*		0.613 (2.201)*	0.702 (2.201)*	
F-test		1.66 (5.05)*	2.33 (4.39)*		1.25 (4.39)*	1.95 (4.39)*	
*Theoretical values of t and F at $P = 0.05$							

# TABLE-6

Precision: The precision of the proposed method, measured as percentage relative standard deviation (% RDS) was tested by repeating the proposed method for determination of the investigated drug in its pharmaceutical preparations three batches to nine replicates. The % RSD values for the repeated determinations were 0.610, 0.749 and 0.432 % for determination of alprenolol hydrochloride in aptine<sup>®</sup> tablets using alprenolol-phosphomolybdate plastic membrane electrode. The above % RSD values are less than 2 % indicating good precision.

#### Analytical applications of the proposed method:

Application to pharmaceutical preparations (aptine® tablets): The proposed ion selective electrode method was applied for determination of alprenolol hydrochloride in their dosage forms. The mean % recovery found and % RSD, indicate that the proposed validated method could be adopted for the determination of the investigated drug in its pharmaceutical preparations without interference from the coformulated adjuvants. Table-6, shows the results obtained from the determination of alprenolol hydrochloride in tablets in comparison with official method.

Content uniformity assay of Aptine® tablets: The proposed ion selective electrode method described good accuracy and precision for the quality control tests, the content uniformity assay showed that the mean recoveries ± standard deviations were  $99.85 \pm 0.754$  and  $99.35 \pm 0.529$  for electrodes (I) and (II) respectively.

#### Conclusion

The alprenolol-selective electrodes based on alprenololphosphomolybdate ion association in a PVC matrix exhibited useful analytical characteristics for the determination of alprenolol hydrochloride in pure form and in pharmaceutical

formulations. The good recoveries and low relative standard deviations reflect the high accuracy and precision of the proposed method. Moreover, the method is simple, easy to operate and inexpensive making it an excellent tool for routine determination of alprenolol hydrochloride in quality control laboratories.

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