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Extraction of a Range of Acidic, Basic and Neutral Drugs from Plasma Using ISOLUTE® PLD+ Plates Prior to LC-MS/MS Analysis

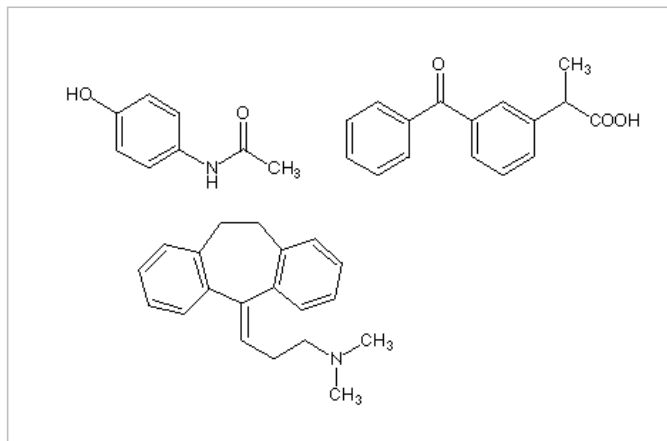


Figure 1. Structures of acetaminophen (neutral), ketoprofen (acidic) and amitriptyline (basic): examples of the broad range of analytes extracted in this application

Introduction

This application note describes the use of the ISOLUTE® PLD+ Protein and Phospholipid Removal Plate for clean-up of a range of acidic, basic and neutral drugs from plasma.

ISOLUTE® PLD+ Protein and Phospholipid Removal Plates provide very effective but extremely simple sample clean-up for LC-MS/MS analysis. Requiring next to no method development, ISOLUTE PLD+ can be integrated quickly and easily into routine workflow, increasing productivity and reducing instrument downtime. ISOLUTE PLD+ plates remove >99% of plasma proteins and phospholipids, the main causes of ion suppression, leading to cleaner extracts and increased sensitivity (signal to noise) for a broad range of analytes.

Analytes

Acetaminophen, amitriptyline, atenolol, bretylium tosylate, brompheniramine, fluoxetine, metoprolol, mianserin, naltrexone, procainamide, quinidine, ranitidine, salbutamol, sulindac, p-toluamide and ketoprofen.

Sample Preparation Procedure

| | |
|--|---|
| Format: | ISOLUTE® PLD+ Protein and Phospholipid Removal Plate, 50 mg, part number 918-0050-P01 |
| Sample Pre-treatment: | If required, spike plasma samples with appropriate internal standards (typically 10 µL volume) and mix thoroughly. Note: no internal standards were used in this study. |
| Sample Clean up: | |
| Ensure collection plate is in position before processing | |
| Step 1: | Dispense acetonitrile (400 µL) into each well |
| Step 2: | Dispense plasma (100 µL) into each well. Mix thoroughly using vortex mixing for 30 s or repeat aspirate/dispense steps |
| Step 3: | Apply vacuum (–0.2 bar) or positive pressure (2–3 psi) until sample is fully eluted (5 min). For extremely viscous samples e.g. dog plasma, the vacuum/positive pressure required for adequate flows may be higher. |
| Post Extraction: | Evaporate to dryness (SPE Dry, 40°C, 40 mins) |
| Reconstitution: | Reconstitute in 0.1% Formic acid aq/MeOH (80/20, v/v, 200 µL) prior to analysis |

HPLC Conditions

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Instrument: | Waters 2795 Liquid Handling Unit |
| Column: | Phenomenex Kinetex XB-C18 (50 x 2.1mm, 2.6 µ) |
| Mobile Phase: | A: 0.1% Formic acid aq (v/v) B: MeCN |
| Flow Rate: | 0.3 mL/min |

Table 1. Gradient Conditions

| Time | % A | % B | Curve |
|------|-----|-----|-------|
| 0 | 90 | 10 | 1 |
| 4 | 26 | 74 | 6 |
| 4.4 | 90 | 10 | 11 |

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Injection Volume: | 10 µL |
| Sample Temperature: | 20 °C |
| Column Temperature: | Ambient |

Mass Spectrometry Conditions

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Instrument: | Waters Ultima Pt Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer |
| Desolvation Temperature: | 350 °C |
| Ion Source Temperature: | 100 °C |
| Collision Cell Pressure: | 2.7 e ⁻³ mbar |

Positive ions were acquired in the multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) mode.

Table 2. MRM Conditions

| Function | Compound | MRM Transition | Cone Voltage (V) | Collision Energy (eV) |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Procainamide | 236.10 > 163.10 | 35 | 15 |
| | Salbutamol | 240.00 > 148.00 | 35 | 15 |
| | Atenolol | 267.20 > 190.20 | 55 | 18 |
| | Ranitidine | 315.10 > 176.00 | 35 | 16 |
| 2 | Acetaminophen | 152.10 > 110.10 | 40 | 12 |
| | Bretylum | 242.10 > 169.00 | 35 | 15 |
| | Quinidine | 325.10 > 160.00 | 35 | 25 |
| | Naltrexone | 342.10 > 324.10 | 40 | 19 |
| 3 | p-toluamide | 136.00 > 93.00 | 35 | 10 |
| | Metoprolol | 268.10 > 116.10 | 35 | 17 |
| | Brompheniramine | 319.10 > 274.00 | 35 | 15 |
| 4 | Mianserin | 265.00 > 208.00 | 35 | 19 |
| 5 | Amitriptyline | 278.10 > 233.00 | 35 | 15 |
| | Fluoxetine | 310.00 > 148.00 | 35 | 8 |
| 6 | Ketoprofen | 255.10 > 209.10 | 35 | 11 |
| | Sulindac | 357.00 > 233.00 | 50 | 25 |

Results

Good analyte recovery, reproducibility and extract cleanliness were achieved for a broad range of analytes using ISOLUTE® PLD+ Protein and Phospholipid Removal Plates, allowing quantitation of analytes at low levels. **Table 3** shows recovery and reproducibility (RSD generally <10%) for the range of analytes. **Figure 2** illustrates the MRM chromatogram for amitriptyline at a concentration of 20 pg/mL in plasma (s/n 57:1).

Analyte Recovery

Table 3. Recoveries of analytes spiked at a concentration of 20 ng/mL in human plasma

| Analyte | Functionality | pK _a * | logP* | % Recovery | % RSD (n=7) |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|-------|------------|-------------|
| Ketoprofen | Acidic | 4.2 | 2.8 | 67.8 | 6.7 |
| Sulindac | Acidic | 4 | 3.59 | 74.5 | 4.1 |
| Atenolol | Basic | 9.1 | 0.16 | 74.0 | 5.8 |
| Ranitidine | Basic | 8.8 | 0.27 | 64.0 | 11.8 |
| Procainamide | Basic | 9.4 | 0.88 | 67.8 | 4.1 |
| Salbutamol | Basic | 9.4 | 1.31 | 73.9 | 6.2 |
| Naltrexone | Basic | 9.2 | 1.8 | 85.6 | 5.2 |
| Metoprolol | Basic | 10.8 | 1.88 | 77.3 | 4.8 |
| Quinidine | Basic | 9.28 | 2.88 | 75.1 | 5.0 |
| Amitriptyline | Basic | 9.4 | 3.1 | 75.6 | 4.5 |
| Mianserin | Basic | 8.3 | 3.6 | 67.0 | 2.2 |
| Brompheniramine | Basic | 9.2/3.6 | 4.06 | 61.1 | 3.0 |
| Fluoxetine | Basic | 9.5 | 4.2 | 83.1 | 3.5 |
| Bretylium | Quat | N/A | 1.17 | 60.3 | 7.4 |
| Acetaminophen | Neutral | N/A | 0.34 | 82.6 | 3.7 |

*pK and logP values were obtained from the literature, or values were calculated if not available

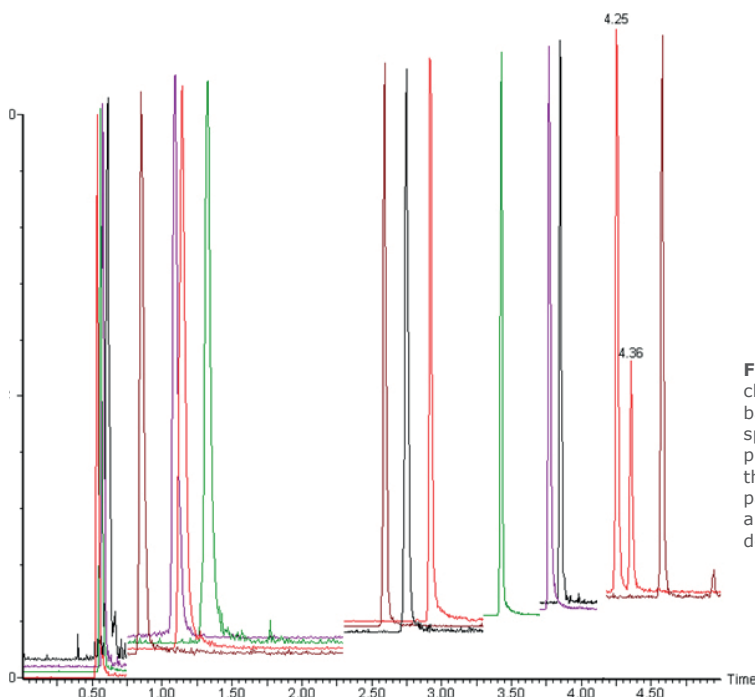


Figure 2. Offset MRM chromatogram of acidic, basic and neutral drugs spiked at 20 ng/mL into plasma and extracted using the protocol described on page 1. Analyte elution order and analytical conditions as described in **Table 2**.

Phospholipid Removal

The effective protein and phospholipid removal obtained using ISOLUTE PLD+ Protein and Phospholipid Removal Plates provided clean extracts with very low matrix effects. Residual phospholipids were investigated to provide an indication of extract cleanliness. We investigated the most abundant phospholipids (selected from full scan, SIR and precursor ion scanning experiments) using MRM transitions monitoring the common 184 product ion.

Figure 3 demonstrates phospholipid content comparing protein precipitated plasma, solvent blank and the final extraction protocol.

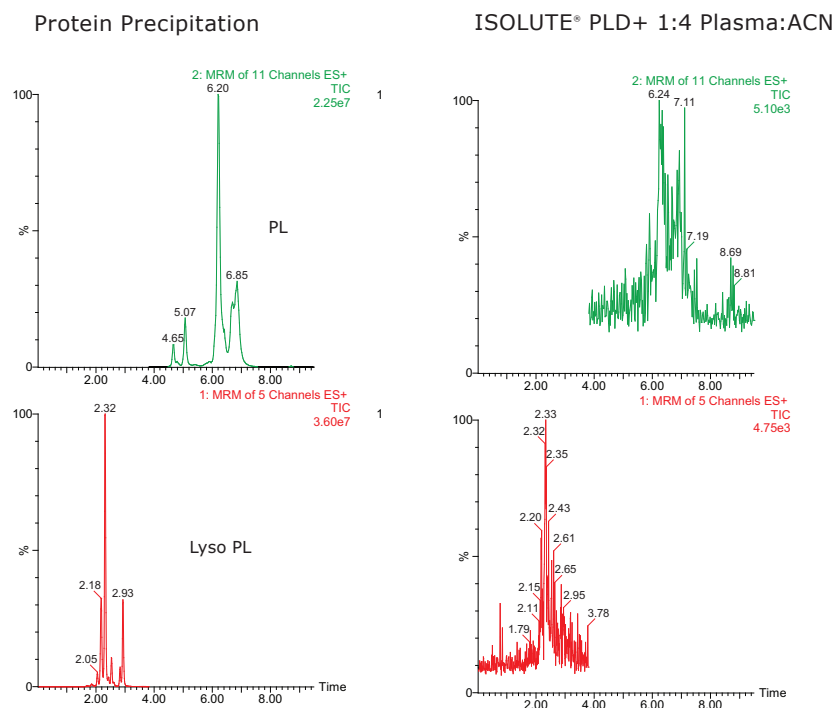


Figure 3. MRM TICs showing phospholipid content of plasma prepared by a) protein precipitation at a 1:4 ratio of plasma : acetonitrile and b) ISOLUTE® PLD+ under the same conditions. >99% of plasma phospholipids are removed, allowing low level quantitation of analytes.

Conclusion

ISOLUTE® PLD+ Protein and Phospholipid Removal Plates are suitable for clean-up of a range of analytes with widely differing functionality and polarity characteristics from plasma, giving high recoveries, good reproducibility and excellent extract cleanliness.

Ordering Information

| Part Number | Description | Quantity |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------|
| 918-0050-P01 | ISOLUTE® PLD+ Protein and Phospholipid Removal Plate | 1 |
| Accessories | | |
| 121-5202 | Collection plate, 1 mL | 50 |
| 121-5203 | Collection plate, 2 mL | 50 |
| 121-5204 | Piercable sealing cap | 50 |
| Vacuum Processing | | |
| 121-9600 | Biotage® VacMaster™-96 sample Processing manifold | 1 |
| 121-9601 | VacMaster VCU-1 Vacuum Control Unit | 1 |
| 121-9602 | VacMaster VCU-2 Vacuum Control and Generation Unit | 1 |
| Positive Pressure Processing | | |
| PPM-96 | Biotage® PRESSURE+ Positive Pressure Manifold, 96 position | 1 |

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