



Comprehensive Analysis of Paracetamol Quantification Techniques in Pharmaceutical and Biological Samples

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ABSTRACT:-

Paracetamol is a well-known analgesic and antipyretic drug that is used to treat headaches, fever, and other minor aches and pains. It is important to identify paracetamol in drugs since an excess of it might cause fulminating hepatic necrosis and other negative effects. The quantity of paracetamol has been determined using a variety of analytical methods. The goal of the current study is to evaluate the value of several techniques for determining the concentration of paracetamol in pharmaceutical formulations and biological samples.

Forensic science labs can use HPLC, a rapid and precise technique for confirming and sorting paracetamol in drug samples. A spectrophotometer, loop injector, and stainless steel column are used in the procedure, which yields a 102.86% detection of paracetamol within the parameters of the Indian Pharmacopoeia. This research offers a technique for Paracetamol.

INTRODUCTION:-

Acetaminophen, also known as paracetamol, is a widely used over-the-counter pain reliever and fever reducer. It comes in various dose forms and interacts with other medications. Dipyron and paracetamol are used as analgesic, anti-inflammatory, and antipyretic medications. Techniques like titration, voltammetry, fluorimetry, UV- spectrophotometry, and GC are used to examine paracetamol. Dipyron, a water-soluble pyrazolone derivative drug, has been used for over 60 years as an analgesic, antipyretic, antispasmodic, and anti-inflammatory drug. It undergoes further metabolism and hydrolyzes to 4-methylaminoantipyrine, 4-aminoantipyrine, 4-formylaminoantipyrine, and 4-acetylaminoantipyrine. It has been determined using various methods. This study aims to develop and validate a specific, accurate, precise, and reproducible quality control method for determining the ternary mixture of paracetamol, dipyron, and caffeine in their ternary combination. Despite existing UV and PLS methods, no suitable HPLC method was found in the literature review. (1) Paracetamol, an analgesic medication, is being analyzed for its potential carcinogenicity and its role in reducing prostaglandin synthesis. A new RP-HPLC technique is being developed to identify paracetamol in manufactured tablets. Paracetamol is an active metabolite of phenacetin and has been determined in combination with other drugs using UV-spectrophotometry.

(2) Form II, a metastable orthorhombic polymorph of paracetamol, is essential for tablet production because of its distinct slip planes and direct compression characteristics. A quick and easy technique for quantitatively analyzing forms I and II in crystalline powders is crucial for assessing polymorphic purity and forecasting polymorphic stability, as form II is frequently tainted with monoclinic polymorphs. The most effective method for characterizing crystal structures is powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD), although peak intensities and particle size restrict its ability to be quantitatively determined. An appealing substitute is vibrational spectroscopy (FTIR and FT-Raman), which is more accessible, less expensive, and faster. Because technique involves no sample preparation and has little effect on sample size, FT-Raman spectroscopy is ideally suited for detecting and quantitatively assessing crystal polymorphs. Modern multivariate calibration techniques, which are very effective in quantifying polymorphs in powder mixes, offer advantages that univariate methods do not. The objective of this research is to use contemporary multivariate calibration techniques to create a straightforward FT- Raman approach for the quantitative measurement of binary mixtures of paracetamol crystal forms I and II. (3) The pharmaceutical industry relies on analytical techniques for screening API polymorphism, such as thermodynamically stable Form I, metastable Form II, and cryptic Form III of paracetamol. Thermal analytical (TA) techniques are often used, but they expose uncertainties. FT-IR spectroscopy can be used independently instead of thermal microscopy and DSC. The analysis of paracetamol polymorphs shows that TA IR techniques and 2D-IR can yield results comparable or better than Raman spectroscopy (4) Various techniques have been used to analyze paracetamol and its mixtures in medications or biological fluids. These methods are primarily used to identify binary paracetamol combos, such as paracetamol and caffeine or paracetamol and codeine phosphate. However, no LC method exists for determining the ternary mixture of codeine phosphate, caffeine, and paracetamol. This work aims to create and validate a precise, accurate, and repeatable quality control approach for paracetamol, caffeine, and codeine phosphate in pharmaceutical formulations. The proposed technique is quick, sensitive, and specific, and can be used for regular analysis of pharmaceutical formulations containing these substances. However, due to the lack of recognized breakdown products, this method cannot be developed as a stability indicating test method. (5) Since paracetamol

is frequently used in pharmaceutical preparations, quick and accurate ways to measure it are being researched. Using spectrophotometric techniques, paracetamol is hydrolyzed to p-aminophenol, which subsequently reacts with particular reagents to yield a colored material. This colored substance's absorbance is measured in the visible spectrum. Paracetamol has been estimated using the Griess reaction, which has been used to estimate nitrate in a variety of items. The goal of this research is to create a quick, easy, and accurate way to test for paracetamol in prescription paracetamol tablets. (7)

Thin film devices can be mass-produced quickly and efficiently using screen-printing microfabrication technology, which makes it possible to create mechanically robust, affordable, and repeatable strip solid electrodes. When combined with handheld instruments, these electrodes' small size, ease of handling, and potential for decentralized examination make them ideal. In order to overcome the drawbacks of traditional glassy carbon or carbon paste electrodes, this research proposes electrochemical detection techniques based on screen-printed electrodes as a potent tool. Modified screen-printed electrodes made of disposable carbon nanotubes have been demonstrated to be effective electroanalytical instruments for mechanistic investigations. For the detection of paracetamol in pharmaceutical preparations, electrodes modified with nanoparticles have been suggested; however, these alterations frequently make the analytical process more difficult and lengthen the analysis period. With a commercial, unaltered screen-printed carbon electrode (SPCE), the objective of this work is to create a simple analytical method for the electrochemical quantification of acetaminophen. By using the suggested electrochemical techniques to determine the amount of paracetamol in various pharmaceutical goods, its analytical value was shown. (8) Paracetamol in biological fluids has been measured using a variety of methods, such as colorimetry, spectrophotometry, gas-liquid chromatography, thin layer chromatography, and immunoassays. The technique of choice now is high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) because of its enhanced sensitivity and selectivity. By hydrolyzing the main metabolites of paracetamol back to paracetamol, analytical techniques can determine their quantities. The invention and validation of a straightforward, sensitive, and selective isocratic HPLC technique for the simultaneous measurement of paracetamol in plasma as well as PG and PS in plasma and urine are presented in this publication. (10)

Literature Search:-

We searched the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL, 2nd Quarter 2010), MEDLINE using the OVID platform (1950 to May 2010), EMBASE (1980–2010, Week 18), and LILACS (1992 to May 2010) by combining terms for RCTs with those for paracetamol/acetaminophen, i.v. administration, and postoperative pain. We also checked the clinical trials registry <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov> and reference lists of retrieved articles. We did not apply any language restriction. (11)

With an emphasis on pain alleviation and intensity, this study examined single-dose RCTs assessing postoperative pain in both adults and children. Multiple-dose trials and studies with 4-6 hours of post-intervention follow-up were included in the analysis. Primary outcomes included pain relief and intensity, while secondary outcomes included the number of participants who needed rescue medication, the time it took to get rescue medication, opioid consumption, patients' overall assessment of therapy, and adverse events. Data extraction and analysis were carried out in duplicate. The risk of bias in each included study was evaluated independently by two reviewers; 'Yes' denoted low risk, 'No' denoted high risk, and 'Unclear' denoted doubt on potential bias. (11)

Paracetamol:-

The active metabolite of phenacetin is acetaminophen (paracetamol; N-acetyl-p-aminophenol). Paracetamol does not cause cancer, in contrast to phenacetin. It is a popular over-the-counter and prescription medication for treating pain and fever [11,15,16,17,18,19]. Many of the negative effects commonly associated with aspirin are absent from paracetamol, making it safe and well-tolerated. Pharmacologists identified salicin and salicylic acid in the middle and late 19th centuries. The synthesis techniques for acetylsalicylic acid were created by the Bayer chemist Felix Hoffmann (Ludwigsburg, 1868–Switzerland, 1946) and the French chemist Charles Frederic Gerhardt (Strasbourg, 1816–1856). When the cinchona tree became scarce in the 1880s, other methods of manufacturing were looked for. In 1886 and 1887, respectively, acetanilide and phenacetin were produced. Paracetamol was created in 1878 by Harmon Northrop Morse (1848–1920), who reduced p-nitrophenol with tin in glacial acetic acid

Methods:-

This is a scoping review aiming to provide an overview of the current guidelines on paracetamol for the management of most common pain conditions. The review was guided by the methodological framework devised by Arksey and O'Malley and subsequently modified by the Johanna Briggs Institute. The PRISMA Extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR) was followed to summarize the screening methods of the review (13)

For the purpose of finding randomized controlled trials in humans that specifically compared combinations of paracetamol with different NSAIDs compared to at least one of these constituent drugs, a comprehensive literature search was conducted across Medline, Embase, Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature, and PubMed covering the period from January 1988 to June 2009. Two sets of identified studies were created: one for paracetamol/NSAID combos and the other for paracetamol or NSAIDs. As the main end measures, we examined pain severity ratings and the need for further analgesics. Additionally, a validated measure was used to rate the quality of each study. (20)

MEDLINE (1950 to November 2008), EMBASE (1980 to November 2008), The Cochrane Library (2007, Issue 3), ACP Journal Club (1991 to November 2007) and Pascal (1987 to November 2007) were searched for randomised controlled trials (RCTs) (comparing ibuprofen and/or paracetamol with placebo), controlled observational studies and large case series comprised more than 1000 participants (11)

Main outcome measures: Adverse events (AEs) requiring discontinuation of medication; systemic reactions related to ibuprofen or paracetamol; serious AEs that are fatal, life-threatening or require hospitalisation; and serious AEs not requiring hospitalisation. (11)

Data were searched for documents that contained specific words regarding CCB poisoning as keywords in the title. No time period limitations were specified in the search regarding the starting year. The ending date of the search was 31 December 2012. (12)

A methodology from the SciVerse Scopus online database, a sizable academic database with 100% MEDLINE coverage, was used in this study to assess scientific output. Calcium channel blockers, amlodipine, benzydolone, bepridil, cinnarizine, felodipine, fendiline, flunarizine, gallopamil, isradipine, lidoflazine, barnidipine, benidipine, lercanidipine, manidipine, mibefradil, nicardipine, nifedipine, nimodipine, nisoldipine, nitrendipine, prenylamine, verapamil, diltiazem, and dihydropyridine were among the keywords chosen from related review studies on CCBs. To get beyond prejudice and linguistic limitations, the search was finished on October 23, [6, p. 12]

Using nonlinear mixed effects models (nonmem), a population pharmacokinetic analysis of paracetamol time-concentration profiles (846 observations) from 144 children [postconception age (PCA) 27 weeks–14 years] was conducted. These findings were from seven different studies in which children received propacetamol intravenously. In order to evaluate the relative bioavailability of intravenous propacetamol, time-concentration profiles (503 observations) from an additional 86 children (PCA: 37 weeks–14 years) who received paracetamol elixir orally were added in the analysis.[16]

Analysis of statistics:-

After being converted to Microsoft Office Excel®, the data from Scopus was imported into version 15 of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS; SPSS Inc., Chicago, Illinois, USA) software for analysis. The median (Q1–Q3: interquartile range) is used to communicate variables that are not regularly distributed, like the amount of citations, and percentages are used to convey categorical data. The standard competition ranking was used to transform the bibliometric analysis measurements (such as nations, authors, cited papers, and institutions) to the rank order. Only the top 20 were taken into consideration. The following ranking numbers are left empty if the bibliometric analysis measurements have the same ranking number. For the information gathered from Scopus, the h-index is displayed. While the h-index graph shows the number of citations per document and gauges the influence of a collection of papers, the h-index shows the number of citations received for each document in descending order. The Journal Citation Report (JCR; Web of Knowledge) 2012 scientific edition from Thomson Reuters (New York, NY, USA) was used to assess the journal's impact factors (IFs). Publication activity was modified for the top 20 nations by GDP and population size, which were obtained from the World Bank's online databases.[34] The following formula was used to determine an adjustment index (AI) [13]

Search Strategy:-

From 1980 to 2016, we searched PubMed for relevant material. Several significant areas of interest were identified by an initial PubMed review of 'paracetamol [Title] OR acetaminophen [Title]' with 'side effects OR adverse effect. These were then explicitly searched for as follows: We paired 'paracetamol [Title] OR acetaminophen with: 'hypertension OR blood pressure'; 'myocardial infarction OR cardiac OR cardiovascular'; 'stroke OR CVA OR cerebrovascular accident'; 'liver OR hepatic OR transaminase OR aminotransferase'; 'gastrointestinal OR bleeding OR anemia'; 'renal OR kidney OR chronic kidney disease'; 'respiratory OR asthma OR chest'; 'reproductive OR maternal OR ADHD OR attention deficit'. A combination of (i) human subjects and (ii) meta-analyses, reviews, RCTs, prospective studies, and cohort studies were used to select the papers. The lack of an English language filter would not have prevented any manuscripts from being reviewed. After then, titles and abstracts were examined, and pertinent publications were thoroughly examined. When deemed pertinent, the authors also read key papers found in the references (see to Figure 1 for our search strategy).[15]

Effects:-

Cardiovascular disease:-

Compared to NSAIDs, there are fewer studies on the effect of paracetamol on the incidence of cardiovascular disease. Since paracetamol and NSAIDs are known to be linked to hypertension and share a similar mode of action, early research concentrated on hypertension. Interventional and observational research, however, have yielded contradictory findings. According to the majority of research, using paracetamol for an extended period of time raises the risk of hypertension. Regular use of paracetamol or NSAIDs was linked to a higher risk of hypertension, according to the Nurses' Health Study II. In contrast, a retrospective observational analysis of 2754 individuals with treated hypertension revealed no effect of paracetamol on blood pressure. Study design and insufficient sample size have hampered interventional studies looking at how paracetamol affects blood pressure. (21)

Respiratory effect:-

Reye's syndrome led to the ban on aspirin use in children under the age of twelve, and aspirin use increased in developed nations. Observational and cross-sectional research have shown a link between paracetamol use and asthma diagnoses or exacerbations, raising concerns about the drug's relationship to asthma. However, because recurring symptomatic respiratory infections and feverish illnesses are more common in asthmatic patients and contribute to the formation of asthma in childhood, the majority of studies suffer from confounding by indication. Given that the breakdown of paracetamol involves the antioxidant glutathione, which is decreased when high dosages of paracetamol are consumed, a biological connection between paracetamol use and

asthma seems medically plausible. Additionally, glutathione deficiency may alter T helper (Th) physiology toward a Th2 phenotype, which is linked to atopic. (21)

Gastrointestinal (GI) Effect:-

For people who are prone to gastrointestinal bleeding, paracetamol has been deemed a safe substitute for NSAIDs. It is unclear, therefore, how long-term therapeutic doses of paracetamol affect the GI and hepatic systems. Chronic hepatotoxicity and GI blood loss are the main causes for concern. A meta-analysis of individual patient data from three case-control studies and studies looking at adverse events recorded in the Spanish drug monitoring system provide some evidence that paracetamol is safe. However, dosages of paracetamol $\geq 2-3$ g d⁻¹ may increase the risk of upper gastrointestinal hemorrhage, according to current epidemiological research. According to a case-control study conducted in 2001, there was no discernible rise in GI problems among users of ≤ 2 g d⁻¹. But using >2 g d⁻¹ (21)

Analysis:-

The study used the European Standard population to compute annual age-standardized mortality rates. Segmented linear regression was used for interrupted time-series analysis, with 1999 as the intersection point. The level and slope parameters of the linear regression model were used to measure the difference between the two segments. The baseline level of the result at the start of the time series was estimated by β_0 , while the preintervention trend was assessed by β_1 . The model included a term for lagged residuals to autocorrelation account for effects.[17]

For paracetamol poisoning, the level and slope changes were compared to those of the comparator series, which included compound paracetamol, aspirin, antidepressants, and nondrug poisoning suicide. The age-standardized death rates for each comparison group were divided by paracetamol to create a ratio for each year. Segmented regression was used to evaluate changes in the level and slope of the ratios, using 1999 as the intersection point. The null hypothesis was rejected if the model parameters significantly different from 0 between the pre- and postintervention segments at the $p < 0.05$ level. The degree of difference between paracetamol and the control series was summarized by the 95% confidence intervals of the model parameters ratio.[17]

Results:-

A three-compartment linear disposition model outperformed a two-compartment model in terms of accuracy, according to the study. Central volume, peripheral volume of distribution, clearance, and intercompartment clearance were among the population metrics. While the peripheral volume of distribution decreased with age, clearance rose. Propacetamol's hydrolysis into paracetamol was represented by a rate constant that was size-related but not age-related. Intravenous propacetamol had a relative bioavailability of 0.5.[16] When it came to OA pain relief, paracetamol worked well (ES = 0.21, 95% CI 0.02 to 0.41). For pain alleviation, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications (NSAIDs) outperformed paracetamol (ES = 0.20, 95% CI 0.10 to 0.30). NSAIDs had a greater clinical response rate than paracetamol (RR = 1.24, 95% CI 1.08 to 1.41), and more than twice as many patients preferred NSAIDs as preferred paracetamol (RR = 2.46, 95% CI 1.51 to 4.12). Compared to paracetamol, NSAIDs were linked to more frequent gastrointestinal pain (RR = 1.35, 95% CI 1.05 to 1.75).[18] Analytical chemists face challenges in resolving multicomponent mixtures with overlapping spectra. Mathematical spectrophotometric methods have replaced chromatography due to their speed, simplicity, and cost-effectiveness. This study aimed to develop sensitive spectrophotometric techniques for determining PAR, PSE, and CET simultaneously in their pure powders and dosage form. The spectra of these drugs are severely overlapped, making direct determination impossible. The proposed methods were successful in determining each component simultaneously without prior separation, and were simple, precise, and reproducible.[19]

Conclusion:-

Children aged 2 to 15 years who receive a normal dose of 30 mg·kg⁻¹ every 6 hours had a mean paracetamol serum concentration of 10 mg·l⁻¹. This impact compartment concentration offers enough analgesia for mild to severe pain and is linked to a 2.6/10 pain decrease following tonsillectomy. Children under one year old have lower clearance, thus scaling this conventional dosing regimen using the anticipated clearance in this younger age group can help reach the goal concentration of 10 mg·l⁻¹. [17] A straightforward and accurate spectrophotometric technique was used to determine the amount of paracetamol in pharmaceutical formulations and raw materials utilizing two coupling agents, 1-naphthol and resorcinol. The amount of paracetamol detected using this method closely matches the amount that the makers claim to have. The range of 97.8 to 103.4% for the percentage recovery showed that the method was suitable for determining the amount of paracetamol in pharmaceutical preparations. The azo dye produced with the current process is fairly stable for at least forty- five minutes.[7] According to a study with 12 reports, paracetamol has no effect on the quality of life, disability, or degree of pain in individuals with low back pain. It did, however, have a notable impact on the pain and impairment associated with osteoarthritis in the knee or hip. The number of patients who reported withdrawal from the study, significant adverse events, or adverse events was comparable for the paracetamol and placebo groups. The groups also showed comparable levels of patient adherence to therapy and usage of rescue medication. Abnormal liver function tests were almost four times more common in paracetamol users, though it's unclear how significant this effect is clinically.[9]

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