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## **Analytical method development and validation for the simultaneous estimation of Metoprolol and Benidipine by RP-HPLC in bulk and tablet dosage forms**

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**Abstract**--*Objective:* The day by day new combinations drugs are being introduced in market. Then the multiple therapeutic agents which acts at different sites are used in the management of various diseases and disorders are done. Thus it is necessary to develop methods for analysis with the help of number of analytical techniques which are available for the estimation of the drugs in combination. An accurate, precise and reproducible RP-HPLC method was developed for the simultaneous quantitative determination of METO and BENI in tablet dosage forms. *Methods:* Younglin (S. K.) gradient system UV detector and C<sub>18</sub> column with 250 mm x 4.6 mm i. d. and 5µm particle size Acetonitrile: OPA water (45: 55v/v) pH 2.5 was used as the mobile phase for the method. The detection wavelength was 230 nm and flow rate was 1ml/min. *Results:* In the developed method, the retention time of Metoprolol and Benidipine were found to be 2.9833 min and 7.3833 min. The developed method was validated according to the ICH guidelines. *Conclusion:* The developed method was validated according to the ICH guidelines. In this methods linearity, precision, range, robustness was within the limits as specified by the ICH guidelines. The method was found to be simple, accurate, precise, economic and reproducible. So, it is worthwhile that, the proposed methods can be successfully utilized for the routine quality control analysis Metoprolol and Benidipine in bulk drug as well as in formulations.

**Keywords**---metoprolol, benidipine, method- development, validation, HPLC.

**Introduction**

Pharmaceutical Analysis plays a vital role in quality assurance and quality control of bulk drugs and their formulations. Pharmaceutical analysis is a particular branch of analytical chemistry, which includes isolating, identifying and determining the relative amounts of compounds in a sample matter. It is concerned with chemical characterization of matter both quantitative and qualitative. In recent years many analytical techniques have been developed. Analytical method is a particular utilization of a procedure to solve a problem. Analytical instrumentation assumes an imperative part in the production and evaluation of new products and protection of Consumers and the environment. This instrumentation provides the lower detection limits required to assure safe foods, medications, water and air.

Validation of an analytical method is the process by which it is established, by laboratory studies, that the performance characteristics of the method meet the requirements for the intended analytical applications. There are two important reasons for validating assays in the pharmaceutical industry. The first, and by far the most important, is that assay validation is an integral part of the quality control system. The second is that current good manufacturing practice regulation requires assay validation. Metoprolol (MET) is beta blocker, which is official in IP,<sup>1</sup> chemically it is 1-[4-(2-methoxyethyl) phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl) amino]-2-propanol Fig. 1.<sup>2, 3</sup> Literature reveals UV spectroscopy,<sup>4</sup> HPLC,<sup>5-8</sup> chemometric-assisted spectrophotometric and HPLC method,<sup>9-10</sup> GC-MS,<sup>11</sup> liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry methods have been reported for the estimation of metoprolol.<sup>12</sup>

Benidipine (BEN) also known as Benidipinum or Benidipine hydrochloride is a calcium channel blocker for the treatment of high blood pressure (hypertension). It is a triple L-, T- and N-type calcium channel blocker. Its molecular formula is  $C_{28}H_{32}ClN_3O_6$  Fig. 2.<sup>13, 14</sup> The vasorelaxant effect of Benidipine is due to its affinity towards dihydropyridine binding sites in calcium channels. Binding of Benidipine with calcium channels inhibits calcium current. The onset of action is slow, which results in minimal tachycardia or palpitation.<sup>15, 16</sup> Analytical method development and validation play important roles in the discovery, development and manufacture of pharmaceuticals.<sup>17</sup> As per the literature review, there are no analytical methods are reported for the simultaneous estimation of Metoprolol and Benidipine hydrochloride in combined pharmaceutical dosage form. Various publications are available regarding the UV simultaneous estimation, HPTLC and RP-HPLC method development of Metoprolol succinate,<sup>18-22</sup> either alone or in combination with other drugs in pharmaceutical dosage form. But there are a few methods developed for the estimation of Benidipine hydrochloride in its single dosage form and in combination with other drugs.<sup>23-26</sup> The present study aimed to develop a simple, sensitive, short retention time and accurate RP-HPLC method for the simultaneous determination of both Metoprolol and Benidipine together in pure and tablet dosage forms with high sensitivity, selectivity that can be used for the routine analysis of production samples.

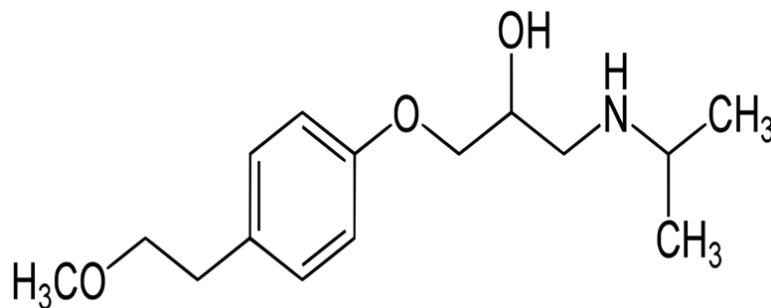


Fig 1. Structure of Metoprolol

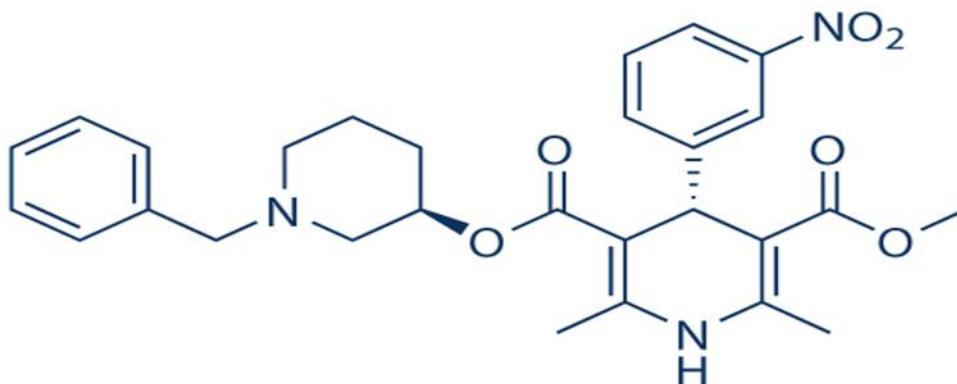


Fig 2. Structure of Benidipine

## Materials and Methods

### Materials and Reagents

The analysis of the drug was carried out on Youngline (S. K.) gradient system UV Detector. Equipped with reverse phase (Grace) C<sub>18</sub> column (4.6mm x 250mm; 5µm), a SP930D pump, a 20µl injection loop and UV730D Absorbance detector and running autochro-3000 software. Metoprolol and Benidipine were procured from R.S.I.T.C Jalgaon. Orthophosphoric acid (OPA) (Avantor Performance material India Ltd. Thane, Maharashtra) and methanol, acetonitrile, (HPLC grade Merck Specialties Pvt. Ltd. Shiv Sager Estate 'A' Worli, Mumbai.), water, 0.45 µm filter (Millipore, Bangalore). Metoprolol and Benidipine are obtained as gift samples from R.S.I.T.C Jalgaon. Marketed formulation Benidip M (Precia Pharma Pvt. Ltd.) was procured from the local market.

### Chromatographic Conditions

Column C<sub>18</sub> (250 mm x 4.6 mm); particle size packing 5µm ; detection wavelength of 230 nm; flow rate 1 ml/min; temperature ambient; sample size 20 µl; mobile phase Acetonitrile: water (OPA 0.1% PH 3) ( 45:55); run time of 15 min.

### Preparation of standard stock solution

50mg of Metoprolol and 40 mg of Benidipine were weighed accurately and transferred to a 10 ml volumetric flask dissolved in methanol and diluted to 10 ml with the mobile phase Acetonitrile + 0.1% OPA water (45 + 55% v/v) to give a stock solution of 5000 µg/ml Metoprolol and 1000 µg/ml Benidipine Table 1 and Fig. 3.

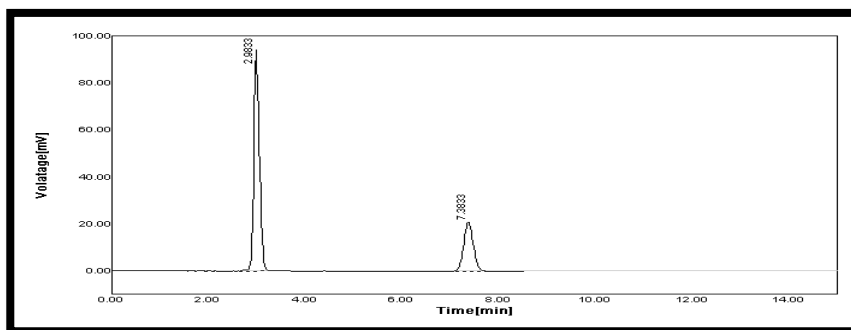


Fig 3. Chromatogram of standard Combination of Metoprolol and Benidipine

Table 1

Details of chromatogram of standard combination containing MET and BEN

No.	RT[min]	Area[mV*s]	Area%	TP	TF	Resolution
1	2.9833	747.6716	72.57	2776.2	1.2143	0.000
2	7.3833	282.5911	27.43	6439.3	1.000	12.5714
Sum		1030.2627				

### Method development and validation

Serial dilutions were done to prepared various concentration stock (Standard solution and diluted to get required concentration for calibration plot and which was injected) <sup>26-34</sup>.

### Assay preparation for commercial formulation

For analysis of the tablet dosage form, weigh 20 Metoprolol (50mg) and Benidipine (4mg) combination tablets and calculated the average weight, accurately weigh and transfer the sample equivalent to 12.2 mg MET and BEN into 10 ml volumetric flask. Add about 10ml methanol of diluent and sonicate to dissolve it completely and make volume up to the mark with diluent. Mix well and filter through 0.45  $\mu$ m nylon membrane filter. Then volume was made up to the mark with Acetonitrile + 0.1% OPA water (45 + 55% v/v). The simple chromatogram of test MET and BEN shown in Fig. 4. The amounts of MET and BEN per tablet were calculated by extrapolating the value of area from the calibration curve. Analysis procedure was repeated five times with tablet formulation. Tablet Assay for % Label claim for % RSD Calculated, Result was shown in Table 2.

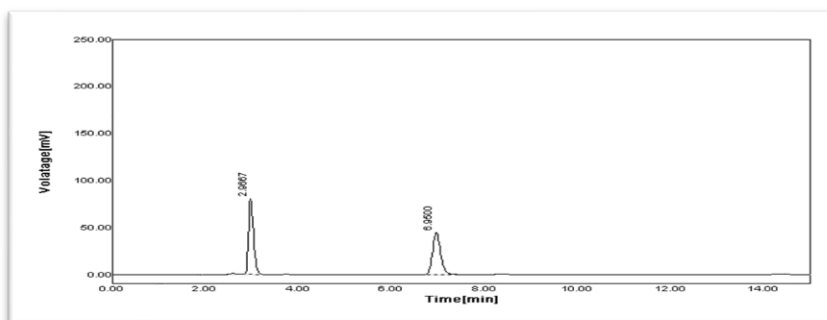


Fig 4. Chromatogram for marketed formulation

Table 2  
Analysis of marketed formulation

Assay	Drug	Label Claimed	Amt. Found	% Label Claim	S.D.	%RSD
RP-HPLC Method	MET	200	200.71	100.36	3.16	0.51
	BEN	16	16.51	103.19	3.64	0.11
	MET	200	202.15	101.08	1.02	4.10
	BEN	16	16.30	102.25	0.65	0.51

## Results

### Linearity and Range

The data obtained in the calibration experiments when subjected to linear regression analysis showed a linear relationship between peak areas and concentrations in the range 50-250 µg/ml for MET and 4-20 µg/mL for BEN Table 3 and 4 depict the calibration data of MET and BEN. The respective linear equation for Metoprolol was  $y = 3.1148x - 3.991$  and Benidipine equation  $y = 32.639x + 19.904$  where  $x$  is the concentration and  $y$  is area of peak. The correlation coefficient was 0.9987. The calibration curve of MET and BEN shown in Fig. 5 and 6.

Table 3  
Linearity data for Metoprolol

Method	Conc µg/ml	Peak area(µV.sec)		Average peak area (µV.sec)	S.D. of Peak Area	% RSD of Peak Area	
		1	2				
RP-HPLC Method	50	144.25	146.26	145.26	1.42	0.98	
	100	309.471	303.03	306.25	4.55	1.49	
	150	478.61	475.63	477.12	2.11	0.44	
	200	625.34	616.33	620.84	6.37	1.03	
	250	772.04	761.28	766.66	7.61	0.99	
	Equation		y = 3.1148x - 3.991				
	R <sup>2</sup>		0.9987				

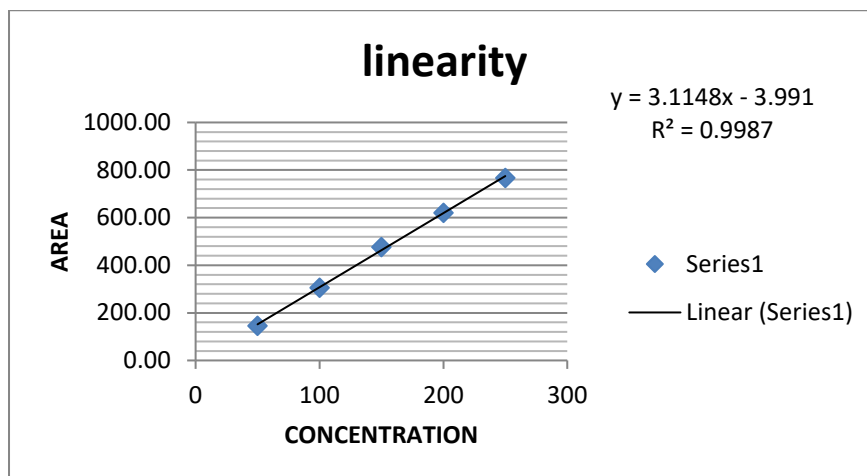


Fig 5. Calibration curve of Metoprolol

Table 4  
Linearity data for Benidipine

Method	Conc. μg/ml	Peak area(μV.sec)		Average peak area (μV.sec)	S.D. of Peak Area	% RSD of Peak Area
		1	2			
RP- HPLC Method	4	141.59	144.83	143.21	2.29	1.60
	8	285.61	279.66	282.64	4.21	1.49
	12	415.71	422.16	418.94	4.56	1.09
	16	555.91	547.05	551.48	6.26	1.14
	20	658.02	665.1	661.56	5.01	0.76
	Equation		$y = 32.639x + 19.904$			
R <sup>2</sup>		0.9981				

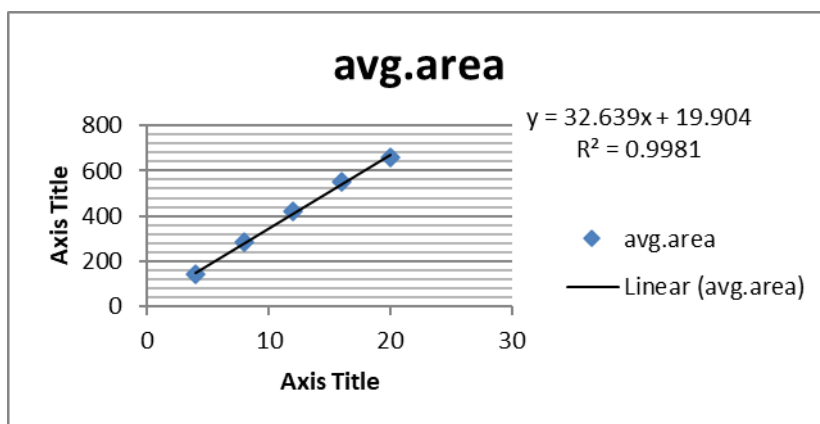


Fig 6. Calibration curve of Benidipine

## Accuracy

Recovery studies were performed to validate the accuracy of developed method. To a pre-analysed tablet solution, a definite concentration of standard drug (80%, 100%, and 120%) was added and then its recovery was analyzed. The % recovery was found to be within 98-101%. Statistical validation of recovery studies are shown in Table 5, 6 and Fig. 7, 8 and 9.

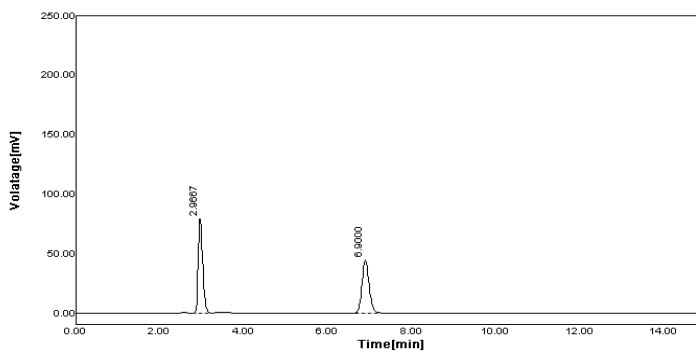


Fig 7. Chromatogram of Accuracy 80%

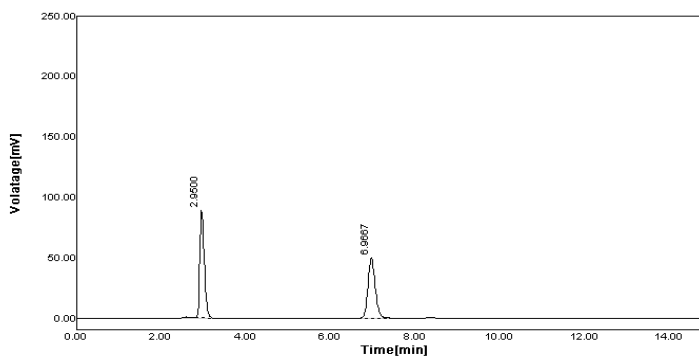


Fig 8. Chromatogram of Accuracy 100%

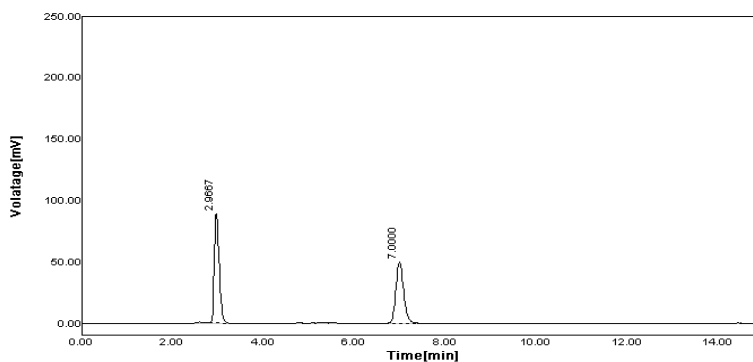


Fig 9. Chromatogram of Accuracy 120%

Table 5  
Result of recovery data for Metoprolol and Benidipine

Method	Drug	Level (%)	Amt. taken ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	Amt. Added ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	Absorbance Mean* $\pm$ S.D.	Amt. recovered Mean $\pm$ S.D.	%Recovery Mean $\pm$ S.D.
RP-HPLC Method	MET	80%	50	40	89.47 $\pm$ 0.37	39.47 $\pm$ 0.37	98.19 $\pm$ 0.21
		100%	50	50	99.53 $\pm$ 0.23	49.56 $\pm$ 0.23	99.07 $\pm$ 0.46
		120%	50	60	109.88 $\pm$ 0.42	59.88 $\pm$ 0.42	99.81 $\pm$ 0.71
	BEN	80%	4	3.2	7.18 $\pm$ 0.06	3.18 $\pm$ 0.06	99.37 $\pm$ 1.84
		100%	4	4	7.96 $\pm$ 0.04	3.96 $\pm$ 0.04	99.15 $\pm$ 1.01
		120%	4	4.8	8.78 $\pm$ 0.08	4.78 $\pm$ 0.08	99.63 $\pm$ 1.61

\*mean of each 3 reading for RP-HPLC method

Table 6  
Statistical validation of recovery studies Metoprolol and Benidipine

Method	Level of Recovery (%)	Drug	Mean % Recovery	SD*	% RSD
RP-HPLC Method	80%	MET	98.19	0.21	0.22
		BEN	99.37		1.84
	100%	MET	99.07	0.46	0.46
		BEN	99.15		1.01
	120%	MET	99.81	0.71	0.71
		BEN	99.63		1.61

\*Denotes average of three determinations for RP-HPLC method

### System suitability parameters

To ascertain the resolution and reproducibility of the proposed chromatographic system for estimation of MET and BEN system suitability parameters were studied. The result shown Fig. 10 and Table 7.

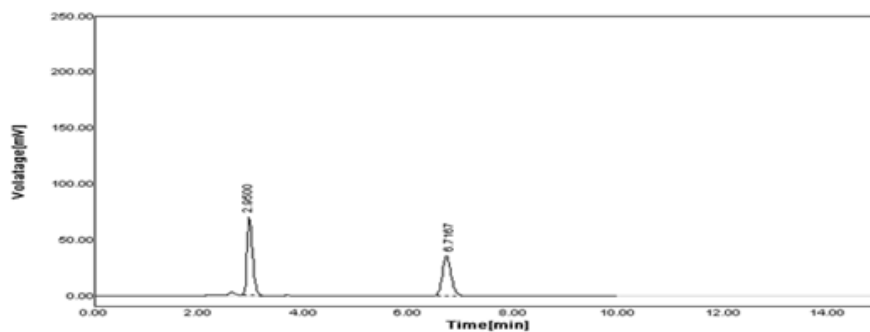


Fig 10. Chromatogram of system suitability

Table 7  
Repeatability studies on RP-HPLC for Metoprolol and Benidipine

Method	Conc. of MET and BEN (mg/ml)	Peak area	Amount found (mg)	% Amount found
RP-HPLC Method for MET	150	470	149.64	99.76
	150	470.23	149.72	99.81
	150	479.34	152.64	101.76
	150	473.82	150.87	100.58
	150	469.95	149.63	99.75
		Mean	150.50	100.33
		SD	1.31	0.87
	%RSD	0.87	0.87	
RP-HPLC Method for BENI	12	411.41	11.99	99.98
	12	411.57	12.00	100.02
	12	410.91	11.98	99.83
	12	412.23	12.02	100.17
	12	417.34	12.20	101.67
		Mean	12.04	100.33
		SD	0.09	0.75
	%RSD	0.76	0.75	

### Precision

The method was established by analyzing various standards of MET and BEN. All the solution were analyzed thrice in order to record any intra-day & inter-day variation in the result. The result obtained for interday and intraday variation are shown in the Table 8.

Table 8  
Result of Intra day and Inter day Precision studies on RP-HPLC method for MET and BEN

Method	Drug	Conc. (µg/ml)	Intraday Precision		Interday Precision	
			Mean± SD	%Amt Found	Mean± SD	%Amt Found
Rp-HPLC	MET	100	306.31± 4.99	99.64	0.1499±0.0014	0.94
		150	475.35±6.34	100.9	0.5635±0.001	0.025
		200	623.22±3.07	100.7	0.9881±0.008	0.08
	BEN	8	286.62± 2.98	8.174	0.0565±0.0007	100.00
		12	414.96±3.54	12.1	0.1815±0.004	99.54
		16	546.79±2.97	16.14	0.3092±0.0010	99.23

\*Mean of each 3 reading for RP-HPLC method

### Robustness

To evaluate the robustness of the proposed method, small but deliberate variations in the optimized method parameters were done. The effect of changes in mobile phase composition and flow rate on retention time and tailing factor of drug peak was studied. The results indicate that less variability in retention time and tailing factor were observed Table 9 and 10.

Table 9  
Result of robustness study of Metoprolol

Parameters	Conc. (µg/ml)	Amt. of detected (mean ±SD)	%RSD
Chromatogram of flow change 0.9ml	150	465.7±6.34	1.36
Chromatogram of flow change 1.1 ml	150	525.59±5.26	0.99
Chromatogram of comp change 46 ACN+54 water	150	578.89±6.69	1.16
Chromatogram of comp change 44ACN+ 56 water	150	581.02±0.82	0.14
Chromatogram of comp change wavelength change 229 nm	150	545.48±2.37	0.43
Chromatogram of comp change wavelength change 231nm	150	598.80±2.02	0.34

Table 10  
Result of robustness study of Benidipine

Parameters	Conc. (µg/ml)	Amt. of detected (mean ±SD)	%RSD
Chromatogram of flow change 0.9ml	12	435.64±0.83	0.19
Chromatogram of flow change 1.1 ml	12	465.82±2.84	0.61
Chromatogram of comp change 46 ACN+54 water	12	468.36±7.01	1.50
Chromatogram of comp change 44ACN+ 56 water	12	479.37±8.55	1.78
Chromatogram of comp change wavelength change 229nm	12	486.20±8.39	1.72
Chromatogram of comp change wavelength change 231nm	12	475.96±7.69	1.61

### Discussion

The proposed methods for simultaneous estimation of MET and BEN in tablet dosage forms were found to be simple, accurate, economical and rapid. The method was validated as per the ICH Q2 (R1) guidelines. Standard calibration yielded correlation coefficient ( $r^2$ ) 0.999 for both MET and BEN at all the selected wavelengths. The values of % RSD are within the prescribed limit of 2 %, showing high precision of methods and recovery was close to 100% for

both drugs. Results of the analysis of pharmaceutical formulations reveal that the proposed method is suitable for their simultaneous determination with virtually no interference of any additive present in pharmaceutical formulations. Hence, the above methods can be applied successfully for simultaneous estimation of MET and BEN in formulations.

### **Conclusion**

The developed HPLC methods in that linearity, precision, range, robustness were found to be more accurate, precise and reproducible. The methods were found to be simple & time saving. All proposed methods could be applied for routine analysis in quality control laboratories.

### **Conflicts of interest**

All authors have none to declare.

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### **Abbreviation used**

HPLC: High performance liquid chromatography; UV: Ultraviolet; ICH: International Conference on Harmonization; LOQ: Limit of quantitation; LOD: Limit of detection; RSD: Relative standard deviation; RT: Retention time; OPA: Orthophosphoric acid; MET: Metoprolol; BEN: Benidipine; FDA: Food and Drug Administration; SD: Standard deviation.

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