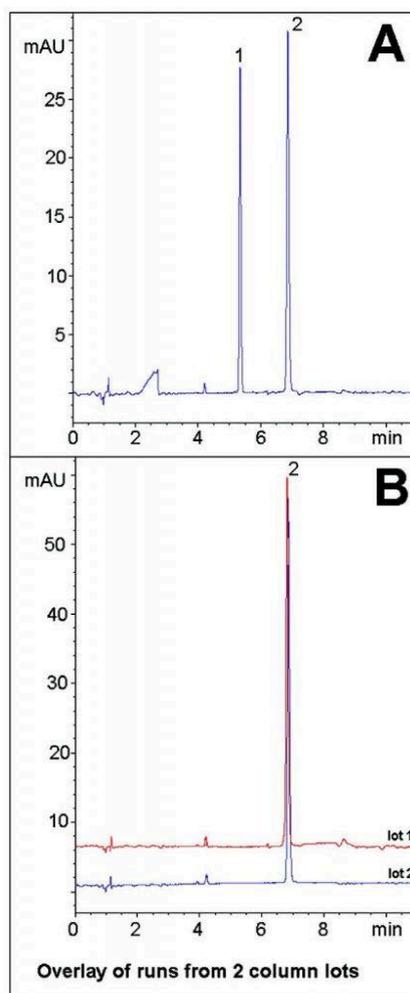


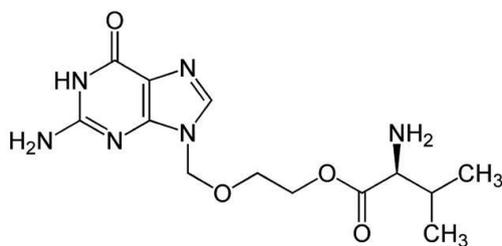
Valaciclovir Analyzed with a Degradant by HPLC - AppNote

Separation of Prodrug from a Degradant in Forced Degradation of Valtrex® Tablets

In this Application Note, the anti-viral Herpes drug Valaciclovir and its main acid degradant are well separated (*Figure A*). Valaciclovir is a prodrug and the degradant observed here is believed to be the active form, Acyclovir. Both compounds did not retain very strongly in Reversed Phase and the USP Method calls for a lengthy 40 minute Gradient with high water content for the Assay. The eight minute gradient provides sufficient Separation.

Data from two Column lots is shown below in the non-degraded extract (*Figure B*) to demonstrate the Method Reproducibility.





Peaks: 1. Degradant, 2. Valaciclovir

Method Conditions

Column: Cogent Diamond Hydride™, 4 µm, 100 Å

Catalog No.: 70000-7.5P

Dimensions: 4.6 x 75 mm

Mobile Phase:

- A: DI Water with 0.1% Formic Acid (v/v)
- B: Acetonitrile with 0.1% Formic Acid (v/v)

Gradient:

Time (minutes)	%B
0	95
1	95
6	40
7	40
8	95

Post Time: 3 minutes

Injection vol.: 1 µL

Flow rate: 1.0 mL / minute

Detection: UV @ 254 nm

Sample Preparation: Stock Solution: 1000 mg strength Valtrex Tablet was ground and added to 100 mL volumetric flask containing 50 mL 50:50 DI Water / Acetonitrile diluent. The solution was sonicated 10 minutes, diluted to mark, and mixed. A portion was filtered through a 0.45 µm Nylon Syringe Filter (MICROSOLV Tech Corp.).

- **Figure A:** Acid Degradation Extract: The Stock Solution was diluted 1:100 with 50:50 1N HCL / Acetonitrile mixture and heated at 85°C for 30 minutes.
- **Figure B:** Non-Degraded Extract: The Stock Solution was diluted 1:100 with 50:50 Acetonitrile / DI Water.

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