

**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF UNIVERSAL  
PHARMACY AND BIO SCIENCES**

IMPACT FACTOR 4.018\*\*\*

ICV 6.16\*\*\*

Pharmaceutical Sciences

RESEARCH ARTICLE.....!!!

**SIMULTANEOUS DETERMINATION AND VALIDATION OF PARACETAMOL  
AND CHLOROQUINE PHOSPHATE BY RP-HPLC IN BULK AND  
PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULATION****Swarnalatha B M\*, Manzoor Ahmed, A Satish Kumar Shetty**Department of Pharmaceutical Analysis, National College of Pharmacy, Shimoga - 577201,  
Karnataka, India.**KEYWORDS:**RP-HPLC, Paracetamol,  
Chloroquine Phosphate, UV  
detection, Validation.**FOR CORRESPONDENCE:****Swarnalatha B M\*****ADDRESS:**Department of Pharmaceutical  
Analysis, National College of  
Pharmacy, Shimoga - 577201,  
Karnataka, India.**ABSTRACT**

The simple, accurate, precise, and rapid RP-HPLC method was developed and validated as per the ICH guidelines for the determination of Paracetamol (PARA) and Chloroquine Phosphate (CHQ) in combined dosage form. The proposed RP-HPLC method utilizes a C18, 5 $\mu$ m, 250mm  $\times$  4.6mm i.d. column, using 0.05M Phosphate Buffer (pH 3.5) and Methanol as mobile phase in the ratio of 60:40, and UV detection at 283 nm. The retention time was 4.819 min and 6.165 min for PARA and CHQ at a flow rate of 1 mL/min. The described method was linear over a range of 10-50  $\mu$ g/mL for both the drugs. The percentage mean recovery was found to be 99.95 for PARA and 99.98 for CHQ. The method was statistically validated for its linearity, accuracy and precision. Both interday and intraday precision was found to be showing less %RSD having high grade of precision of the method.

**INTRODUCTION:**

Paracetamol is used as an analgesic and antipyretic. It is official in the IP. Chloroquine phosphate is used mainly as antimalarial and anti-inflammatory. It is official in IP. Several methods are reported for individual estimation of PARACETAMOL and CHLOROQUINE. Combination of these two drugs used in the treatment of malaria.

Paracetamol (PARA), chemically known as N-(4-hydroxyphenyl)acetamide. It has weak activity on COX in the inflamed peripheral tissues which have high concentration of peroxides; however, it equals the blocking effect of aspirin on this enzyme in the brain. Therefore, paracetamol is a potent antipyretic and is equi analgesic with aspirin in therapeutic doses but devoid of significant anti-inflammatory effect [1-4].

Chloroquine phosphate (CHQ), chemically known as 7-chloro-4-[[4-(diethylamino)-1-methylbutyl]amino] quinoline, is a 4-aminoquinoline antimalarial drug. It is the prototype synthetic antimalarial drug most widely used to treat all types of malarial infections. The drug is also prescribed to decrease the symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis and to treat systemic and discoid lupus erythematosus in adults [5-7].

The combination of Paracetamol and Chloroquine was significantly used in the treatment of malaria [8-10].

**MATERIALS AND METHODS:****Instrument**

A Shimadzu class HPLC unit accomplished with SPD-20AD UV-Visible detector; Enable C18(250\*4.6\*5) Column (Shimadzu); LC-20 AD Pump; Quantitative HPLC was performed on an isocratic mode with 20µl injection of sample loop. The output signal was monitored and integrated using software class LABSOLUTIONS (Shimadzu).

**Chemicals**

Standard Paracetamol and Chloroquine Phosphate were procured from Yarrow Chem Products, Mumbai. Methanol (HPLC grade) was obtained from S D Fine-Chem Limited. Potassium dihydrogen orthophosphate, Double distilled Water was obtained from Spectrochem Pvt. Limited.

**Preparation of mobile phase :**

The mobile phase 1000 mL was prepared by mixing the Phosphate buffer and Methanol solution in the ratio of 60:40, pH was adjusted to 3.5 with Ortho-phosphoric acid. The mobile phase was filtered through a 0.45 µm filter paper and then sonicated for 10 min.

**Preparation of Buffer solution**

6.8 g of Potassium dihydrogen O-phosphate was dissolved in 1000ml of HPLC water (0.05M)

**Preparation of standard solutions**

100 mg each of PARA and CHQ were weighed separately and transferred in two different 100 mL volumetric flasks. Both the drugs were dissolved in 50 mL of mobile phase by sonication and then volume was made up to the mark with mobile phase to get a concentration of 1000 µg/mL of each component (stock A and A' solution).

From the above stock solution further dilutions were made to get the concentration range of 10-50µg/mL for both the drugs.

**Preparation of sample solution:****B. Analysis of tablet formulation.**

Twenty tablets of PARA and CHQ in combination were weighed and their average weight was determined. The tablets were crushed to fine powder and a tablet powder equivalent to 100 mg of PARA was weighed which also contains 100 mg of CHQ and transferred to 100 mL volumetric flask, dissolved in sufficient quantity of mobile phase. The solution was filtered through 0.4 µm membrane filter paper. The contents were sonicated for 20 minutes and the final volume was made up to the mark with mobile phase (sample stock "A" solution).

Appropriate aliquots were pipetted out from the sample stock "A" solution (1000 µg/mL) in to a series of 10 mL volumetric flask. The volume was made up to the mark with the mobile phase to get a set of solutions having the concentration range of 10 - 50 µg/mL of PARA and 10 - 50 µg/mL of CHQ.

A 20 µl volume of each sample mixture was injected in to the sample injector of HPLC system and their chromatograms were recorded under the same chromatographic conditions as described above. The area of each peak was determined at 283.0 nm and the amount of drug present in the sample mixture was determined.

**Method Validation:**

The developed analytical method was subjected to validation with respect to various parameters such as linearity, limit of detection (LOD), limit of quantification (LOQ) accuracy, precision, recovery studies and reproducibility as per the ICH guidelines

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION :**

The proposed method was found to be simple and linear in the concentration range of 10-50 µg/ml for Paracetamol and 10-50 µg/ml Chloroquine Phosphate respectively. The method was found to be accurate and precise as indicated by recovery studies and % RSD not more than 2. Moreover LOD and LOQ for Paracetamol were found to be 0.33µg/ml and 0.99 µg/ml, respectively and for Chloroquine Phosphate were 0.102 and 0.309µg/ml, respectively. Thus the method is specific and sensitive.

**Linearity:**

Linearity was established by least square regression analysis of the calibration curve. The constructed calibration curve was linear over the concentration range of 10-50 µg/ml for PARA and 10-50 µg/ml for CHQ. Peak area of PARA and CHQ were plotted versus their respective concentration and linear regression analysis was performed on the resultant curves (fig.3 & fig.4). The regression equation was found to be  $y = 13176x + 2380.8$  ( $r^2 = 0.9999$ ) for PARA and  $y = 12127x + 1428.3$  ( $r^2 = 0.9999$ ) for Chq. Summary of Validation and System Suitability Parameters of Paracetamol and Chloroquine Phosphate are shown in Table (1).

**Accuracy (Recovery studies)**

To check the degree of accuracy of the method, recovery studies were performed in triplicate by standard addition method at 80%, 100% and 120%. Known amounts of standard mixture of Paracetamol and Chloroquine Phosphate was added to pre-analyzed samples and was subjected to the proposed HPLC method. Results of recovery studies are shown in Table 2.

**Precision**

Precision was evaluated by carrying out six independent sample preparation of a single lot of formulation. The sample solution was prepared in the same manner as described in sample preparation. Percentage relative standard deviation (%RSD) was found to be less than 2% for within a day and day to day variations, which proves that method is precise.

**LOD and LOQ :**

The LOD was determined as the lowest amount of analyte that was reproducibly quantified above the baseline noise following triplicate injection. LOD was determined on the basis of signal to noise ratios and was determined using the analytical response of three times the background noise. Both LOD and LOQ were calculated on the peak area using the following equation:

$$\text{LOD} = 3.3 \times \text{SD}/\text{Slope}$$

$$\text{LOQ} = 10 \times \text{SD}/\text{Slope}$$

Where, SD – Standard deviation of the peak areas (triplicate injection) of the drug,

The limit of detection and Limit of quantification of PARA and CHQ was found to be 0.33 µg/mL and 0.102 µg/mL and 0.99 µg/mL and 0.309 µg/mL, respectively

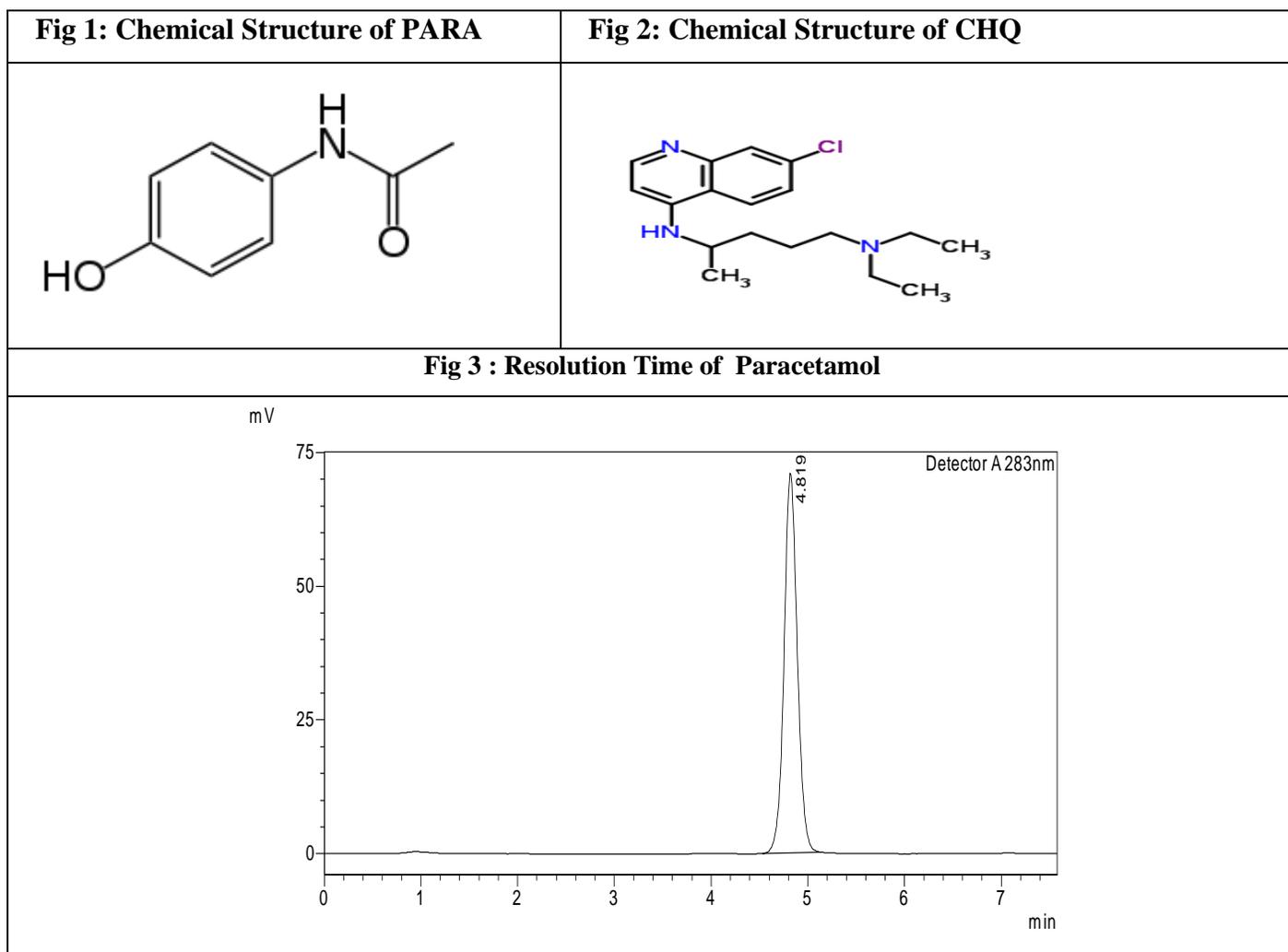
**Robustness :**

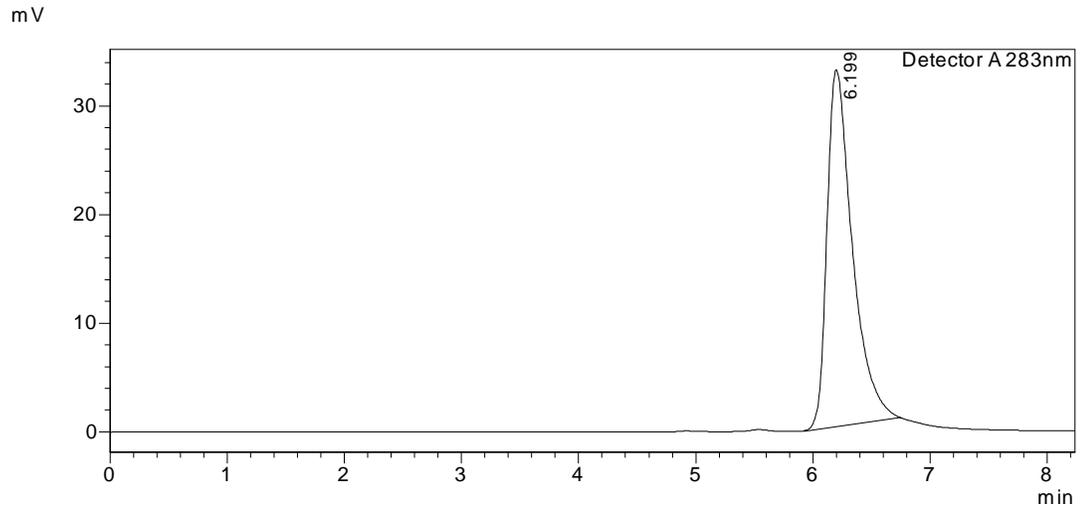
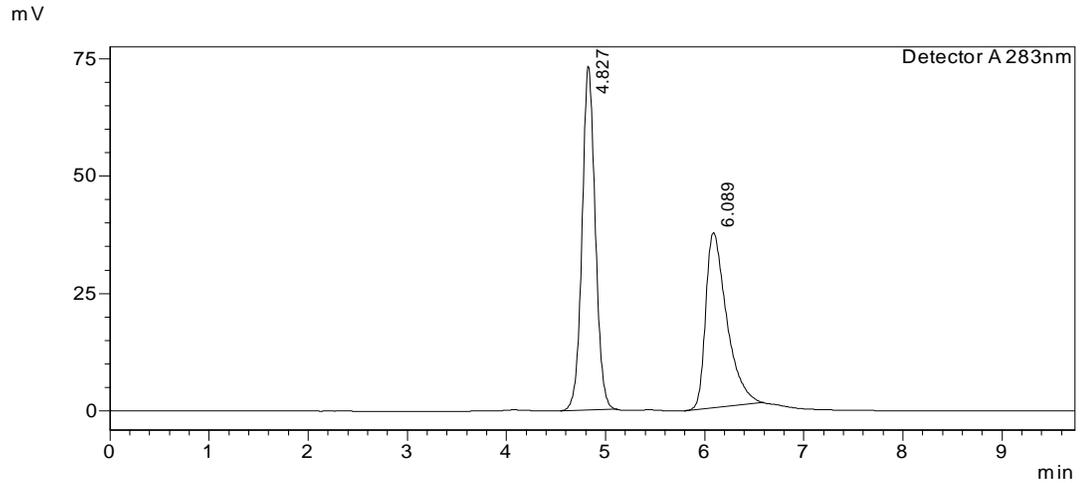
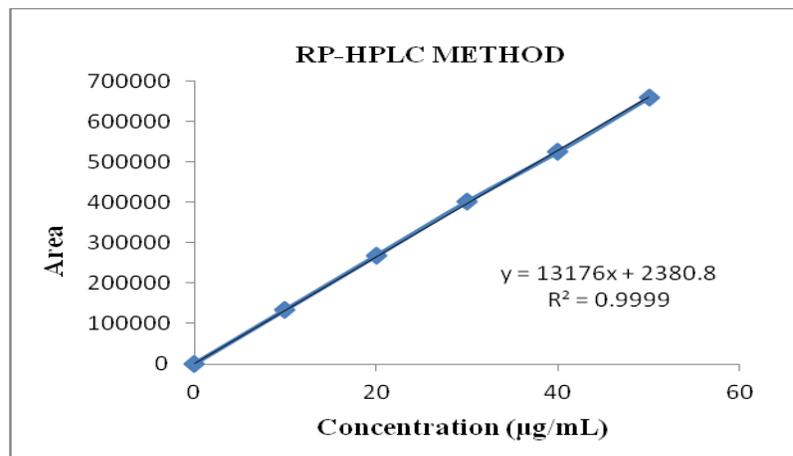
The Robustness was evaluated by analysing the samples by varying few parameters like wavelength and flow rate. The validation results obtained confirm the suitability of the proposed method for simple, accurate and precise analysis of PARA and CHQ in pharmaceutical preparations. The degree of

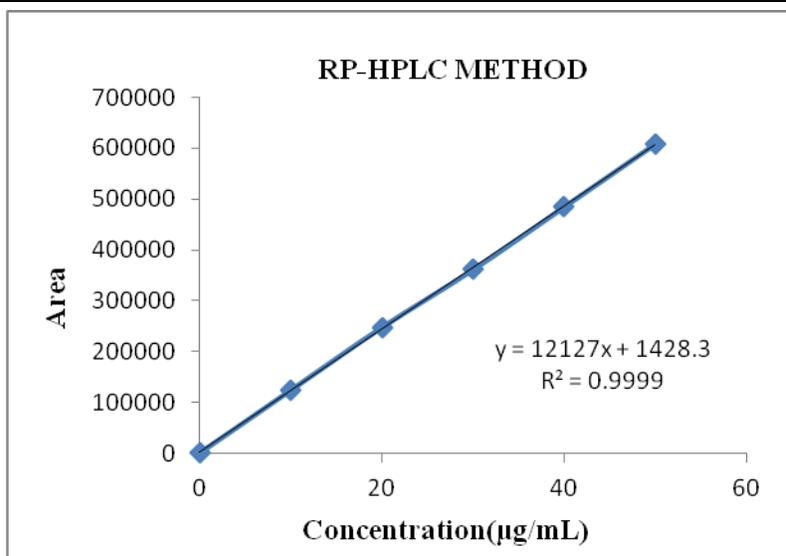
reproducibility of the results obtained as a result of small deliberate variations in the method parameters and by changing analytical operators had proved that the method was robust and the data is summarized in table 5 and 6.

### Ruggedness:

The evaluation of robustness should be considered during the development phase and depends upon the type of procedure under study. It should show the reliability of analysis with respect to deliberate variations in analyst or instrument. The solution containing 30 $\mu$ g/ml of PARA and 30 $\mu$ g/ml of Chloroquine Phosphate was injected into sample injector of HPLC two times by different analysts. Ruggedness result for variations in Analyst as shown in table (7).



**Fig 4 : Resolution time of Chloroquine Phosphate****Fig 5 : Resolution Time Of PARA and CHQ****Fig 6 : Calibration curve for PARA at 283.0 nm by RP-HPLC Method**

**Fig 7 : Calibration curve for CHQ at 283.0 nm by RP-HPLC Method****Table 1: Summary of validation Parameters by Developed Methods**

Parameters	PARA	CHQ
Linearity Range $\mu\text{g/mL}$	10-50	10-50
Slope	13176	12127
Intercept	2380.8	1428.3
Regression Coefficient ( $r^2$ )	0.999	0.999
Limit of Detection ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	0.33	0.102
Limit of Quantification $\mu\text{g/mL}$	0.99	0.309
Retention time (min)	4.819	6.165
Tailing factor	1.055	1.665
Resolution factor	3.996	
Theoretical plate	5777	4212

**Table 2: Statistical Validation Data for Accuracy Determination**

Level of % Recovery	Components	Amount present (µg/ml)	Amount of Standard drug added (µg)	Total amount recovered (µg)	% Recovery	RSD
80%	PARA	20	16	35.98	99.94	0.0424
	CHQ	20	16	35.97	99.91	0.1155
100%	PARA	20	20	39.96	99.9	0.0804
	CHQ	20	20	40.01	100.02	0.0381
120%	PARA	20	24	43.98	99.95	0.0860
	CHQ	20	24	43.97	99.93	0.0227

**Table 3: Statistical Validation Data for Intra-day Precision**

Components	Mean	Std.deviation	Co-efficient of variation	Standard error
PARA	100.00	0.0894	0.0894	0.0366
CHQ	100.00	0.0988	0.0988	0.0405

n\* = 6

**Table 4 : Statistical validation data for Interday precision**

Components	Mean*	Standard Deviation*	Co-efficient of Variation	Standard Error*
PARA	99.98	0.0981	0.0981	0.0402
CHQ	100.0	0.0894	0.0894	0.0366

**Table 5: Robustness result for variations in Flow Rate (mL/min)**

Method Parameter	Level	Retention Time		Tailing factor	
Flow rate (mL/min)		PARA	CHQ	PARA	CHQ
0.9	-1	4.899	6.253	1.098	1.698
1.0	0	4.819	6.199	1.055	1.665
1.1	+1	4.632	6.029	1.015	1.651

**Table 6: Robustness result for variations in Wavelength (nm)**

Method Parameter	Level	Retention Time		Tailing factor	
Wavelength(nm)		PARA	CHQ	PARA	CHQ
281	-2	4.792	6.157	1.034	1.653
283	0	4.819	6.199	1.055	1.665
285	+2	4.753	6.253	1.085	1.699

**Table 7: Ruggedness result for variations in Analyst.**

Method Parameter	Retention Time		Tailing Factor	
Analysts	PARA	CHQ	PARA	CHQ
Analyst 01	4.819	6.199	1.055	1.665
Analyst 02	4.782	6.078	1.037	1.661

**CONCLUSION :**

The proposed RP-HPLC method for the simultaneous estimation of Paracetamol and Chloroquine Phosphate in combined dosage forms was found to be sensitive, accurate, precise, simple and rapid. Hence the present RP –HPLC method may be used for routine analysis of the raw materials and formulations.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

Authors express sincere thanks to the principal and staff department of pharmaceutical analysis of National College of pharmacy, Shimoga for guidance, encouragement and providing laboratory facilities.

**REFERENCES:**

1. Satoskar R S, Nirmala N Rege, Bhandarkar S D. Pharmacology and pharmacotherapeutics. 23<sup>rd</sup> ed.2013:p.11-7.
2. Indian pharmacopoeia. Indian Pharmacopoeia commission Ghaziabad, 2010(3):1861-2.
3. Sharma H L, Sharma K K. Principle of pharmacology. 1<sup>st</sup> ed.2007:p.836
4. <https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/compounds>.
5. Laurenc LB, John SL, Keith LP. Goodman and Gilman's. The pharmacological basis of therapeutics; McGraw Hill, Newyork, U.S.A. 2005: 1119-21.
6. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki>.
7. Palled P J, Dushyanth Reddy V, Mannor VS and Bharat Chowdary. Validated isocratic/gradient RP-HPLC for simultaneous estimation of Paracetamol Ibuprofen and Caffeine in marketed formulations using diclofenac as internal standard. Ana chem: an indian J, 2017;17(1):1-20.
8. Deepali Gharge, Pandurang Dhabale. Simultaneous estimation of Nimesulide and Paracetamol in solid dosage form by RP-HPLC method. Int J of pharmaTec Res, 2010;2(2):1330-3.
9. Samson Israel D, Krishna Chaitanya K, Gowri Sankar D, Vijayalakshmi A. Method development and validation for simultaneous determination a multiple drug dosage form of paracetamol, Orphenedrine, Ibuprofen by RP-HPLC. J of global trends in ph sci,2013;4(3):1153-62.
10. Lawal A, Umar R A, Abubakar M G, Faruk U Z. Development and validation of UV spectrophotometric and HPLC methods for quantitative determination of Chloroquine and Amodiaquine in pharmaceutical formulations. Int J of chemTec Res,2012;4(2):669-76.