

## U.S. PHARMACOPEIA

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## Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate

» Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate is a mixture of sodium cetyl sulfate and sodium stearyl sulfate. It contains not less than 40.0 percent of sodium cetyl sulfate ( $C_{16}H_{33}NaSO_4$ ), and the sum of the sodium cetyl sulfate content and sodium stearyl sulfate ( $C_{18}H_{37}NaSO_4$ ) content is not less than 90.0 percent (both contents calculated on the anhydrous basis). It may contain a suitable buffer.

**Packaging and storage**— Preserve in well-closed containers. No storage requirements specified.

**Labeling**— Label it to indicate the name and concentration of any added buffer.

**USP Reference standards** [〈 11 〉](#) — [USP Cetyl Alcohol RS](#). [USP Stearyl Alcohol RS](#).

**Identification**—

**A:** The retention times of the two major peaks in the chromatogram of *Assay preparation C* correspond to those in the chromatogram of the *Resolution solution*, as obtained in the *Assay*.

**B:** It meets the requirements of the flame test for [Sodium](#) [〈 191 〉](#).

**C:** Mix 10 mg with 10 mL of ethanol, and heat to boiling on a water bath, shaking frequently. Filter immediately, and evaporate to dryness. Dissolve the residue in 7 mL of water, add 3 mL of diluted hydrochloric acid, and evaporate the solution to half its volume. Allow to cool, and filter. To the filtrate, add 1 mL of barium chloride solution (6 in 100): a white crystalline precipitate is formed.

**Acidity or alkalinity**— Dissolve 500 mg with heating in a mixture of 10 mL of water and 15 mL of 90% alcohol. Add 0.1 mL of phenolphthalein TS: the solution is colorless. Add 0.1 mL of 0.1 N sodium hydroxide: the solution becomes red.

**Water, Method I** [〈 921 〉](#): not more than 1.5%.

**Limit of sodium chloride and sodium sulfate**—

**Dichloroacetic acid solution**— Dilute 67 mL of dichloroacetic acid with water to 300 mL, and neutralize to blue litmus paper using [ammonia TS](#). Cool, add 33 mL of dichloroacetic acid, and dilute with water to 600 mL.

**Sodium chloride**— Dissolve about 5 g of Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate, accurately weighed, in 50 mL of water, and add diluted nitric acid dropwise until the solution is neutral to blue litmus paper. Add 1 mL of [potassium chromate TS](#), and titrate with 0.1 N silver nitrate VS, determining the endpoint potentiometrically. Calculate the percentage of sodium chloride (NaCl) in the Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate taken by the formula:

$$5.844VN/W,$$

in which 5.844 is the equivalence factor for sodium chloride; *V* is the volume, in mL, of silver nitrate solution; *N* is the normality of silver nitrate; and *W* is the weight, in g, of the Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate taken.

**Sodium sulfate**— Dissolve 0.5 g of Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate, accurately weighed, in 20 mL of water, warming gently if necessary, and add 1 mL of a solution containing 0.5 g per L of dithizone in acetone. If the solution is red, add 1 N nitric acid dropwise until a bluish-green color is obtained. Add 2.0 mL of *Dichloroacetic acid solution* and 80 mL of acetone, and titrate with 0.01 M lead nitrate VS until a persistent orange-red color is obtained. Calculate the percentage of sodium sulfate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) in the Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate taken by the formula:

$$14.20VM/W,$$

in which 14.20 is the equivalence factor for sodium sulfate;  $V$  is the volume, in mL, of lead nitrate solution;  $M$  is the molarity of lead nitrate; and  $W$  is the weight, in g, of the Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate taken. The sum of the percentages of sodium chloride and sodium sulfate is not more than 8.0%.

**Limit of free cetostearyl alcohol**— Examine the chromatogram of *Assay preparation A*, obtained as directed in the *Assay*. Calculate the percentage of free cetostearyl alcohol in the Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate taken using the formula:

$$100(A_a + B_a) \times W_{ah} / (S_{a(corr)} \times W_a),$$

in which  $(A_a + B_a)$  is the sum of the areas of the cetyl alcohol and stearyl alcohol peaks in the chromatogram of *Assay preparation A*;  $S_{a(corr)}$  is defined under *Assay*;  $W_{ah}$  is the weight of the internal standard, in mg, added in the preparation of *Assay preparation A*; and  $W_a$  is the weight, in mg, of Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate taken to prepare *Assay preparation A*: not more than 4.0% is found.

**Residual solvents** [〈 467 〉](#): meets the requirements.

(Official January 1, 2007)

#### **Assay**—

**Resolution solution**— Dissolve accurately weighed quantities of [USP Cetyl Alcohol RS](#) and [USP Stearyl Alcohol RS](#) in alcohol to obtain a solution having a known concentration of about 5 mg of each per mL.

**Internal standard solution**— Prepare a solution of 1-heptadecanol in alcohol having a concentration of about 4 mg per mL.

**Assay preparation A**— Dissolve 300 mg of Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate in 50 mL of alcohol, and add 2 mL of the *Internal standard solution* and 48 mL of water. Extract the solution with four 25-mL portions of pentane, adding 10–15 mL of saturated sodium chloride solution, if necessary, to facilitate the separation of the layers. Combine the organic layers, and reserve the hydro-alcoholic layers for the preparation of *Assay preparations C* and *D*. Wash the organic layer with two 30-mL portions of water, dry over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and filter.

**Assay preparation B**— Dissolve 300 mg of Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate in 50 mL of alcohol, and add 50 mL of water. Extract the solution with four 25-mL portions of pentane, adding 10 to 15 mL of saturated sodium chloride solution, if necessary, to facilitate the separation of the layers. Combine the organic layers, wash with two 30-mL portions of water, dry over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and filter.

**Assay preparation C**— Transfer 25 mL of the hydro-alcoholic solution obtained in the preparation of *Assay preparation A* to a 200-mL flask that can be fitted with a reflux condenser. Add 20 mL of hydrochloric acid and 10 mL of the *Internal standard solution*, and boil under reflux for 2 hours. Allow to cool. Extract with four 20-mL portions of pentane. Wash the combined organic layer with two 20-mL portions of water, dry over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and filter.

**Assay preparation D**— Transfer 25 mL of the hydro-alcoholic solution obtained in the preparation of *Assay preparation A* to a 200-mL flask that can be fitted with a reflux condenser. Add 20 mL of hydrochloric acid and 10 mL of alcohol, and boil under reflux for 2 hours. Allow to cool. Extract with four 20-mL portions of pentane. Wash the combined organic layer with two 20-mL portions of water, dry over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and filter.

**Chromatographic system** (see [Chromatography](#) [〈 621 〉](#))— The gas chromatograph is equipped with a flame-ionization detector, a 0.25-mm × 25-m fused silica capillary column that contains phase G2, and a split injection system with a split ratio of about 1:100. The carrier gas is nitrogen, flowing at a rate of 1 mL per minute. The column temperature is maintained at 150° at the time of injection, then programmed to increase at

a rate of 5 ° per minute to 250 °, and maintained at 250 ° for the duration of the analysis. The injection port and detector temperatures are maintained at about 250 °. Chromatograph the *Resolution solution*, and record the peak responses as directed for *Procedure*: the resolution,  $R$ , between cetyl alcohol and stearyl alcohol is not less than 4.0; and the relative standard deviation for replicate injections is not more than 1.5%.

*Correction for interference*— Inject about 1 µL of each of *Assay preparations A* and *B* into the chromatograph, record the chromatograms, and measure the areas for the major peaks. If the chromatogram of *Assay preparation B* shows a peak at the same retention time as the internal standard peak in the chromatogram of *Assay preparation A*, calculate the ratio,  $r$ :

$$r = S_{cb} / S_i,$$

in which  $S_{cb}$  is the area of the cetyl alcohol peak; and  $S_i$  is the area of the peak with the same retention time as the internal standard, respectively, in the chromatogram of *Assay preparation B*. If  $r$  is less than 300, calculate the corrected area,  $S_{a(corr)}$ , of the peak corresponding to the internal standard in the chromatogram of the *Assay preparation A*:

$$S_{a(corr)} = S_{ha} - (S_i \times S_{ca} / S_{cb}),$$

in which  $S_{ha}$  and  $S_{ca}$  are the areas of the internal standard peak and the cetyl alcohol peak, respectively, in the chromatogram of *Assay preparation A*.

Inject about 1 µL of each of *Assay preparations C* and *D* into the chromatograph, record the chromatograms, and measure the areas for the major peaks. Carry out the correction for interference in the same manner as for *Assay preparation A*, and calculate the corrected area,  $S_{c(corr)}$ , of the peak corresponding to the internal standard in the chromatogram of *Assay preparation C*.

*Procedure*— Inject equal volumes of the *Resolution solution* and *Assay preparations C* and *D* into the chromatograph, record the chromatograms, and measure the areas for the major peaks. The substances are eluted in the following order: cetyl alcohol, 1-heptadecanol (internal standard), and stearyl alcohol. Identify the cetyl alcohol and stearyl alcohol peaks in the chromatograms of the *Assay preparations* by comparison with the *Resolution solution*. Calculate the percentage of sodium cetyl sulfate in the portion of Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate taken by the formula:

$$100A_c \times 1.421 \times W_{ch} / (S_{c(corr)} \times W_c),$$

in which  $A_c$  is the area of the cetyl alcohol peak in the chromatogram of *Assay preparation C*;  $W_{ch}$  is the weight of the internal standard, in mg, added in the preparation of *Assay preparation C*; and  $W_c$  is the weight, in mg, of Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate taken to prepare *Assay preparation C*, calculated on the anhydrous basis.

Calculate the percentage of sodium stearyl sulfate in the portion of Sodium Cetostearyl Sulfate taken by the formula:

$$100 B_c \times 1.377 \times W_{ch} / (S_{c(corr)} \times W_c),$$

in which  $B_c$  is the area of the stearyl alcohol peak in the chromatogram of *Assay preparation C*; and the other terms are as defined above.

**Auxiliary Information**— *Staff Liaison* : [Catherine Sheehan, B.Sc., Scientist](#)

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