



Development of UV Spectrophotometric Method for Estimation of Barberin in Bulk and Pharmaceutical Dosage Form

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Article History	Abstract
Received: 06 June 2023 Revised: 05 July 2023 Accepted: 21 Aug 2023	<p>A simple, accurate, precise spectrophotometric method was developed for the estimation of barberin (BRN). The optimum condition for the analysis of the BRN was studied. BRN was subjected to stress degradation under different conditions like acidic, alkali, neutral, oxidation, photolytic, and thermal degradation as per recommended by the International Conference on Harmonization (ICH). The samples thus prepared were used for degradation studies by with the developed method. The lambda max i.e. absorption maxima found at 348 nm and calibration curve linear over the range of 0-40 µg/ml. The standard regression equation and correlation coefficient found to be $y = 0.02x - 0.0189$ $R^2 = 0.9982$ respectively. % RSD found to be less than one. The accepted limits of accuracy (recovery) were found to be 97.75% and all observed data are within required range which indicates good recovery value. LOD and LOQ found to be 0.0529 µg/ml and 0.2167 µg/ml respectively by developed UV spectroscopic method.</p> <p>Keywords: Barberin, UV Spectrophotometric Method, Accuracy, Precision, Recovery and Stress Degradation studies etc.</p>
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1. Introduction

Berberine is an isoquinoline alkaloid found in a variety of medicinal plants, mainly in the Berberis genus and the *Berberidaceae* family. Berberis vulgaris, goldenseal, goldthread, Oregon grape, rosid dicot genus and turmeric, Guduchi, and other plants contain this chemical component.¹⁻² Berberine alkaloids have a wide range of pharmacological activities, including bactericide, antiviral, blood pressure reducing, hypoglycaemic, medicine, and tumor metastatic effects.³⁻⁴ Bio-Berberine capsules, tablet, and other novel drug delivery formulations are available. Berberine most potent alkaloid mainly used in treatment of diabetes malitus. As it is biodegradable and biocompatible components used in formulation of solid lipid nanoparticles, liposomes, nano emulsions and liquisollid compacts in novel drug delivery applications. Berberine niosomes and self-nano emulsifying drug delivery system have also demonstrated their efficacy as drug delivery vehicles for a variety of medicinal treatments.⁵ Different researchers employ only a few UV-Spectrophotometric techniques to examine berberine in commercial formulations, nanoparticles, and other food products.⁶⁻¹⁶ The reported methods have their own limitation such as use of costly and hazardous solvent and also reported method have not fully validated the results. The reported methods have their own set of limitations, such as the use of a pricey and hazardous solvent, and the results have not been completely confirmed.

Normally BRN was determined and validated by HPLC and RP-HPLC⁵⁻⁶ which was costly and consume ample of time on the other hand UV method is rapid and coast effective along with we have demonstrated degradation studies. The present work aimed to develop a simple, rapid, and accurate method for the estimation of BRN in bulk and novel pharmaceutical dosage forms as per ICH guidelines along with degradation studies.

2. Materials And Methods

Chemicals and Reagents:

Standard barberin obtained as gift sample from Sigma Aldrich Pvt.Ltd, India. Methanol supplied by OZONE International. Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai, Maharashtra and Sodium hydroxide, double distilled water obtained from Unique Chemical Kolhapur. All other chemicals & reagents used in this study were of analytical grade.

Preparation of standard stock solutions:

Accurately weighted 10 mg of pure barberin in 10 ml volumetric flask containing 5 ml of methanol and water in 1:1 ratio and then sonicated for 15 minutes and final make up the volume up to 10 ml with solvent which having the final strength of 1000µg/ml.

Preparation of Working Standard Solution:

From standard stock solution 10 ml was withdrawn and diluted up to 10 ml to get the solution of 100 µg/ml concentration and filtered through Whatman filter paper before analyzing.

Selection of Wavelength for Analysis of Barberin:

Appropriate volume 1 ml of working stock solution of barberin was transferred into 10 ml volumetric flask, diluted with solvent up to the mark to give a concentration 10 µg/ml. The resulting solution was scanned between 200-400 nm. Absorbance was recorded against methanol and water (1:1) as blank using UV-visible spectrophotometer (Shimadzu UV-1900 Japan)⁷⁻⁸

Validation of UV Spectroscopic method:

The method developed was validated for the following parameters according to the ICH Guidelines Q2 (R1): Validation of Analytical Procedures: Text and Methodology.

Procedure for calibration curve

Primary stock solution was diluted suitably with methanol and water (1:1) ratio to get standard solution to obtain working standard at room temperature. The stock solutions scanned in the UV range 200-400 nm (Shemadzu UV-1900) by using an appropriate blank. For linearity study, dilutions were made for the drugs in the range of 0-100 µg/ml concentrations were prepared by diluting the stock solution with working solvent methanol and water.⁹⁻¹⁰

Precision:

The intra-day and inter-day precisions of developed methods was measured by estimating thrice corresponding response on present day and on three different days, over a period of one week and the results were reported in terms of relative standard deviation

Repeatability:

By analyzing six samples of same drug concentrations (10µg/ml) the repeatability was determined. From the resulting absorbance SD and RSD were calculated¹¹

Accuracy:

The accuracy of the developed method is calculated by comparing closeness of the observed value to the standard value for the sample. Recovery study was performed by addition level of 75, 100 and 125 % for test solution and absorbance of each measured in triplicate.¹²

Analysis of marketed formulation Berberine Hydrochloride in marketed formulations was determined using the established method.

Barberine liquisolid compacts preparation and characterization Sonication for 20 min with lipid, surfactants and drug (50 mg). Solubility, entrapment efficiency of the developed liquisolid compacts were tested. The developed UV technique is used to determine the amount of berberine present in barberine liquisolid compacts.

Limit of Detection and Limit of Quantification ((LOD & LOQ):

It is the lowest concentration of analyte in the sample that can be detected but not necessarily quantified. LOD and LOQ were calculated with help of response along with its standard deviation as per ICH guidelines.¹³⁻¹⁴

LOD and LOQ were calculated using formula

LOD = $3.3 * \sigma / S$ the smallest possible quantity of analyte that can be measured quantitatively.

LOQ = $10 * \sigma / S$ Where σ is the standard deviation and S is the slope

Degradation Studies:

The ICH guidelines allowed stability testing of new drug substances and products that required stress testing to be carried out to elucidate the inherent stability characteristics of the active substance. The aim of this study was to perform the stress degradation studies on barberin using the method developed.¹⁵⁻¹⁶

Stress Degradation by Hydrolysis under Acidic Condition:

A stock solution of barberin was prepared by dissolving 10 mg of the drug in 10 ml of methanol and water (50:50) to produce 1000 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of the solution. To 1 ml of the stock solution, 1 ml of 1 N HCL was added in a 10 ml volumetric flask and the volume was make up to the mark using solvent. Three sample prepared and this volumetric flask was kept under normal conditions for 1hr, 2hr, & 4hr and then make the solution neutral by adding 1m NaOH solution and absorbance were checked. Sample were tested in triplicate.¹⁷

Stress Degradation by Hydrolysis under Alkaline Condition:

A stock solution of barberin was prepared by dissolving 10 mg of the drug in 10 ml of methanol and water (50:50) to produce 1000 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of the solution. To 1 ml of the stock solution, 1 ml of 1 N NaOH was added in a 10 ml volumetric flask and the volume was make up to the mark using solvent. Three sample prepared and this volumetric flask was kept under normal conditions for 1hr, 2hr, & 4hr and then make the solution neutral by adding 1m HCl solution and absorbance were checked. Sample were tested in triplicate¹⁸

Dry Heat -Induced Degradation:

To three amber colored 10 ml volumetric flasks sample solution containing 1 mL aliquot of methanol and water (50:50) was transferred and flasks were kept on water bath for 1, 2 and 4 hours at $60^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ then diluted with solvent. All samples were tested in triplicate¹⁹

Oxidative Degradation:

To 1.5 ml of the stock solution of methanol and water (50:50) (1000 $\mu\text{g/ml}$), 1 ml of 30% w/v of hydrogen peroxide was added in a 10 mL volumetric flask and the volume was made up to the mark with methanol and water (50:50). The volumetric flask was kept at room temperature for 1hr, 2hr, & 4hr. dilutions were made from the stock solution to achieve the required concentration (6 $\mu\text{g/mL}$). The solution was further analyzed with the help of a UV-Visible spectrophotometer¹⁶ All samples were then tested in triplicate.

Photolytic Degradation:

To a clear volumetric flask, 1mL sample was added and then exposed to direct UV light for 1, 2 and 4 hours. All samples were then tested in triplicate.²⁰⁻²¹

3. Results and Discussion

Determination of absorption maxima (λ max):

The standard stock solution of barberin having the concentration 1000 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ was further diluted to 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ with methanol and water (50:50). The absorbance of solution was scanned in the range of 200-400 nm. The λ_{max} was found to be 348 nm as shown in figure 1.

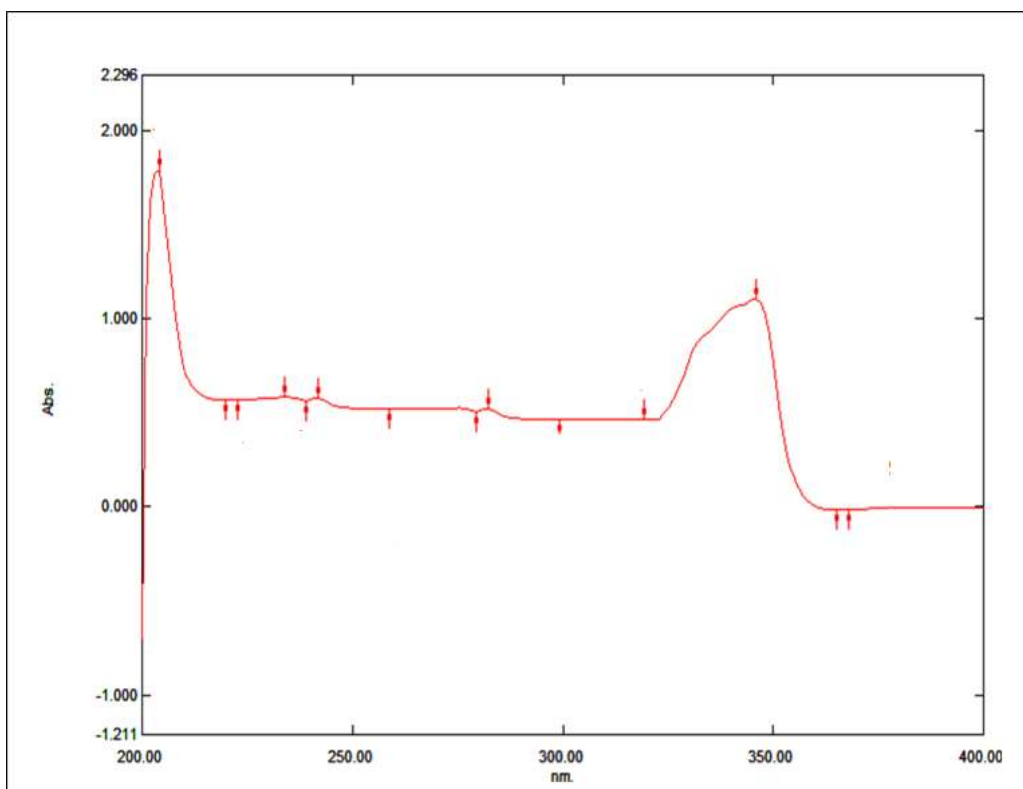


Fig. 1: Lambda Max of Barberin

Linearity:

The linearity study of the barberin was performed by plotting different concentrations of standard solution against their respective absorbance as shown in and figure 2 and table 1. The calibration curve was found to be linear having R^2 value 0.998 in the concentration range of 0-40 μ g/ml.

Sr. No.	Concentration (μ g/ml)	Absorbance at 348 nm \pm standard deviation
1	0	00 \pm 00
2	5	0.1843 \pm 0.0075
3	10	0.2343 \pm 0.0055
4	15	0.2955 \pm 0.0057
5	20	0.3363 \pm 0.0044
6	25	0.4908 \pm 0.0048
7	30	0.5335 \pm 0.0080
8	35	0.7454 \pm 0.0233
9	40	0.8628 \pm 0.0221

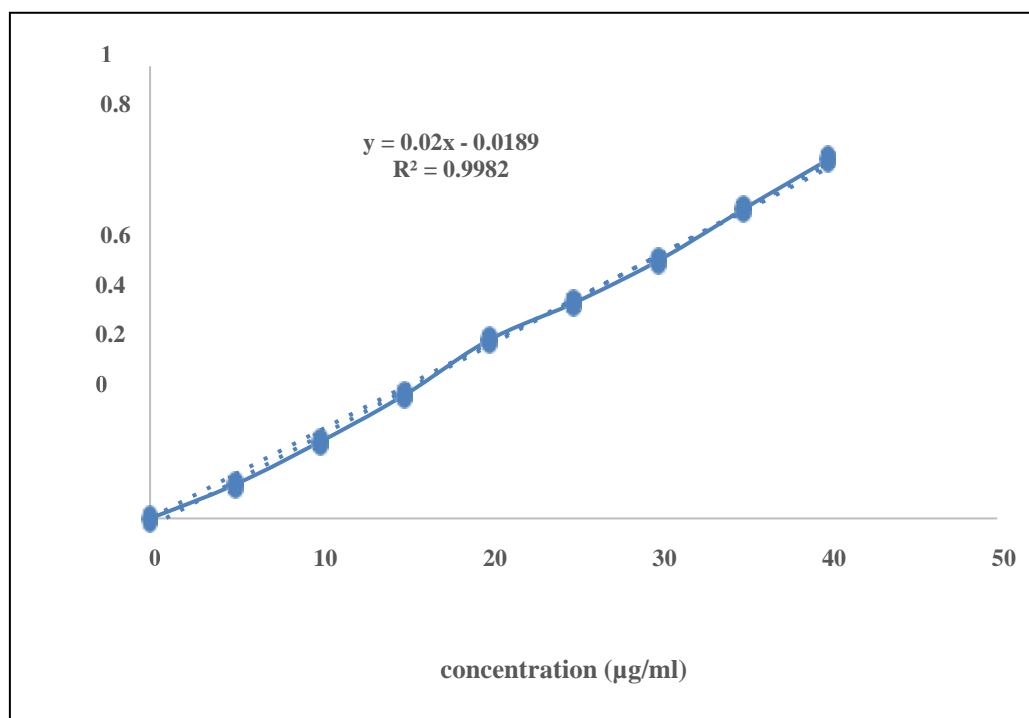


Fig.2: Standard Calibration Curve of Barberin

Precision:

Intraday precision

The intraday precision was determined by analyzing the drug in particular concentration for three times on the same day taking the time intervals of 4 h at 8:00 am, 12:00 noon and 4:00 pm respectively.

Inter-day precision

Precision was determined by measuring values of precision for 03 consecutive days. The values of relative standard deviation (%RSD) were in the range of 0.323 to 0.465% respectively. This indicates the reproducibility of the method. Results were shown in table 2. Results of precision shows that the current method is reliable and repeatable. Thus, the methodology can be applied for the determination of barberin in bulk and pharmaceutical dosage forms in treatment of diabetes malitus.²²

Table 1: Results for Intra-day and Inter-day precision of Barberin

Drug	Conc. (µg/ml)	Intra-day Mean Abs.	Absorbance ± S.D.	%RSD	Inter-day Mean Abs.	Absorbance ± S.D.	%RSD
Barberin	10	0.2354	±0.0053	0.421	0.2238	± 0.0064	0.321
	20	0.3334	±0.0083	0.345	0.3386	± 0.0073	0.367
	40	0.8645	±0.0118	0.253	0.8660	± 0.0126	0.282
Mean %RSD				0.339			0.323

* Each value represents mean ± S.D. of three observations

Repeatability

The repeatability of the developed method was validated by taking the absorbance of six samples of the same concentration (10 µg/ml) The SD and %RSD was in the given limits as shown in table 3. The Repeatability of the methodology is significant for routine and frequent result analysis of drugs in API. Results Confirms those results remains unchanged on repetition of developed methods.²³

Table 3: Data showing Repeatability of Absorbance

Sr. No.	Conc. ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	Absorbance	Mean \pm S.D.	%R.S.D
1		0.2340		
2		0.2232		
3		0.2384		
4	10	0.2235	0.2313 \pm 0.0052	0.465
5		0.2378		

* S.D. = Standard Deviation, R.S.D. = Relative Standard Deviation

Accuracy:

To analyze the accuracy of developed method, it was applied to analyze marketed available BRN tablet. 20 tablets were weighed and powdered. The amount of tablet powder equivalent to 50 mg of barberin was weighed accurately and transfer to 100 ml volumetric flask then 10 ml of methanol and water (1:1) ratio as a solvent was added and kept for 15-20 min with frequent shaking and volume was made up to mark with given solvent. The solution was then filtered through Whatman filter paper. This filtrate was diluted suitably with solvent to get the solution of 05 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ concentration. The absorbance was measured against blank solution. The recovery experiment was performed at three different levels that are 75%, 100%, 125%. To the preanalyzed sample solution, a known amount of standard drug solution was added at three different levels and absorbance was recorded. The drug content of the preparation was calculated using standard calibration curve.²⁴⁻²⁵ Amount of drug estimated by this method is given in (Table no. 4).

Table 3: Accuracy Study of Barberin

BRN ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	Level of addition (%)	Standard BRN added ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	Amount recovered ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	% Recovery	Average % Recovery
05	75	7.5	12.45	99.60	
05	100	10	14.97	99.87	
05	125	12.5	17.46	99.77	99.75

Ruggedness:

Ruggedness was determined by carrying out analysis by two different analysts and the respective percentage recovery was noted and the results were indicated as % RSD found as follows:

Analyst 1: Percentage recovery of BRN at 348 nm is 99.79 \pm 0.532

Analyst 2: Percentage recovery of BRN at 348 nm is 99.77 \pm 0.571

Summary Of Validation Parameters**Table 4:** Summary of validation parameters

Sr. No.	Parameters	Results
1	Absorption maxima (nm)	348 nm
2	Linearity range ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	0-40 $\mu\text{g/ml}$
3	Standard Regression Equation	$y = 0.04x + 0.056$
4	Correlation coefficient (R^2)	$R^2 = 0.998$
5	Specificity	A 10 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ solution of barberin in methanol and water (50:50) as a solvent at UV detection of 348 nm will show an absorbance value of 0.2313 \pm 0.0052
	% RSD Repeatability (n=5)	0.465
6	Intra-day(n=3)	0.339
	Inter-day(n=3)	0.323
9	LOD	0.0529 $\mu\text{g/ml}$
10	LOQ	0.2167 $\mu\text{g/ml}$
11	Molar Absorptivity	6.7536 $\times 10^4$ L/mol

Summary Of Stress Degradation Study

The effect of Acid/Base hydrolysis, Oxidation, Photo Degradation, Heat-induced degradation on the spectra was observed. On acid hydrolysis barberin do not showed any significant degradation or no additional peak of sample after 1hr, 2hr and 4hr at different process. In other cases, there was minor shift in peak that was not significant

Table 5: Summary of Stress Degradation Study

Degradation condition	Observed peak-348 nm	
	Time (Hr)	Reported peak (nm)
1 N HCL 1ml.	1	348
	2	348
	4	348
0.1 N NAOH 1ml	1	348
	2	348
	4	348
30% w/v of hydrogen peroxide 1ml	1	347
	2	348
	4	348
Dry heat 70° C	1	348
	2	347
	4	348
photostability chamber	1	348
	2	347
	4	347

4. Conclusion

A simple, accurate, precise and cost-effective UV-spectroscopic method has been developed for the estimation of barberin. The proposed method is successfully applied for estimation of BRN in marketed formulations. The method can be used for the routine quality control analysis of barberin. In force degradation studies as Acid/Base hydrolysis, Oxidation, Photo Degradation, Heat-induced degradation the spectra for acid degradation of barberin do not show any significant degradation or no additional peak of sample after 1hr, 2hr and 4hr at different process.

Conflict Of Interest

The authors declare that they don't have any competing interests.

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Authors' Contributions

MD research scholar who contributed in development of UV spectroscopic method and, force degradation studies of BRN and MD has major contributors in writing the manuscript, EB supervisors who contributed in research guidance and has major contribution in monitoring studies and discussion. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Abbreviations

1. UV-Ultraviolet
2. nm-Nanometer
3. µg-Microgram
4. ICH-International Conference of Harmonization.
5. % RSD-Percent Relative Standard Deviation
6. λ max-Lambda Maximum

7. S.D-Standard Deviation
8. RSD-Relative standard deviation.
9. BRN- Barberin

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