



# DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF RP-HPLC METHODS FOR SIMULTANEOUS ESTIMATION OF NIMESULIDE AND PANTOPRAZOLE IN SYNTHETIC MIXTURE

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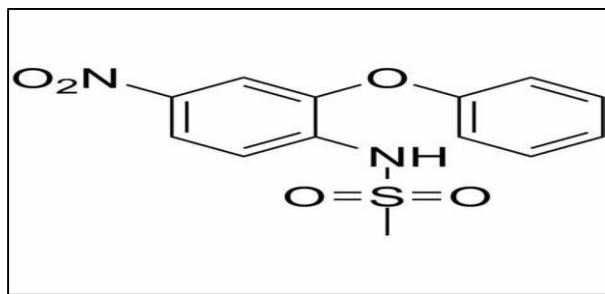
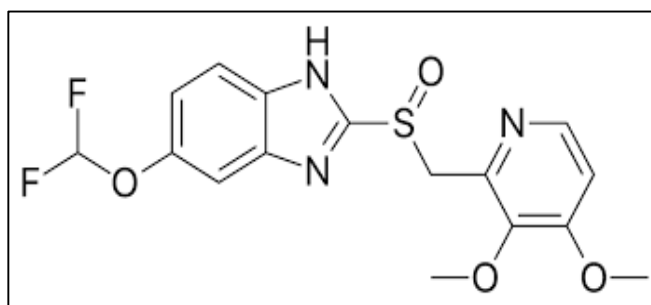
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**ABSTRACT:** It is simple, sensitive and accurate RP-HPLC method was developed for simultaneous estimation for Nimesulide and Pantoprazole. A reversed-phase high-performance liquid chromatography method is developed and validated for the determination of both drugs. With the help of RP-HPLC it gives us to good resolution and better separation for the both drugs. The separation was conducted by using Shimpack C18 column (250 mm×4.6 mm×5 μm) with mobile phase consisting ACN: Methanol: Water in ratio of (25:25:50%v/v/v). The mobile phase was delivered at the flow rate of 1.0 ml/min. The eluent was monitored at wavelength 270nm and found shorter retention time of Drug and peak shape was proper, resolution good of Pantoprazole and Nimesulide were found to be 9.69 min and 11.71 min respectively. The method was validated for linearity, accuracy, precision, system suitability, and stability. The method was found to be linear over the concentration range for PAN was 2-10 μg/ml and for NIM was 10-50 μg/ml with coefficient R<sup>2</sup> for PAN 0.9978 and NIM 0.9979. Therefore, proposed method can be successfully used for routine analysis of Nimesulide and Pantoprazole in bulk as well as synthetic mixture.

[**KEYWORDS:** Nimesulide (NIM), Pantoprazole (PAN), Reversed-Phase-High performance Liquid Chromatography (RP-HPLC).]

**INTRODUCTION:** Nimesulide is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medicine (NSAID) with capabilities for treating pain and lowering temperature. Its approved uses include the relief of severe pain, the symptomatic management of osteoarthritis, and the treatment of primary dysmenorrhea in adolescents and adults over the age of 12. A nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medication (NSAID), nimesulide primarily functions as a relatively selective cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitor. Pantoprazole was first studied in 1985, and in 1994 it was approved for medicinal usage in Germany. It is available as a generic drug. It's sold under the brand name Protonix, among others, is a proton pump inhibitor used for the treatment of stomach ulcer short-term treatment of erosive esophagitis due to gastroesophageal reflux diseases (GERD), maintenance of healing of erosive esophagitis, and pathological hypersecretory conditions including Zollinger Ellison syndrome. The investigation medicinal drug was once designed to deal with OA pain alongside with dyspepsia, frequent adverse effect of stand-alone osteoarticular pain (musculoskeletal) pain drugs. The study outcomes suggest that pantoprazole may also have really useful effects on gastrointestinal function. The need of validation of the analytical method development and validation emerged due to international competition, new development, maintaining the standard of products in high commercial & market value and ethical reasons. High Performance Liquid Chromatography is the most common analytical separation tool, components by distributing between mobile phase and stationary phase.

**STRUCTURAL FORMULA:****Figure 1. Structure formula of NIM****Figure 2. Structure formula of PAN**

**MATERIALS AND METHODS:** Sample of Nimesulide and Pantoprazole procured from Zota Healthcare Pvt Ltd, Surat, Gujarat.

**INSTRUMENT:** Instrument use for the development and validation for NIM and PAN are RP-HPLC (LC-20 AD from Shimadzu Lab).

**SELECTION OF DILUENT:** Based on solubility, Nimesulide (NIM) and Pantoprazole (PAN) was soluble in methanol. Hence, methanol was selected as diluent.

**PREPARATION OF STOCK SOLUTION:** Accurately weighed and transferred about 50 mg of Nimesulide (NIM) and 10mg of Pantoprazole (PAN) in to 100 ml of volumetric flask, 50 ml of methanol was added and sonicated to dissolve. Volume was making up to the mark with diluent. Concentration of Nimesulide (NIM) is 500 µg/ml and Pantoprazole (PAN) 100 µg/ml. Further diluted 5 ml of above solution to 50 ml volumetric flask and volume was make up to the mark with diluent. Concentration of Nimesulide (NIM) is 50 µg/ml and Pantoprazole (PAN) 10 µg/ml. The optimum wavelength was selected for the estimation was 270 nm where gives good absorbance.

**Preparation of Pantoprazole (PAN) solution:** Pipette out 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8 and 0.10 ml of Pantoprazole (PAN) 100 µg/ml in 10 ml of volumetric flask. Further diluted above solution to 10 ml volumetric flask and volume was make up to the mark with diluent to get 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 µg/ml concentration of Pantoprazole (PAN).

**Preparation of Nimesulide (NIM) solution:** Pipette out 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 ml of Nimesulide (NIM) 500 µg/ml in 10 ml of volumetric flask. Further diluted above solution to 10 ml volumetric flask and volume was make up to the mark with diluent to get 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 µg/ml concentration of Nimesulide (NIM).

**SELECTION OF MOBILE PHASE:** The water, buffer, pH of the buffer, organic solvent, and buffer-to-solvent ratio were all factors in the mobile phase selection process. The HPLC technique selection is influenced by the sample's nature, physicochemical properties, molecular weight, and solubility. pH management necessitates the use of a buffer. The pH of the acidic component is kept low, while the pH of the base is kept high. Separation, peak purity, tailing factor, theoretical plate, and other parameters were used to optimize the mobile phase for HPLC system. Various mobile phases in various compositions and pH levels were tried to achieve a sharp peak of Nimesulide (NIM) and Pantoprazole (PAN).

**SELECTION OF WAVELENGTH:** An ideal wavelength is the one that gives Maximum response for the drugs that was to be detected. For High Performance Liquid Chromatography system with PDA detector give 270 nm wavelength where both Nimesulide (NIM) and Pantoprazole (PAN) show good absorbance.

**PREPARATION OF MOBILE PHASE:** Acetonitrile, Methanol, and water were filled in different mobile phase reservoir after filter and sonicate to degas the mixture. Mobile phase Acetonitrile: Methanol: water in the volume ratio 25:25:50 v/v/v were used.

**SELECTION OF COLUMN:** Nimesulide (NIM) and Pantoprazole (PAN) are polar in nature. So, C18 analytical column were selected for HPLC method. The column was used Shimpack ODS C18 column (250 mm × 4.6 mm, 5 μm) was used for the development of the method.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION:**

### **OPTIMIZATION OF RP-HPLC CHROMATOGRAPHIC CONDITION:**

The method development, top priority was given for the complete separation of drugs by optimization of mobile phase. The chromatographic method was optimized by changing various parameters, such as pH of the mobile phase, organic solvent and buffer used in the mobile phase and composition of the mobile phase on trial error basis by varying one parameter and keeping all other conditions constant. Before beginning the method development, we need to review what is known about the sample; also, the goal of the analysis should be defined at this point and considerations must be given regarding how many samples will be analyzed and what HPLC equipment are available. The nature of the sample (e.g., whether it is hydrophilic or hydrophobic, whether it contains protolytic functions etc.) determines the best approach to HPLC method development. The objective is to develop HPLC method for determination of Pantoprazole (PAN) and Nimesulide (NIM) in bulk and synthetic mixture.

### **METHOD VALIDATION:**

**LINEARITY AND RANGE:** The linearity of an analytical method is its ability to elicit test results that are directly proportional to the concentration of analyte in samples within a given range. The linearity and range of the method was determined by plotting a calibration curve over the concentration range of 2 - 10 μg/ml for PAN and 10- 50 μg/ml for NIM, respectively. The calibration curve was constructed by plotting peak areas versus concentrations of 2 - 10 μg/ml for PAN and 10- 50 μg/ml for NIM, respectively shown in figure 3 and figure 4. Linearity Data shown Table 01. The regression equation was found to be  $y = 24108x - 9344.3$  and correlation coefficient was found to be 0.9978 for PAN. The regression equation was found to be  $y = 6721.8x + 977.5$  and correlation coefficient was found to be 0.9979 for NIM. Each response was the average of three determinations. The Statistical analysis data of calibration curve intercept, slope, and regression equation are shown in Table 02. The linearity of chromatogram over the concentration range of 2 - 10 μg/ml for PAN and 10- 50 μg/ml for NIM, respectively shown in chromatogram 6.22

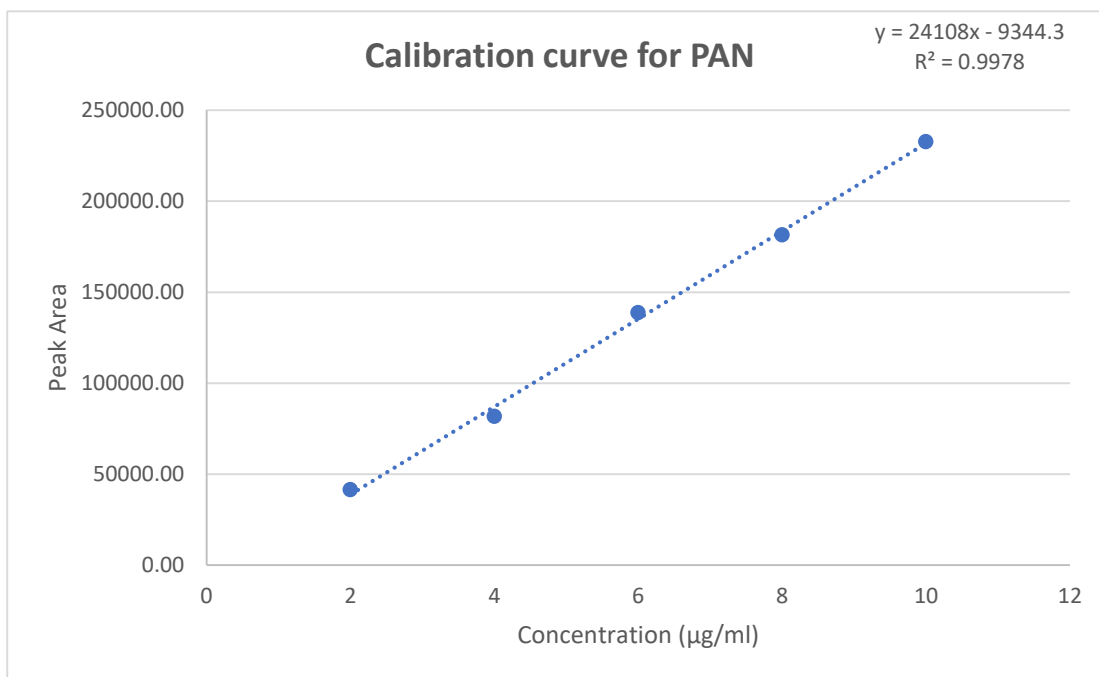


Figure 3. Calibration curve of PAN standard

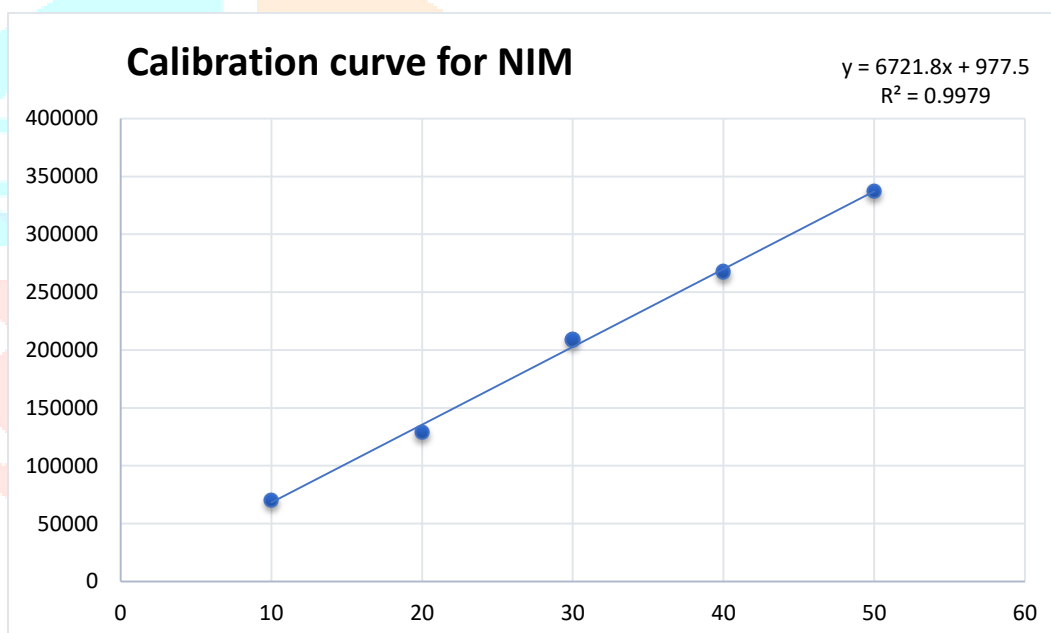


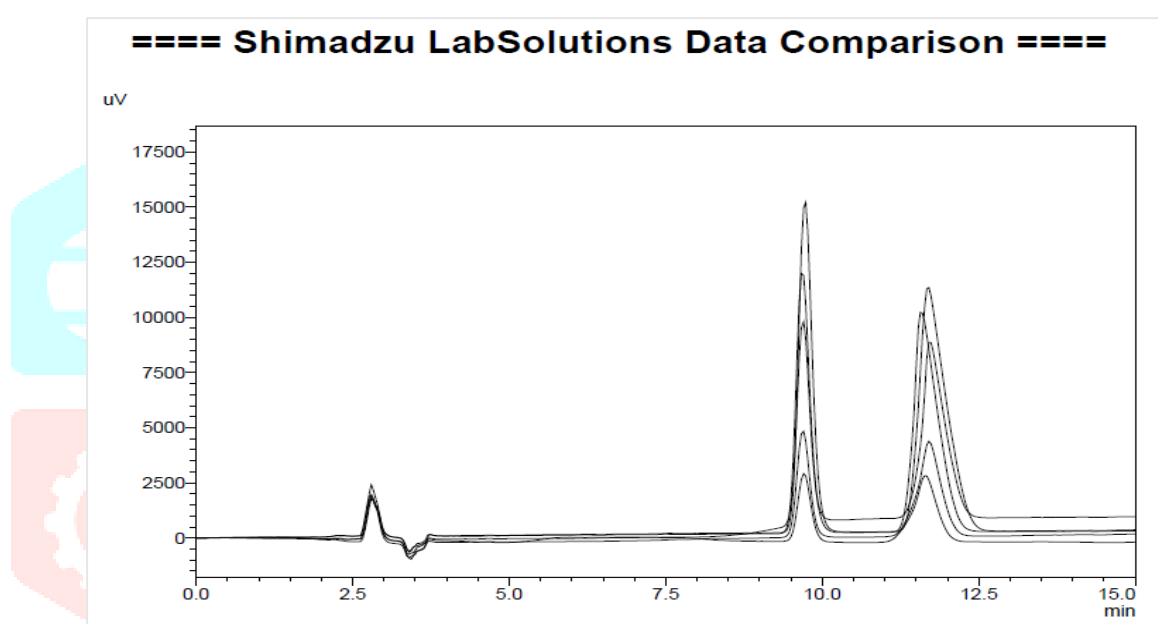
Figure 4. Calibration curve of NIM standard

Table 01. Linearity Data

Drug	Conc.	Peak Area	% RSD	Drug	Conc.	Peak Area	% RSD
PAN	2	41515.67 ± 725.96	1.75	NIM	10	70338 ± 567.07	0.81
	4	81899.17 ± 826.82	1.01		20	129055 ± 953.05	0.74
	6	138766 ± 878.34	0.63		30	209118 ± 3128.75	1.43
	8	181573 ± 1519.31	0.84		40	267388 ± 2631.72	0.99
	10	232756 ± 1780.36	0.76		50	337263 ± 5273.82	1.57

**Table 02. Statistical analysis data of calibration curve**

Parameters	PAN	NIM
Linear Range	2 – 10 µg/ml	10 – 50 µg/ml
Regression Equation	$y = 24108x - 9344.3$	$y = 6721.8x + 977.5$
Regression Coefficient ( $r^2$ )	0.9978	0.9979
Standard deviation of slope	143.01	562.51
Standard deviation of intercept	809.68	2654.33
LOD (µg/ml)	0.11	0.26
LOQ (µg/ml)	0.33	0.79



**Figure 5. The HPLC chromatogram over the concentration range of 2 - 10 µg/ ml for PAN and 10- 50 µg / ml for NIM.**

**PRECISION:** The repeatability of developed method was determined by analyzing 6µg/ml for PAN solution six times on the same day. The percentage RSD was found to be 0.87. The repeatability of developed method was determined by analyzing 30µg/ml for NIM solution six times on the same day. The percentage RSD was found to be 1.39. The results of repeatability data are shown in Table 3.

**Table 3. Repeatability study**

Concentration	PAN 6 (µg/ml)	NIM 30 (µg/ml)
Peak Area	139162	216118
	138068	218545
	139145	216525
	141125	222115
	138545	221351

	137651	214510
<b>Mean</b>	138949	218194
<b>SD</b>	1220.07	3037.47
<b>% RSD</b>	0.87	1.39

**SD: Standard Deviation**

**RSD: Relative Standard Deviation**

The results of the intermediate precision (Intraday precision and Interday precision) experiments are shown in Table 40 for PAN. Replicate analyses of three different concentrations PAN (2, 6, 10 µg/ml) solutions showed good reproducibility. The percentages RSD of intraday and interday studies were found to be 0.30–0.93% and 0.57–1.80% respectively for PAN. The results of the intermediate precision (Intraday precision and Interday precision) experiments are shown in Table 41 for NIM. Replicate analyses of three different concentrations NIM (10, 30, 60 µg/ml) solutions showed good reproducibility. The percentages RSD of intraday and interday studies was found to be 0.41 – 1.37 % and 0.46–1.91% respectively for NIM. The developed method was found to be precise and repeatable on the basis of the mean CV values for the repeatability and intermediate precision studies which were < 2 for PAN and NIM respectively. The separations of the drug and various degradation products in a mixture of stressed samples were found to be similar when the analyses were performed with an LC system on different days.

**Table 4. Intraday and Interday Precision study for PAN**

<b>Intraday Precision</b>		
<b>Conc. (µg/ml)</b>	<b>(Area ± S.D) (n=3)</b>	<b>% RSD</b>
2	42007.33 ± 389.08	0.93
6	138758.33 ± 599.28	0.43
10	231334.33 ± 692.08	0.30
<b>Inter day Precision</b>		
2	41190.67 ± 740.80	1.80
6	138773.67 ± 1252.75	0.90
10	233077.00 ± 1326.96	0.57

**n=Three determination**

**Table 5. Intraday and Interday Precision study for NIM**

<b>Intraday Precision</b>		
<b>Conc. (µg/ml)</b>	<b>(Area ± S.D) (n=3)</b>	<b>%RSD</b>
10	70186.67 ± 285.82	0.41

30	217062.67 ± 1759.66	0.81
50	335416.67 ± 4605.01	1.37
<b>Interday Precision</b>		
10	70566.33 ± 783.66	1.11
30	219325.33 ± 4187.66	1.91
50	333153.00 ± 1523.39	0.46

**n=Three determination**

**Accuracy:** The recovery of the method was carried out by the standard addition to the preanalysed test sample at three different concentration levels 50%, 100% and 150%. Triplicate determinations were made at each concentration level. The accuracy of the method was determined by calculating recoveries of 2, 4, 6 µg/ml of PAN and 10, 20, 30µg/ml of NIM in the preanalysed concentration 4 µg/ml Pantoprazole (PAN) and 20 µg/ml Nimesulide (NIM) by method of standard addition. The recoveries of PAN and NIM were calculated by putting the peak area of the added concentration of PAN and NIM in the regression equation of calibration curve respectively. The recoveries found to be 97.97 % - 102.74% for PAN and 96.49 % -102.30% for NIM, respectively. The result of the method is indicating good accuracy for chromatographic method. The accuracy result shown in Table 6.

**Table 6. Accuracy study**

Level	Drug added (µg/ml)	Drug Recovered (µg/ml) <sup>a</sup>	% Drug Recovered ± SD
<b>PAN</b>			
0	4	3.87	96.74 ± 0.68
50	6	6.16	102.63 ± 0.71
100	8	7.89	98.67 ± 0.26
150	10	10.08	100.75 ± 0.75
<b>NIM</b>			
0	20	19.30	96.49 ± 0.69
50	30	30.69	102.30 ± 1.42
100	40	39.55	98.87 ± 1.14
150	50	50.15	100.30 ± 1.59

*a=Average of Three determination*

**LIMIT OF DETECTION AND LIMIT OF QUANTITATION:** According to ICH, the approach based on the standard deviation of the response and mean of slope was used for determining the Limit of detection (LOD) and limit of quantitation (LOQ). The detection limits for PAN and NIM were found to be 0.11 µg/ml and 0.26 µg/ml respectively, while quantitation limits were found to be 0.33 µg/ml and 0.79 µg/ml respectively. The above data shows that a microgram quantity of PAN and NIM the drugs can be accurately and precisely determined. The values of LOD and LOQ of PAN and NIM respectively indicate the sensitivity of proposed method. Data shown in table no 7.

**Table 7. LOD and LOQ Data**

	NIM	PAN
<b>LOD</b>	0.26	0.11
<b>LOQ</b>	0.79	0.33

**ROBUSTNESS:** Robustness is the measure of the capacity of a method to remain unaffected by small variations in the method parameters. Robustness of the method was determined in triplicate at a concentration level of 6µg/ml for PAN and 30µg/ml for NIM. After small changes in this parameter effect peak areas were determined and mean and RSD of peak areas calculated. Deliberate changes in the following parameters which affects % assay of PAN and NIM system suitability parameters were studied.

- Change in % organic phase of mobile phase by  $\pm 5.0$  %
- Change in the flow rate of the mobile phase by  $\pm 10$  % of the original flow rate.
- Change in detection wavelength by  $\pm 5.0$  nm

The method was found to be robust, as small but deliberate changes in method parameters have no detrimental effect on the method performance as shown in table 8. The low value of percentage relative standard deviation indicates that the method is robust.

**Table 8. Robustness study**

Parameters	Change in condition	PAN		NIM	
		Peak Area	%RSD	Peak Area	%RSD
Flow rate Changed (1 ml/min)	0.9	143528.33	0.58	218727.00	1.36
	1.1	138046	0.73	219061.67	0.84
Mobile Proportion Changed Acetonitrile: Methanol: Water (25:25:50 % V/V/V)	Acetonitrile: Methanol: Water (30:25:45 % V/V/V)	137146.00	0.74	219561.67	1.41
	Acetonitrile: Methanol: Water (25:30:45 % V/V/V)	137612.67	1.08	219257.85	1.17
Detection wavelength (270nm)	265 nm	136830.00	0.88	219159.76	1.17
	275nm	138075.33	1.44	218365.00	1.56



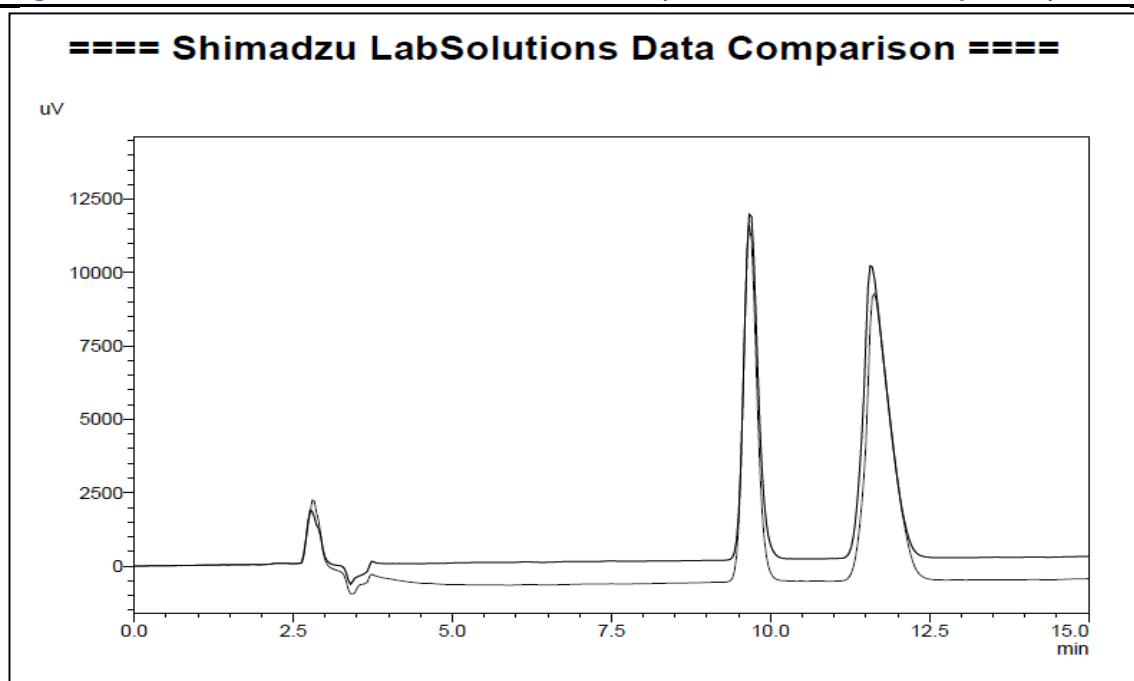
**SPECIFICITY:** Selectivity of a method refers to the extent to which it can determine particular analytes under given conditions in mixtures or matrices, simple or complex, without interferences from other components. The specificity study was carried out to check the interference from the excipients used in the formulations by preparing synthetic mixture containing both the drugs and excipients. The HPLC chromatogram showed peaks of the drugs PAN and NIM without any interfering peak and the estimation of both the drugs were found to be satisfactory. Test solution is prepared by mixing of PAN and NIM with the tablet powder excipients. Specificity is proven by comparing the chromatogram of Diluent, standard solution and test preparation solution and show that there was no any interference of excipients with the peak of PAN and NIM as shown in figure 6.

**ANALYSIS OF SYNTHETIC MIXTURE:** The developed RP-HPLC method was successfully applied for the estimation of Pantoprazole (PAN) and Nimesulide (NIM) in synthetic mixture. The chromatogram of sample showed only drug peaks at retention time (Rt) value of 9.69 and 11.71 minute for Pantoprazole (PAN) and Nimesulide (NIM), respectively, indicating that there is no interference of the excipients present in synthetic mixture. The content of Pantoprazole (PAN) and Nimesulide (NIM) was calculated by comparing peak areas of sample with that of the standard. The Synthetic mixtures were analyzed using proposed method which gave percentage recovery of more than  $97.08 \pm 1.06$  for Pantoprazole (PAN) and  $98.07 \pm 1.39$  for Nimesulide (NIM) (Table 9). No interference from the excipients present in the marketed tablet formulation was observed which is shown in figure 6.

**Table 9. Results of synthetic mixture**

Formula <sup>n</sup>	Drug	Amount Taken (µg/ml)	Amount Found <sup>n</sup> (µg/ml)	%PAN ± SD	%NIM ± SD
Synthetic mixture	Pantoprazole (PAN)	4	3.88	97.08 ± 1.06	98.07 ± 1.39
	Nimesulide (NIM)	20	19.61		

*n = Average of Three determination*



**Figure 6. overlay chromatogram of API and synthetic mixture of NIM and PAN**

**CONCLUSION:** Simple and sensitive RP-HPLC were developed for simultaneous estimation of Pantoprazole (PAN) and Nimesulide (NIM) in their synthetic mixture. RP-HPLC method was developed using Cyber Lib C18 (250 x 4.6mm, 5 $\mu$ m) column as a stationary phase and Acetonitrile: Methanol: Water (25:25:50 % V/V/V) as mobile phase. The flow rate was maintained at 1 ml/ min and detection was carried out at 270 nm where Pantoprazole (PAN) and Nimesulide (NIM) have significant absorbance. The retention times of Pantoprazole (PAN) and Nimesulide (NIM) was found to be 9.69 minute and 11.70 minute respectively. RP-HPLC method is linear in the concentration range of 2- 10  $\mu$ g / ml for PAN and 10- 50  $\mu$ g/ ml for NIM, with correlation coefficient found to be 0.9978 for PAN and 0.9979 for NIM. The recovery was in the range of be 96.74 % - 102.63% for PAN and 96.49 %- 102.30% for NIM, respectively. The detection limits for Pantoprazole (PAN) and Nimesulide (NIM) were found to be to be 0.11  $\mu$ g/ml and 0.26  $\mu$ g/ml respectively, while quantitation limits were found to be 0.33  $\mu$ g/ml and 0.79  $\mu$ g/ml respectively. The method was found to be accurate, precise, specific, selective, repeatable, robust and reproducible.

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