

## Development and Validation of RP-HPLC Method for Estimation of Salmeterol Xinafoate and Fluticasone in Pharmaceutical Dosage Form

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### Abstract:

A simple, specific, accurate stability indicating RP-HPLC method was developed for assay of Salmeterol xinafoate and Fluticasone propionate in Mdi using Hypersil BDS C18 column (15 cm x 4.6 mm, 5  $\mu$ m) Column and a mobile phase composing of Buffer: Acetonitrile: (35:65) v/v. The flow rate was 2.0 ml/min and the effluent was monitored at 220 nm. The retention time was 3.66  $\pm$  0.1 min and 9.225  $\pm$  0.1 min. The method was statistically validated for specificity, accuracy, precision, linearity, robustness and solution stability. Quantitative and recovery studies of the dosage form were also carried out and the % RSD was found to be less than 2. The developed method is simple, rapid and accurate and hence can be used for routine quality control analysis.

### Introduction:

The chemical name of **fluticasone propionate** is S-Fluoromethyl 6, 9-difluoro-11 $\beta$ -hydroxy- 16-methyl-3-oxo-17 -propionyloxy-androsta-1, 4-diene-17 $\beta$ -carbothioate. It has a molecular formula of C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>31</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S and a molecular weight of 500.6.

The chemical name of **salmeterol xinafoate** is 4-Hydroxy'-[6-(4-phenylbutoxy)hexyl]amino]-methyl]-1,3-benzenedimethanol,1-hydroxyl-2-naphthoate. It has a molecular formula of C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>37</sub>N<sub>4</sub>.C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and a molecular weight of 603.8.

**Fluticasone propionate** is a white to off-white powder. It is freely soluble in dimethyl sulfoxide and dimethylformamide, sparingly soluble in acetone, dichloromethane, ethyl acetate and chloroform, slightly soluble in methanol and 95% ethanol, and practically insoluble in water.

**Salmeterol xinafoate** is a white to off-white crystalline powder. It is freely soluble in methanol, slightly soluble in ethanol, chloroform, and isopropanol, and sparingly soluble in water.

Literature surveys revealed that sensitive LC-MS methods are available for analysis of anti diabetic drugs and its metabolites in human plasma and urine. Several HPLC methods have been developed individually and combined dosage forms in human plasma. Even though stability indicating methods are developed for individual Anti asthametic drugs. Present study aimed for the easy specific precise and accurate earlier those than reported methods by reverse phase HPLC method. The method was validated according to the ICH (Q2A) guidelines.

### Selection of wavelength

10  $\mu$ g/mL solution of Salmeterol xinafoate and 10  $\mu$ g/mL solution of Fluticasone propionate was prepared using methanol as solvent. The above mentioned solutions were scanned individually from 190 to 400 nm in UV-Visible spectrophotometer. The optimal response for the overlain spectrum of Salmeterol xinafoate obtained at 225 and Fluticasone propionate was obtained at 259 nm.

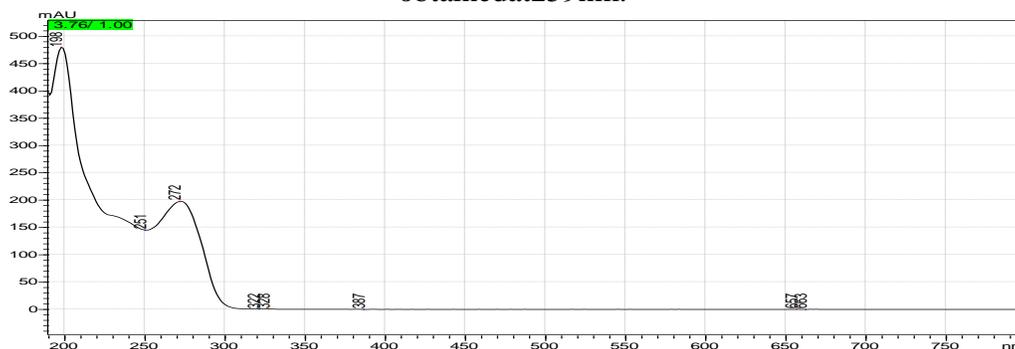
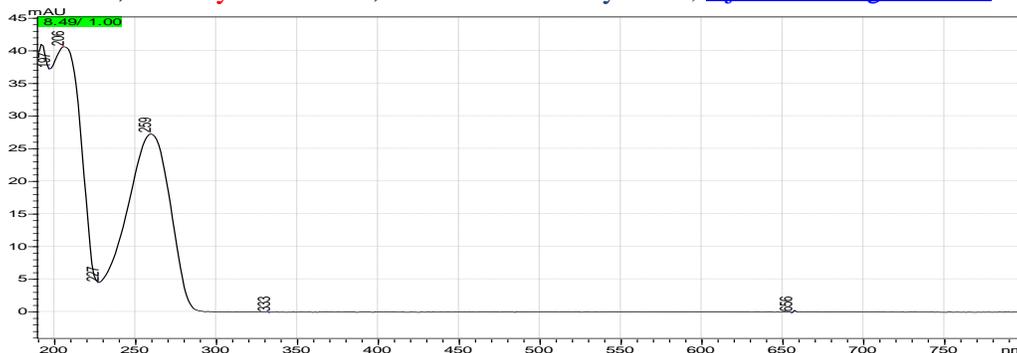


Figure No.1 : UV Spectrum of Salmeterol Xinafoate



**Figure No. 2:UV Spectrum of Fluticasone Propionate**

Several trials were made to get good peak resolution, acceptable plate count and tailing factor. Method was optimized for the simultaneous estimation of Salmeterol xinafoate and Fluticasone propionate pharmaceutical dosage form.

**OPTIMIZED METHOD**

**Mobile phase** : phosphate buffer (pH 2.8): acetonitrile 35:65 v/v)

**Diluent** : Mobile phase was used as diluent.

**Chromatographic conditions**

**Flow rate** : 1 ml per min

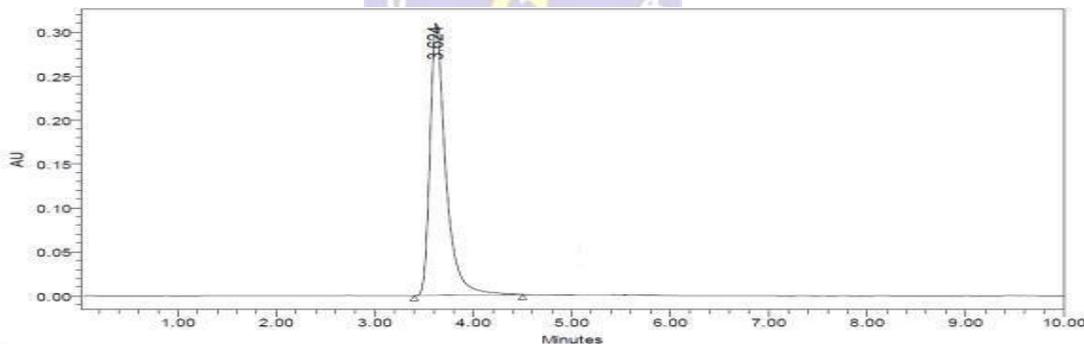
**Column** : Hypersil BDS C18 column (15 cm x 4.6 mm, 5 μm).

**Detector wavelength** : 225 nm

**Column oven** : Ambient

**Injection volume** : 20 μl

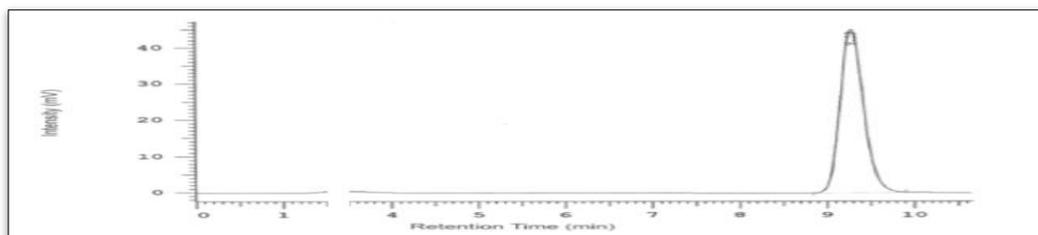
**Runtime** : 10 min



**Figure No. 3: Standard Chromatogram for Salmeterol Xinafoate**

**Table No. 1 : Standard Chromatogram for Salmeterol Xinafoate**

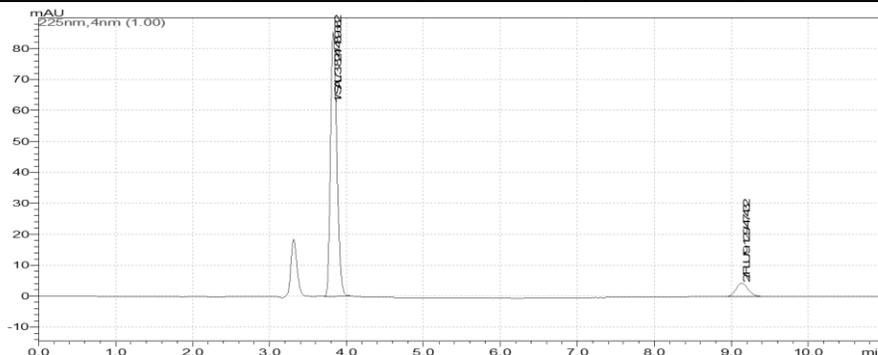
Name	Retention Time	Area	USP Tailing	USP Plate count
Salmeterol Xinafoate	3.661	3463416	1.5	4890



**Figure No. 4: Standard Chromatogram for Fluticasone Propionate**

**Table No. 2: Standard Chromatogram for Fluticasone Propionate**

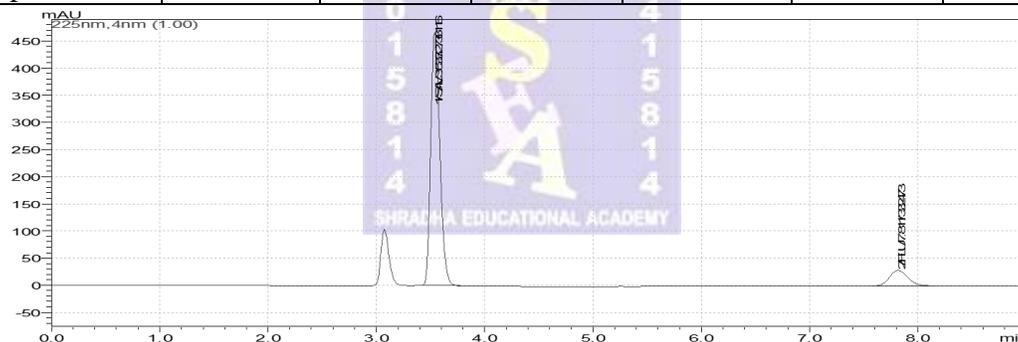
Name	Retention Time	Area	USP Tailing	USP Platecount
Fluticasone Propionate	9.225	3043425	1.2	36568



**Figure No. 5: Standard Chromatogram for Optimized Method**

**Table No. 3: Standard Chromatogram for Optimized Method**

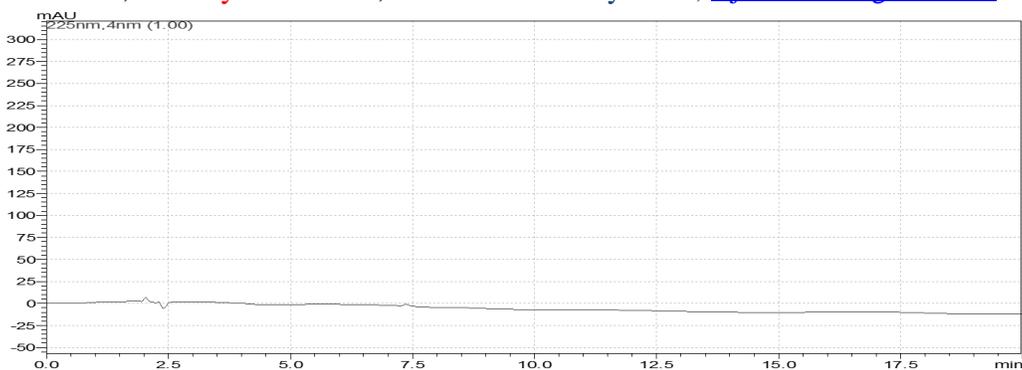
Name	Retention Time	Area	USP Resolution	USP Tailing	USP Platecount
Salmeterol Xinafoate	3.824	489382	9.3	1.5	4890
Fluticasone Propionate	9.129	47432	5.1	1.4	3586



**Figure No. 6: Sample Chromatogram for Optimized Method**

**Table No. 4: Sample Chromatogram for Optimized Method**

Name	Retention Time	Area	USP Resolution	USP Tailing	USP Platecount
Salmeterol Xinafoate	3.533	2736116		1.5	4874
Fluticasone Propionate	7.811	332473	5.1	1.4	3579



**Figure No. 7: Blank Chromatogram for Optimized Method**  
**Table No. 5: Blank Chromatogram for Optimized Method**

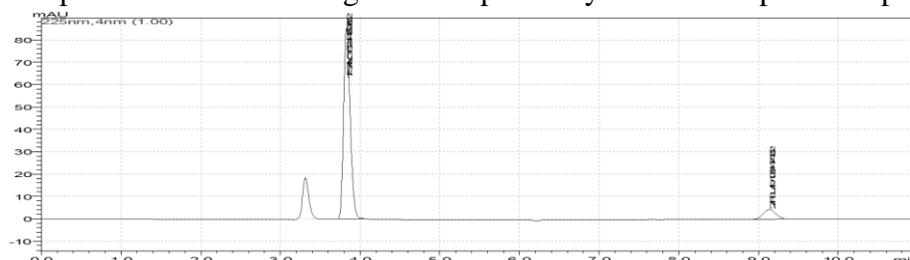
<b>Table No. 04: Results for Standard and Samples</b>				
<b>Sr.No.</b>	<b>Name of the drug</b>	<b>Concentration</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Retention Time</b>
1.	Salmeterol Xinafoate Standard	100µg/ml	3463416	3.661
2.	Fluticasone Propionate Standard	100µg/ml	3043425	9.225
3.	Salmeterol Xinafoate and Fluticasone Propionate Standard Solution	100µg/ml	489382 and 47432	3.824 and 9.129
4.	Cypos Powder for Inhalation	100µg/ml	2736116 and 332473	3.533 and 7.811

The retention times for Salmeterol xinafoate and Fluticasone propionate standard solution were found to be 3.824 and 9.129 respectively. Percentage purity of Salmeterol xinafoate and Fluticasone propionate found to be 98.7% w/w and 98.8% w/w respectively. Resolution between two analytes is good. No peak asymmetry was observed. No other impurity interference was seen. All the results were found to be within the acceptance criteria. Hence the method was considered to be optimized. Results are given in Table No. 4.

**METHOD VALIDATION:**

**SPECIFICITY:**

The chromatograms of standard and sample are identical with nearly same retention time. No interference due to placebo and sample at the retention time of analyte which shows that the method was specific. The chromatograms for specificity studies sample are represented as Figure



No.17.

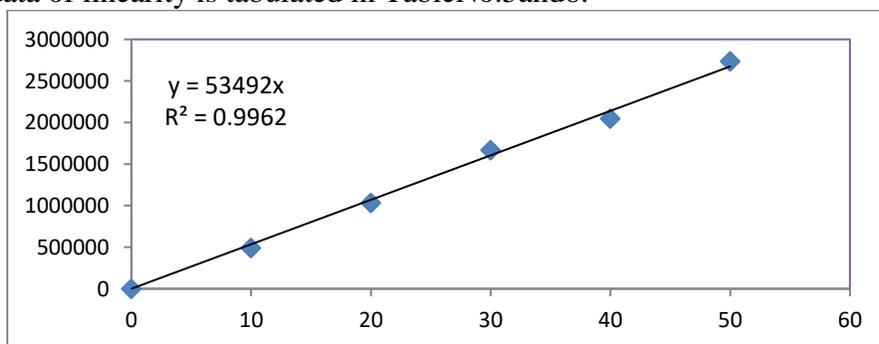
**Figure No. 8: Standard Chromatogram for Salmeterol Xinafoate and Fluticasone Propionate Identification**

**Figure No. 6: Standard Chromatogram for Salmeterol Xinafoate and Fluticasone Propionate Identification**

Name	Retention Time	Area	USP Resolution	USP Tailing	USP Platecount
Salmeterol Xinafoate	3.824	489382		1.5	4890
Fluticasone Propionate	9.129	47432	5.1	1.4	3586

**LINEARITY:**

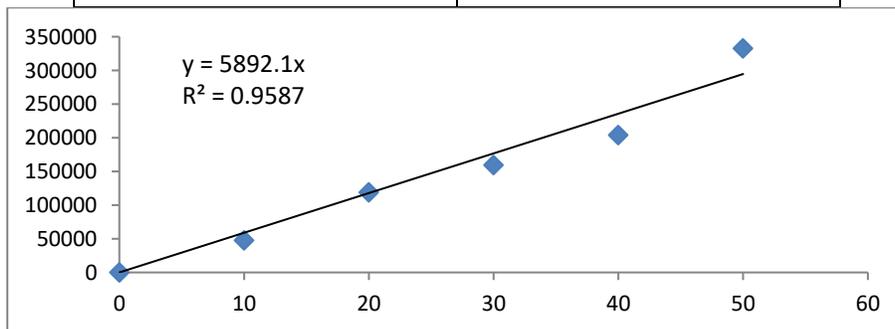
Linearity study was performed in the concentration range of 10-50 µg / ml. The Chromatograms for the linearity are shown in Figure No. 18. The linearity curve is plotted and shown in Fig.No.10 and 11. The data of linearity is tabulated in Table No.5 and 6.



**Figure No. 9 : Calibration Curve of Salmeterol Xinafoate**

**Table No. 7: Linearity results for Salmeterol Xinafoate**

Concentration (µg/ml)	Area
10	489382
20	1031852
30	1666491
40	2046833
50	2736116

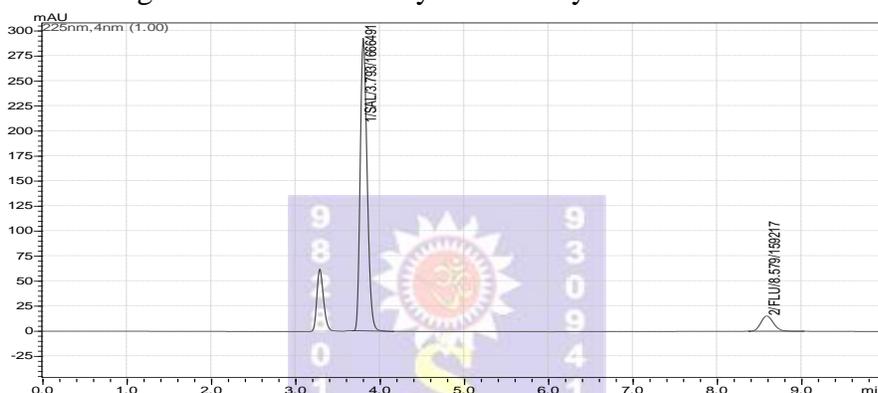


**Figure No.10: Calibration Curve of Fluticasone Propionate**

Concentration ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	Area
10	47432
20	118971
30	159217
40	203813
50	332473

**ACCURACY:**

The percentage recoveries of pure drug from the analyzed solution of formulation are calculated in the recovery range from 50% to 150%. Standard and sample chromatograms for linearity are shown in Fig.No.11. The summary of accuracy results are further tabulated.



**Fig No.11: Standard Chromatogram for Accuracy**

**Table No.9: Standard Chromatogram for Accuracy**

Name	Retention time	Area	USP Resolution	USP Tailing	USP Plate count
SAL	3.793	1666491	91.2791	1.350	7931.765
FLU	8.579	159217	8.7209	1.181	14450.937

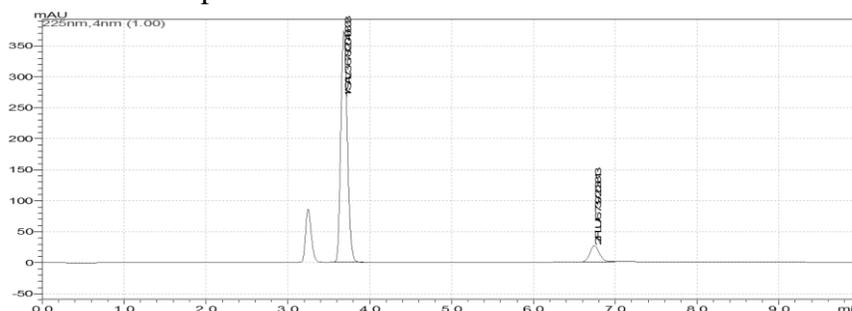
**Table No. 10: % Recovery Results for Salmeterol Xinafoate**

Sample No.	Spike Level	Amount ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ ) added	Amount found ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	% Recovery	Mean % Recovery
1	50%	5	4.96	99.2%	100.3%
		5	4.99	99.8%	
		5	5.1	102%	
2	100%	10	9.92	99.2%	99.4%
		10	9.94	99.4%	
		10	9.98	99.8%	

3	150%	15.3	15.1	98.6%	99.3%
		15.3	15.2	99.3%	
		15.3	15.3	100%	
<b>TableNo.11:%RecoveryResultsforFluticasone Propionate</b>					
Sample No.	Spike Level	Amount (µg/ml) added	Amount found (µg/ml)	% Recovery	Mean % Recovery
1	50%	5	4.9	98%	100%
		5	5.1	102%	
		5	5	100%	
2	100%	10	9.88	98.8%	99.13%
		10	9.91	99.1%	
		10	9.95	99.5%	
3	150%	14.8	14.72	99.4%	99.69%
		14.8	14.79	99.9%	
		14.8	14.77	99.79%	

The % recovery for 50%, 100% and 150% accuracy level of Salmeterol xinafoate and Fluticasone propionate was found to be within the range of 99.3-100.3% and 99.13-100% respectively (98.0 to 102.0%).

**PRECISION:** The RSD of % Recovery for Salmeterol xinafoate and Fluticasone propionate chromatograms of repeatability precision and intermediate precision is calculated. It passes repeatability and intermediate precision.



**Figure No. 12: Standard Chromatogram for Precision**  
**Table No. 12: Standard Chromatogram for Precision**

Name	Retention Time	Area	USP Resolution	USP Tailing	USP Platecount
SAL	3.678	2046833	90.9442	1.252	8000.758
FLU	6.739	203813	9.0558	1.193	14609.097

**LIMIT OF DETECTION (LOD):**

The limit of detection was calculated from the linearity curve method using slope, and standard deviation of intercepts of calibration curve. Limit of Detection was found to be 0.003 µg/ml for Salmeterol xinafoate and 0.09 µg/ml for Fluticasone propionate.

**Calculation of S/N Ratio for Salmeterol Xinafoate:**

Average baseline noise obtained from blank: 52 µV

Signal obtained from LOD solution (0.25% of target assay concentration): 154 µV  
 $S/N = 154/52 = 2.96$

**Calculation of S/N Ratio for Fluticasone Propionate:**

Average baseline noise obtained from blank: 52 µV

Signal obtained from LOD solution (0.3% of target assay concentration): 155 µV  
 $S/N = 155/52 = 2.98$

**Limit of detection was found to be 2.96 for Salmeterol Xinafoate and 2.98 for Fluticasone Propionate.**

**LIMIT OF QUANTIFICATION (LOQ):**

The limit of quantification was calculated from the linearity curve method using slope, and standard deviation of intercepts of calibration curve.

**Calculation of S/N Ratio for Salmeterol Xinafoate:**

Average baseline noise obtained from blank: 52 µV

Signal obtained from LOQ solution (1% of target assay concentration): 522 µV  
 $S/N = 522/52 = 10$

**Calculation of S/N Ratio for Fluticasone Propionate:**

Average Baseline Noise obtained from Blank: 52 µV

Signal Obtained from LOQ solution (1.0% of target assay concentration): 519 µV  
 $S/N = 519/52 = 9.98$

**Limit of quantification was found to be 10 for Salmeterol Xinafoate and 9.98 for Fluticasone Propionate.**

**ROBUSTNESS:**

Table No. 13: Robustness Results for Salmeterol Xinafoate			
Sr.No.	Flow Rate (ml/min)	System Suitability Results	
		USP Platecount	SPTailing
1	0.4	4859	1.62
2	0.5	4890	1.58
3	0.6	4895	1.58

\*Results for actual flow (0.5 ml/min) have been considered from assay standard

Table No. 14: Robustness Results for Fluticasone Propionate			
Sr.No.	Flow Rate (ml/min)	System Suitability Results	
		USP Platecount	SPTailing
1	0.5	3330.4	1.52
2	0.7	3437.6	1.47
3	0.9	3228.7	1.47

\*Results for actual flow (0.5 ml/min) have been considered from assay standard.

Table No. 15: Robustness Results for Salmeterol Xinafoate			
Sr.No	Change in Organic Composition in The Mobile Phase	System Suitability Results	
		USP Platecount	USP Tailing
1	10% less	4899	1.52
2	*Actual	4857	1.52
3	10% more	4879	1.61

Table No. 16: Robustness Results for Fluticasone Propionate			
Sr.No	Change in Organic Composition in The Mobile Phase	System Suitability Results	
		USP Platecount	USP Tailing
1	10% less	3887	1.42
2	*Actual	3437	1.42
3	10% more	3985	1.51

\*Results for actual mobile phase composition (65:35 acetonitrile: phosphate buffer) has been considered for accuracy standard.

The %RSD of retention time and asymmetry were within limits for variation ( $\pm 2\%$ ) in composition of mobile phase. Hence the method was found to be robust.

**SYSTEMSUITABILITY:** From the system suitability studies it was observed that %RSD of retention time was found to be 0.2, %RSD of peak area was found to be 0.2. All the parameters were within the limit. The results of system suitability studies are tabulated.

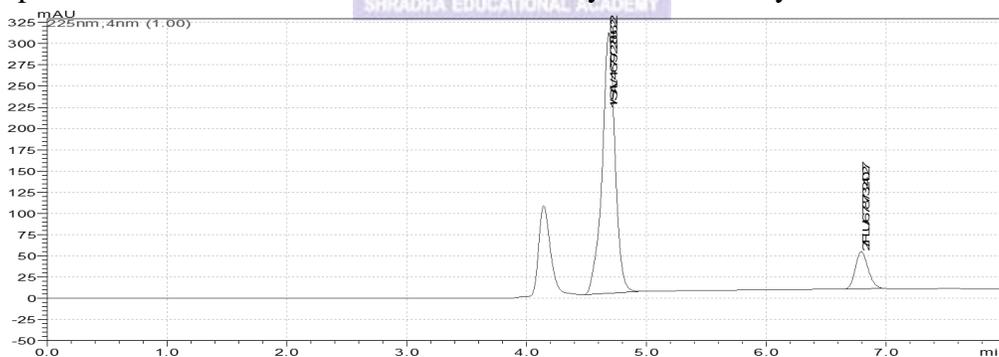


Figure No. 13: Standard Chromatogram for System suitability  
 Table No. 17: Standard Chromatogram for System suitability

Name	Retention Time	Area	USP Resolution	USP Tailing	USP Platecount
SAL	4.675	2208291	87.2155	1.119	8250.910
FLU	6.563	323703	12.7845	1.223	13383.445

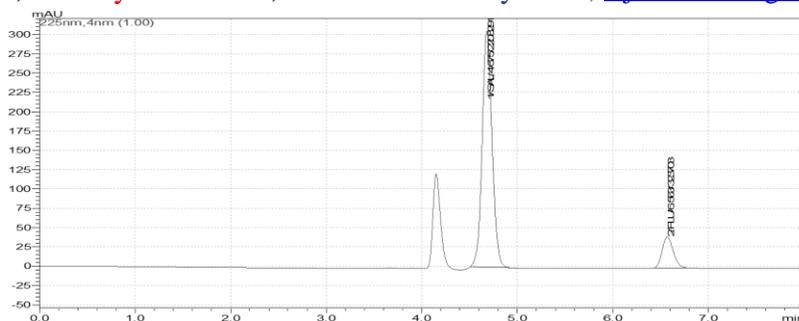


Figure No. 14: Sample Chromatogram for System suitability

Name	Retention time	Area	USP Resolution	USP Tailing	USP Platecount
SAL	4.679	2288622	87.5978	0.978	7998.670
FLU	6.787	324027	12.4022	1.239	16419.708

Table No. 18 :Summary Of Results Of Method Validation For Salmeterol Xinafoate And Fluticasone Propionate

Sr. No.	Parameter	Requirement	Results		Acceptance criteria
			SAL	FLU	
1.	Specificity	Nointerference	Pass	Pass	Nointerference
2.	Linearity	Correlation coefficient	0.9998	0.9997	NLT0.999
3.	Accuracy	50% recovery	100.3%	100%	100± 2.0%
		100% recovery	99.4%	99.13%	
		150% recovery	99.3%	99.69%	
4.	Precision (repeatability)	%RSD	0.42	0.36	NMT2%
5.	Intermediate precision	%RSD	0.03	0.89	NMT1%
6.	Robustness	%RSD	0.43	0.36	NMT1%
7.	System suitability	RT	4.679	6.787	-
8.		Tailing factor	1.6	1.4	NMT2
9.		Platecount	4859	3330	NLT3000
10.		Assay value	98.7%	98.8%	100± 2.0%

**Conclusion:**

An reversed phase high performance liquid chromatographic method was developed and validated for the determination of Salmeterol and Fluticasone in pharmaceutical dosage form as a single component. This chromatographic assay fulfilled all the requirements needed for it to be

identified as a reliable and feasible method, including accuracy, recovery and precision data. It is highly accurate, precise and selective. The analytical procedure and its chromatographic run time is less than 10 min. Therefore, the HPLC method can be used as a routine sample analysis for stability study purposes

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