ห้องสมุดงานวิจัย สำนักงานคณะกรรมการวิจัยแห่งชาติ

# SIMULTANEOUS DETERMINATION OF HYDROQUINONE, RETINOIO ACID AND CORTICOSTEROIDS IN WHITENING PRODUCTS BY HPLC-MS

LAWENG NILMANEE

A Thesis Submitted to the Graduate School of Naresuan University in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Master of Science Degree in Medical Sciences

May 2012

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This thesis entitled "Simultaneous determination of hydroquinone, retinoic acid and corticosteroids in whitening products by HPLC – MS" submitted by Laweng Nilmanee in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Science Degree in Medical Sciences is hereby approved.

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#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This thesis could not be achieved and accomplished without the cooperation between the Medical Sciences Department (Ownership) and Naresuan University (Co-Ownership) under MOU plan. I am grateful to thank the former Director-General of Department of Medical Sciences, Dr. Paijit Warachit, the former dean of the Faculty of Medical Science, Associate Professor Dr. Rosarin Wongvilairat and the former president of Naresuan University, Associate Professor Dr. Monthon Sanguansermsri.

I would like to express my deepest and sincere gratitude to my advisor, Associate Professor Dr. Sukkid Yasothornsrikul, Vice President of Naresuan University who gave beneficial guidance, encouragement, valuable advice, critical proofreading throughout the research and thereby making this thesis work successful. My sincerely appreciation and regard are express to my co-advisor, Mrs. Nawaporn Anantasinkul, for her generosity and valuable suggestion during the course of my work.

The author is sincerely grateful to Dr. Saisiri Mirasena and Dr. Angkana Herunsalee for their worth comments and suggestions. My appreciation also extends to all thesis committees for their valuable comments and suggestions.

Furthermore, I would especially like to thank Mrs. Hansa Chaivanit, the director of Bureau of Cosmetics and Hazardous Substances, Department of Medical Sciences Ministry of Public Health Nonthaburi, for kindly permitting her on leave for the study. This research was financially support by Department of Medical Sciences Ministry of Public Health. Deep appreciation to the director Bureau National Institute of Health, Department of Medical Sciences Ministry of Public Health, Mrs. Puntip Teeyapan and Mr. Sathaporn Ramchiun for their laboratory facilties and providing the instrument service. I also would like to thank all of my friends for their help. Particularly, many thanks go to Mrs. Sudtida Meethong, Medical Scientist Senior Professional, for her suggestion and cheerful perspective.

Finally, I do extremely appreciate and deeply thank to my beloved parents and my family for their love, understanding and encouragement throughout my entire study.

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Academic Paper Thesis M.S. in Medical Sciences, Naresuan University, 2011

**Keywords** Hydroquinone, Retinoic acid, Corticosteroids, HPLC-MS

#### **ABSTRACT**

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Hydroquinone, retinoic acid and corticosteroids are sometimes used in cosmetic products, especially those claimed to have whitening effects. These compounds are prohibited substances and can cause long-term health problems for consumers. Routinely, they can be identified initially by thin layer chromatography, and confirmed by HPLC method. However, these methods of detection are low in efficiency and very much time-consuming. The objective of this study was to establish new strategies to simultaneously detect, confirm and determine hydroquinone (HQ), retinoic acid (RA), betamethasone (BM), betamethasone 17-valerate (BMV), dexamethasone (DM), hydrocortisone acetate (HCA), prednisolone (PRL) and triamcinolone acetonide (TA) in whitening products using HPLC - MS in a single test. A reversed phase high performance liquid chromatography/electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (HPLC/ESI-MS) method has been developed and validated for the simultaneous determination of hydroquinone, retinoic acid, betamethasone, betamethasone 17-valerate, dexamethasone, hydrocortisone acetate, prednisolone and triamcinolone acetonide in cosmetic products. The presence of these substances in cosmetic products is prohibited. Analytes were directly extracted by sonication in a methanol. The separation was achieved on a Hypersil BDS C8 column (150 mm x 3 mm, 3 µm) using a step gradient elution with mobile phase of 0.1% formic acid in water and acetonitrile at a flow rate of 0.5-0.55 mL/min. The column temperature was maintained at 25 °C. The samples are analyzed in selected ion monitoring using the

typical fragmentation in positive mode where the molecular related ions (M+H) were generated for each analyte, at m/z 111.1, 301.2, 393.1, 477.2, 393.1, 405.2, 361.2 and 435.2 for HQ, RA, BM, BMV, DM, HCA, PRL and TA, respectively. Protonated molecular ions were monitored for all analytes. The retention times of HO, PRL, BM, DM, TA, HCA, BMV and RA were 2.8, 15.9, 25.1, 26.8, 33.1, 33.8, 47.0 and 60.3 minutes, respectively. The validation data showed the system linearity over the concentration range of 1.5-60, 0.05-2, 0.4-16.3, 0.1-4.2, 0.4-16.7, 0.2-8.3, 0.2-8.1 and 0.2-8.2 µg/mL for HQ, RA, BM, BMV, DM, HCA, PRL and TA, respectively, with correlation coefficients (r) higher than 0.995 and correlation coefficients of method linearity were higher than 0.998. Average recoveries were ranged from 95.5-109.3%. For repeatability, relative standard deviations were ranged of 0.84-1.81%. There is no significant difference between test results of different time (p>0.05). The limits of detection were from 0.0001-0.003% w/w and the limits of quantitation were ranged from 0.0004-0.01% w/w. For specificity, there was no interfering peak due to matrix blank. The expanded relative measurement uncertainties were ranged from 3.03-8.86% of reported concentration at 95% confidence level. The validation data was within the specification of the analytical method and showed the validity of the method. The new method could probably be further developed for ASEAN cosmetic standard method (ACM).

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#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ANOVA = analysis of variance

AOAC = Association of Official Analytical Chemists

APCI = atmospheric pressure chemical ionization

APPI = atmospheric photo ionization

BM = betamethasone

BMV = betamethasone17-valerate

BP = boiling point

BSA = N,O-bis (trimethylsilyl) acetamide

°C = degree celsius

DC = direct-current

DM = dexamethasone

EIC = extracted ion chromatogram

ESI = Electrospray ionization

eV = Electron volt

FID = flame ionization detection

fmol = femtomole

FDA = Food and Drug Administration

g = gram

GC = gas chromatography

g/cm<sup>3</sup> = grams per cubic centimeter

GC-MS = gas chromatography mass spectrometry

HCA = hydrocortisone acetate

HPLC = High performance liquid chromatography

HPLC-MS = High performance liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry

HPLC-ESI-MS = High performance liquid chromatography-elecrospray

ionization-mass spectrometry

HQ = hydroquinone

I.D. = inside diameter

ISO/IEC = International Organization of Standardization/International

**Electrotechnical Commission** 

#### **ABBREVIATIONS (CONT.)**

IUPAC = International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry

kV = kilovolt

LC = liquid chromatography

LC-MS = liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry

LC-MS/MS = liquid chromatography mass spectrometry mass spectrometry

 $LD_{50}$  = Median lethal dose, the quantity of a chemical that is

estimated to be fatal to 50% of the organisms tested

L/min = liter per minute

LOD = limit of detection

LOQ limit of quantitation

m = meter

MALDI = matrix assisted laser desorption ionization

 $(M - H)^{-}$  = deprotonated molecular ion  $(M + H)^{+}$  = protonated molecular ion

mg = milligram

mg/kg = milligram per kilogram

 $\begin{array}{cccc} \min & = & \min \\ mL & = & \min \end{array}$ 

mL/min = milliliter per minute

mm = millimeter

MP melting point

MS = mass spectrometry

MSD = mass selective detector

MSDS = Material Safety Data Sheet

MS/MS = Mass spectrometry/mass spectrometry

MU = measurement uncertainty

m/z = mass to charge ratio n = number of replicate

 $N_2$  = nitrogen

NATA = National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia

#### **ABBREVIATIONS (CONT.)**

No. = number

ng/mL = nanogram per milliliter

nm = nanometer

pg/mL = picogram per milliliter

ppb = part per billion
ppm = part per million
PRL = prednisolone

psi = pounds per square inch
r = correlation coefficient

RA = retinoic acid

RF radiofrequency

RI = Refractive index

RP-18 reversed phase C18-bonded silica

RSD = relative standard deviation

SD = standard deviation

SIM = selected ion monitoring
S/N = signal to noise ratio

SOP Standard Operating Procedure

TA = triamcinolone acetonide
TIC = total ion chromatogram

TLC = Thin layer chromatography

TM = trademark

TMCS = trimethylchlorosilane
TMSim = trimethylsilyimidazole

TOF = Time-off-flight

UPLC-MS/MS = Ultra Performance Liquid Chromatography

U.S.A. = The United States of America
USP = United States Pharmacopeia

UV = ultraviolet

UV-VIS = Ultraviolet and Visible

### **ABBREVIATIONS (CONT.)**

V = volt

v/v = volume by volume

w/w = weight by weight

 $\mu g/L$  = microgram per liter

 $\mu g/mL$  = microgram per mililiter

 $\mu L$  = microliter

μm = micrometer

> = more than

 $\leq$  less than or equal

 $\geq$  = more than or equal

/ = per

% = percentage