

## Spectrophotometric determination of Procaine Hydrochloride in Bulk and Pharmaceutical by Diazotization-Coupling Reaction

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(Received on 14/10 /2014)

(Accepted for publication 23/11/2014)

### Abstract

A simple, rapid, sensitive, selective, and accurate spectrophotometric method for the determination of microgram amounts of procaine Hydrochloride drug in pure form and in pharmaceutical preparations. The method is based on diazotization of primary amine group of (PRO-HCl) with sodium nitrite and hydrochloric acid followed by coupling with 1,3-phenylenediamine in aqueous mildly acidic medium to form a stable orange azo dye, showed absorption at 454 nm. Beer's law is obeyed over concentration range of  $(0.015-7.000)\mu\text{g.m L}^{-1}$  with molar absorptivity of  $(6.906 \times 10^4) \text{ L.mol}^{-1}.\text{cm}^{-1}$  and Sandell's sensitivity of  $(0.004).\mu.\text{cm}^{-2}$ . The method does not need to temperature control or to solvent extraction. The optimum conditions for all colour development are described and the proposed method has been successfully applied for the determination of procaine Hydrochloride in bulk drug and pharmaceutical preparation vials with very good recoveries. The common excipients and additives did not interfere in this method.

**Keywords:-Procaine hydrochloride, Spectrophotometric,Diazotization-coupling,1,3-phenylenediamine,Pharmaceutical preparations.**

### الخلاصة

تم وصف طريقة طيفية سهلة وسريعة وحساسة وانتقائية ودقيقة لتقدير كميات مايكرو غرامية من دواء الهيدروكلورايد بروكائين في حالته النقية وفي مستحضراته الصيدلانية. تعتمد الطريقة على تفاعل الأزوتة والازدواج لمجموعة الامين الاولي الهيدروكلورايد بروكائين مع 1,3-فنيلين داي امين مع نترت الصوديوم وحامض الهيدروكلوريك في وسط حامضي لتكوين صبغة برتقالية ذائبة في الماء و مستقرة، والتي تعطي امتصاصيه عظمى عند 454 نانوميتر. وجد ان قانون بير ينطبق ضمن مدى التركيز  $(0.015-7.000)$  مايكروغرام. مل<sup>-1</sup> من الهيدروكلورايد بروكائين وان الامتصاصية المولارية  $(6.906 \times 10^4)$  لتر. مول<sup>-1</sup>. سم<sup>-1</sup> ودلالة ساندل للحساسية  $(0.004)$  مايكروغرام. سم<sup>-2</sup>. الطريقة لا تحتاج الى السيطرة على درجات الحرارة او الاستخلاص بالمذيب. وتم دراسة الظروف المثلى لتكوين المركب الملون وطبقت الطريقة المقترحة بنجاح لتقدير الهيدروكلورايد بروكائين في حالته النقية او في مستحضراته الصيدلانية (حقن) وباسترداد مؤوي جيد كما وجد ان لا يوجد تأثير للمضافات الدوائية في الطريقة المقترحة.

الكلمات الدلالية: الهيدروكلورايد بروكائين، التقدير الطيفي، الاقتران والأزوتة، 1,3-فنيلين داي امين، المستحضرات الصيدلانية.

## Introduction

Procaine hydrochloride PRO-HCl is a white or almost white, crystalline powder or colourless crystals, very soluble in water,

soluble in alcohol which has melting point of 154 C° to 158 C°. Its chemical name 2-(diethylamino)ethyl 4-aminobenzoate hydrochloride(1):

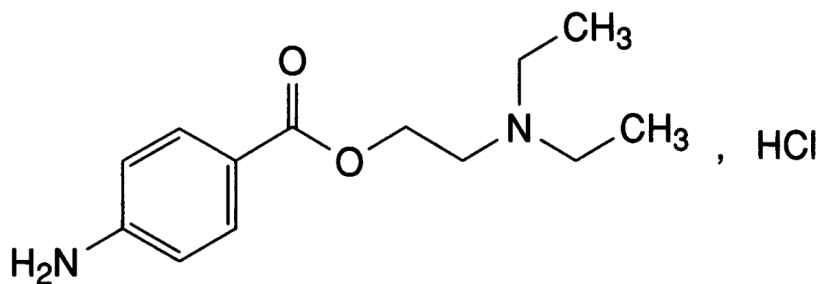


Fig (1): Chemical structure of procaine hydrochloride

It is used as a local anaesthetic(2). Several methods have been reported for the determination of PRO-HCl, these methods involve chromatographic (3-6), electrochemical by using voltammetry method(7), Cyclic voltammetry(8), Stripping pulse differential adsorptive voltammetry(9) and potentiometric titration(10). For oral solution recommended spectrophotometric method based on Diazo-coupling with (4-amino-5-hydroxynaphthalene-2,7-disulfonic acid) (11) and diazo-coupling with (2,5-dimethoxyaniline)(12), Charge-transfer by using metal reagent(13), Schiff base with dimethylaminocinnamaldehyde to form a Schiff base (14). Various analytical methods have been developed for the determination of this drug. These methods also include flow injection analysis (15-18) and fluorescence methods(19,20). The aim of present work is to develop simple, sensitive, and selective spectrophotometric for the determination of PRO-HCl method based on diazotization-coupling reaction with the reagent 1,3-phenylenediamine for the determination of PRO-HCl in bulk as well as pharmaceutical formulations.

## Experimental

### Apparatus

- All spectral and absorbance measurements were carried out on a digital double-beam UV-Visible 160 spectrophotometer with quartz cell of 1 cm path length.
- Sensitive balance (Sartorius, Balance Bp3015-Germany)
- Water bath (Water bath, Cooling-Heating, memert).

### Material and Reagents

#### 1- Reagents

All chemicals used were of analytical reagent grade purity. Standard reference procaine Hydrochloride was obtained from (State Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliance, Sigma-Germany).

#### 2-Solutions

All aqueous solutions were prepared using deionized water. PRO-HCl standard aqueous solution 250 ppm. Sodium nitrite (BDH) aqueous solution 0.01 M. Hydrochloric acid (BDH) aqueous solution 1M. Sulfamic acid (BDH) aqueous solution 0.2 M. reagent 1,3-phenylenediamine

(BDH) 0.01 M prepared using absolute ethanol (GCC). Dosage form aqueous solutions 100 ppm .

### 3-Recommended Procedure and Calibration Graph

Transfer increasing volumes of working PRO-HCl solution, covering the range (0.015-7.000)  $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$ . Added of 0.2 M (1)MHCl in to increment volume of working PRO-HCl solution and the mixtures are shaken, into a series of 25 mL volumetric flasks. Then 1 mL of 0.01 M sodium nitrite solution is added and the mixtures are allowed to stand for 2 minutes. Then 1.5 mL of 0.2 M sulphamic acid solution is added and the mixtures allowed to stand for 2 minutes. After that 3 mL of 0.01 M (1,3- phenylenediamine) was added and the volumes were completed to the mark with deionized water. After 12 minutes measure the absorbance against a reagent

blank, prepared in the same manner but containing no PRO-HCl at 454 nm using 1 cm cells.

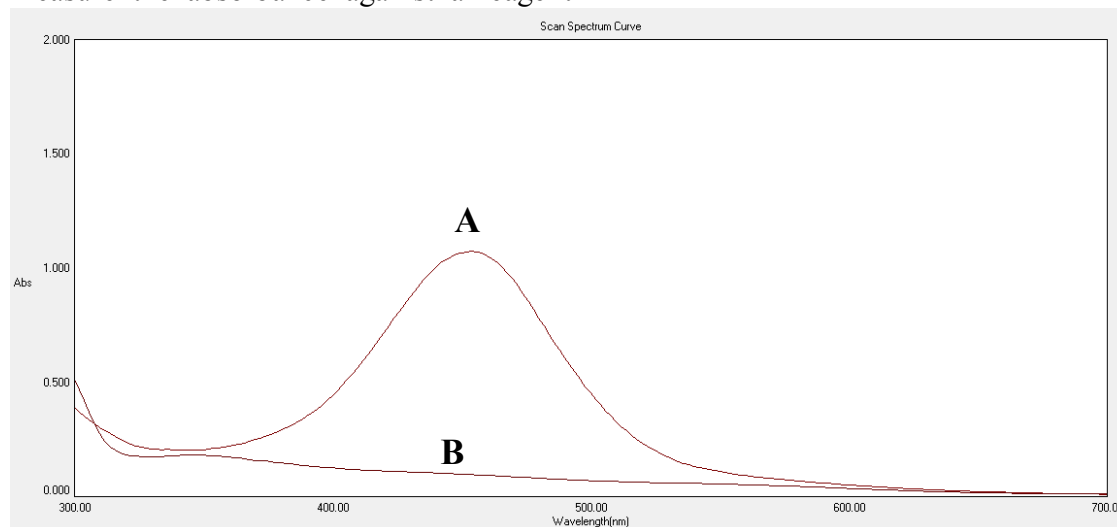
### 4-Procedure for dosage forms

**Injection:** The contents of five vials were weighed. A portion of the powder equivalent to 10 mg of the drug was weighed and dissolved in deionized water then filtered and transferred in to 100 mL volumetric flask and completed to the mark with the same solvent.

## Results and Discussion

### Spectral characteristics

Absorption spectrum of the orange azo product with maximum absorption at 454 nm is shown in Fig. 2. The reagent blank has practically negligible absorption at this wavelength. Hence, all measurements were made at this wavelength reagent blank.



**Fig(2):Absorption spectra of**

**A:(5ppm) of PRO-HCl treated as described under procedure and measured against 1,3- phenylenediamine reagent blank.**

**B:the reagent blank measured against Ethanol.**

**Study of the optimum reaction conditions** : The effects of various

parameters on the optical properties of the azo dye have been studied and the reaction conditions are optimized

**1-Effect of acid:** Different amounts (0.05-3.00 ml of 1M) of different acids (have been examined. A 0.2 mL of 1M HCl to give the best results) the results are given in Table(1).

**Table(1):Effect of volume of 1MHCl**

<b>Vol/HCl</b>	<b>Abs</b>
<b>0.05</b>	0.559
<b>0.10</b>	0.699
<b>0.20</b>	0.813
<b>0.25</b>	0.798
<b>0.30</b>	0.769
<b>0.50</b>	0.689
<b>1.00</b>	0.652
<b>2.00</b>	0.674
<b>2.50</b>	0.659
<b>3.00</b>	0.658

**2-Effect of Sodium Nitrite**

**Concentration and Time:** The effect of sodium nitrite concentration was tested by using different volumes (0.1-3.0 mL) of 0.01

M NaNO<sub>2</sub> solution was required with 2 minute reaction time to obtain a maximum absorbance .Table(2),Table(3)

**Table(2):Effect of volume of 0.01 M sodium Nitrite.**

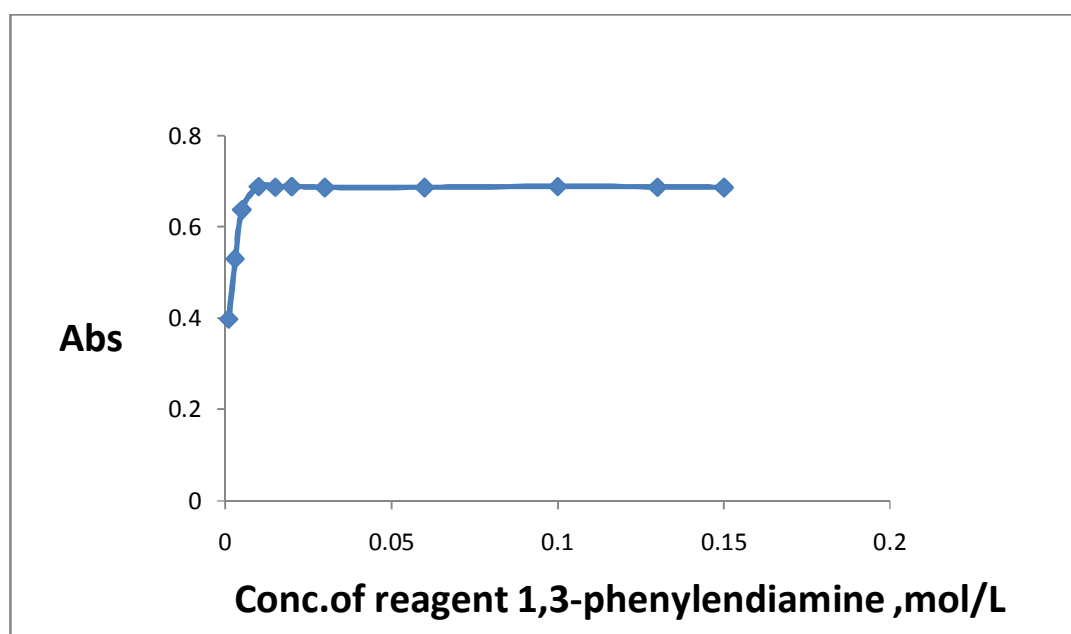
<b>Vol /NaNO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>Abs</b>
<b>0.1</b>	0.625
<b>0.2</b>	0.683
<b>0.5</b>	0.787
<b>1.0</b>	0.855
<b>1.5</b>	0.810
<b>2.0</b>	0.823
<b>3.0</b>	0.820

**Table(3):Effect of Time**

Time/mint	Abs
1.0	1.063
2.0	1.079
3.0	1.067
5.0	1.072
7.0	1.066
10.0	1.069
14.0	1.073
16.0	1.071

**3-Effect of Sulfamic acid Concentration and Time:**The excess of nitrous acid is removed by the addition of sulfamic acid solution . The effect of its concentration was tested by using different volumes (0.1-4.0 mL) of 0.2 M sulfamic acid solution was required with 2 minute reaction time to obtain a maximum absorbance.

**4- Effect of Reagent 1,3-phenylendiamine Concentration:**The effect of reagent concentration was tested by using different volumes (0.1-5.0 mL) of 0.01 M of 1,3-phenylendiamine is sufficient for production of maximum and reproducible colourintensity.Fig(3)

**Figure(3):Effect of 1,3-phenylendiamine Concentration**

**5-Effect of Time:** The effect of time on the formation of the azo product was investigated by allowing the reaction to proceed for varying times. The results

showed that the azo-dye reached maximum absorbance after 12 minutes .Table (4)

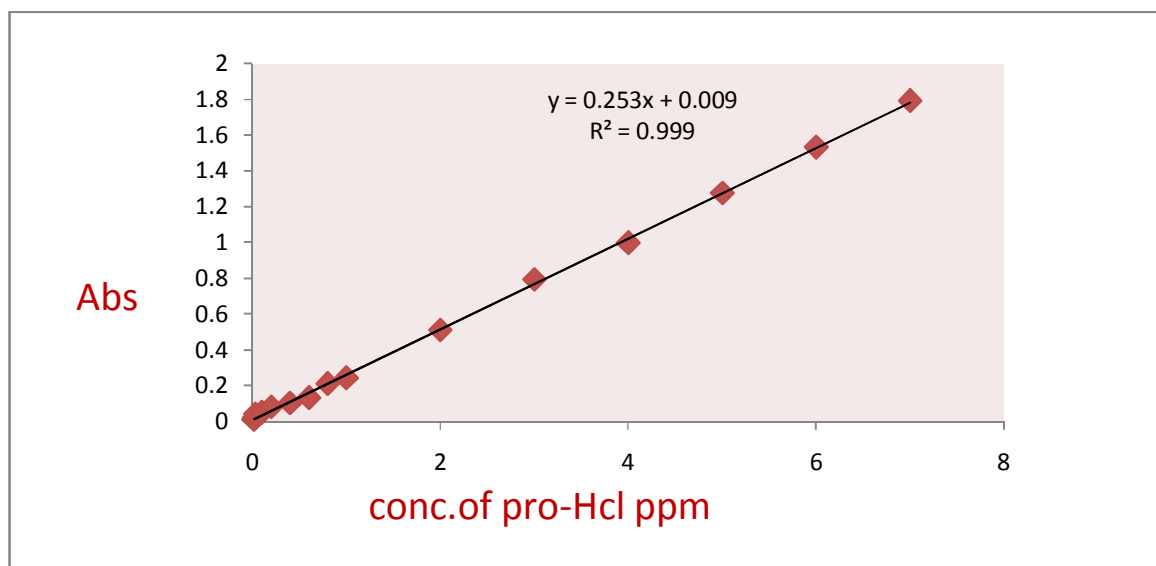
**Table(4): Effect of Time**

Time/mint	Abs
1.0	1.062
2.0	1.066
3.0	1.069
5.0	1.078
10.0	1.080
12.0	1.082
15.0	1.082
18.0	1.081
20.0	1.080
25.0	1.079
30.0	1.081
35.0	1.082
40.0	1.080
45.0	1.081
50.0	1.080
60.0	1.081

**6-Effect of Temperature:** The effect of temperature on the absorption was investigated at different temperatures (1-80 C°). The results revealed that the absorbance relatively stable in the temperature rang (1-30 C°). At higher temperatures, the absorbance value decreased , which was probably due to the dissociation of azo-dye.

### **Calibration Curve and Sensitivity (21)**

Under the proposed experimental condition linear relation between the absorbance and the concentration of PRO-HCl was observed over the concentration range (0.015-7.000) $\mu\text{g.mL}^{-1}$  ,standard calibration curves for PRO-HCl were constructed Fig4 ,and different parameters of the analytical performance of the proposed method are summarized in Table 5



**Figure ( 4 ) Calibration graph for PRO-HCl determination using 1,3-phenylenediamine as coupling reagent**

**Table(5):Analytical features of the procedure developed for the determination of PRO-HCl**

Parameter	Proposed Method
Regression equation	$Y = 0.2532 X + 0.0099$
Slope	0.2532
Correlation coefficient	0.9993
Linear Range ( $\mu\text{g.mL}^{-1}$ )	0.015-7.000
Molar absorptivity ( $\text{L.mol}^{-1}.\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	$6.906 \times 10^4$
Limit of detection (LOD) ( $\mu\text{g.mL}^{-1}$ )	0.011
Limit of quantitation (LOQ) ( $\mu\text{g.mL}^{-1}$ )	0.037
Sandell's sensitivity, S ( $\mu\text{g. cm}^{-2}$ )	0.004

### Accuracy and Precision

To determine the accuracy and precision of the calibration graph, PRO-HCl was determined at three different

concentration. The results shown in Table (6) indicate a satisfactory precision and accuracy.

Table(6):Accuracy and precision of proposed method

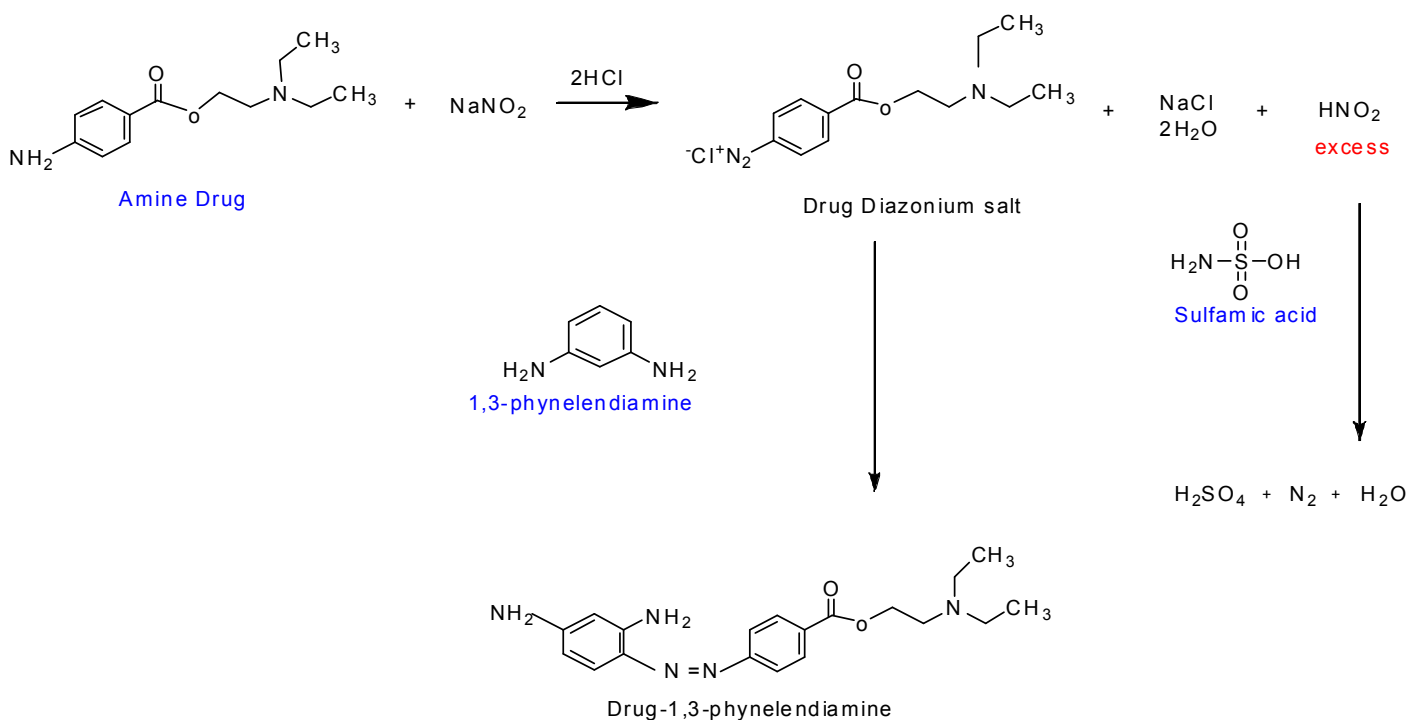
NO.	Conc. Of PRO-HCl $\mu\text{g}$ per 25 mL		Error%*	Recovery*	R.S.D%*
	present	found			
1	0.40	0.403	+0.75	100.75	0.432
2	2.00	1.99	-0.50	99.50	0.841
3	3.00	3.05	+1.60	101.60	0.762

\*Average for five determinations

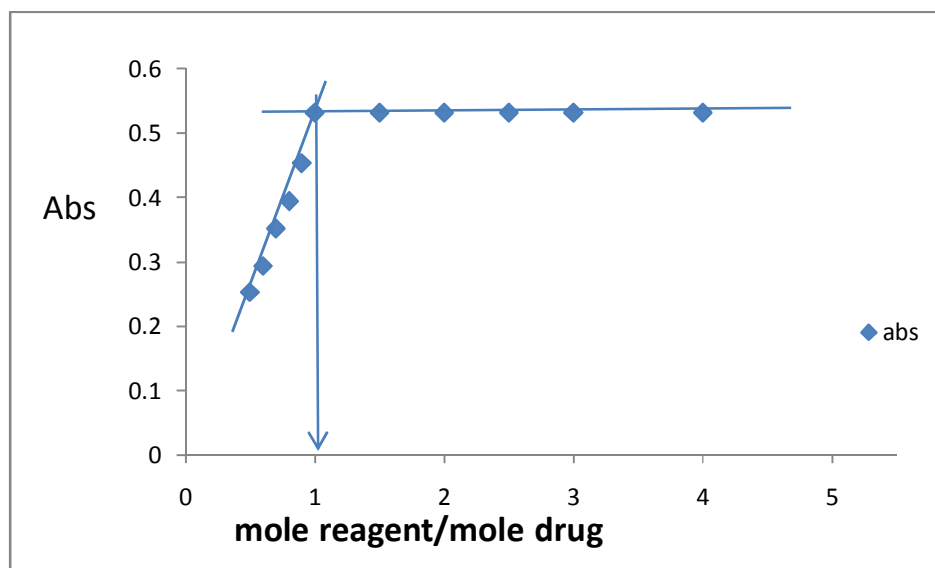
### Nature of product and reaction mechanism

To establish the composition (ratio of PRO-HCl to diazotized 1,3-phenylenediamine of the orange azo dye formed), Job's method of continuous variations and mole-ratio method have been

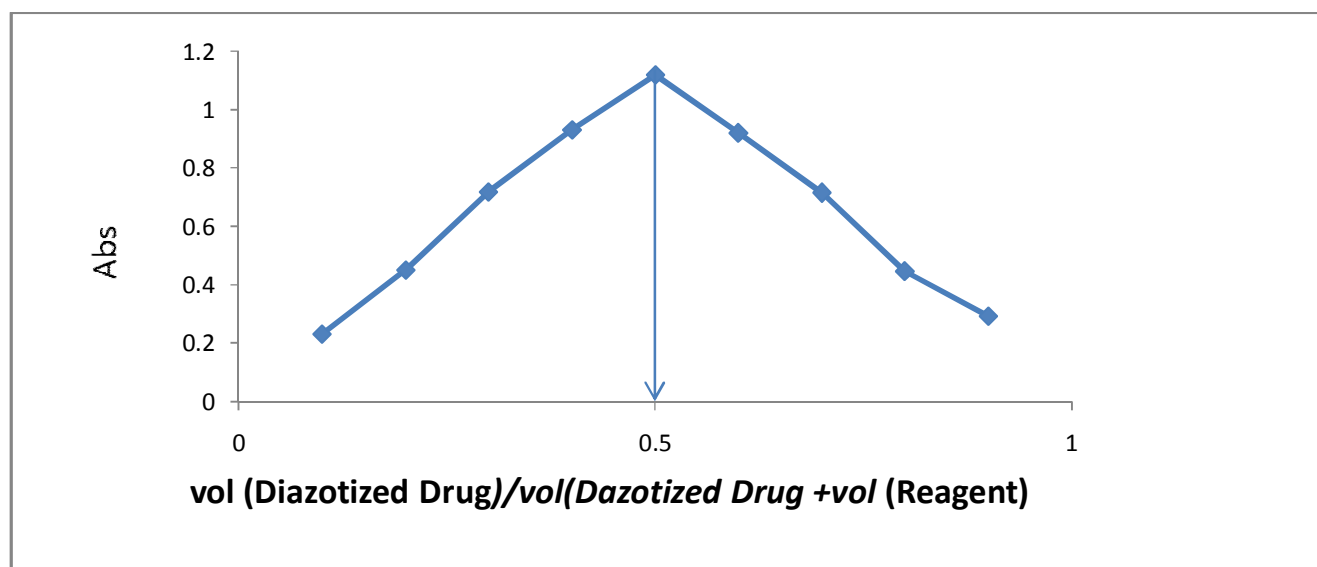
used. The resulting data reveal that the dye has been formed by the reaction of the PRO-HCl with 1,3-phenylenediamine reagent in a ratio of 1:1, Figure (5 and6), indicating a mono azo dye with probably of the following Schem:







Figure(5) :Mole ratio plot



Figure(6):Continuous Variation plot

### Effect of interferences

In order to assess the possible analytical applications of the present proposed method, the interfering effects of excipients at various levels on the determination of  $4 \mu\text{g.mL}^{-1}$  of PRO-HCl. For this study, solution contained (PRO-HCl) and each one of the interference was taken separately in concentrations ten-times greater than that of (PRO-HCl) and were analyzed under the same procedure in the Calibration curve. Level of interference was

considered to be acceptable if the error was not higher than  $2\pm\%$  relative to the expected. Interference effect from some other drugs are present with PRO-HCl which was studied in pharmaceutical preparations. Constant amount from PRO-HCl was taken where the final concentration of drug (4)ppm with avariable amount of interference drugs (at same concentration of studied drug), the result was given no interference with PRO-HCl Table (6)

Table (6): Effect of excipients on the determination of  $4 \mu\text{g.mL}^{-1}$  of PRO-HCl

Excipient Conc. $40 \mu\text{g.Ml}^{-1}$	Conc. of PRO-HCl $\mu\text{g.ml}^{-1}$ (found)	E%*	Rec%*
Tween 80	3.97	-0.75	99.25
Benzylpenicillin (BEP)	3.95	-1.25	98.75
<b>PRO-HCl: BEP</b>			
<b>0.4:0.1</b>	3.93	-1.75	98.25
<b>0.4:0.2</b>	4.01	+0.25	100.25
<b>0.4:0.4</b>	4.04	+1.00	101.00
<b>0.4:0.6</b>	3.97	-0.75	99.25
<b>0.4:0.8</b>	4.02	+0.50	100.50

\*Average for five determinations

### Application of the method

The proposed method was applied to analysis of different dosage forms containing PRO-HCl in order to evaluate the analytical usefulness of the

spectrophotometric method. Good results with good recoveries and reproducibility's obtained based on five determinations for three different concentrations of each pharmaceutical preparation Table (7).

**Table(7): Application of the proposed method to the determination of PRO-HCl in some dosage forms.**

Drug	Pharmaceutical preparation	Conc. $\mu\text{g.ml}^{-1}$		E%*	Rec.%*	SD%*
		Present	found			
PRO-HCl	Devapen Injection	2	1.97	-1.50	98.50	0.0026
		4	4.04	+1.00	101.00	0.0026
		6	5.96	-0.60	99.33	0.0026
	PENICAINE Injection	2	2.01	+0.50	100.50	0.0015
		4	3.99	-0.25	99.75	0.0017
		6	5.98	-0.30	99.70	0.0026
	Procaine Penicillin for Injection 1MEGA	2	1.99	-0.50	99.50	0.0052
		4	4.03	+0.70	100.70	0.0015
		6	6.02	+0.30	100.30	0.0078
	Procaine Penicillin for Injection 0.4 MEGA	2	1.98	-1.00	99.00	0.0043
		4	3.97	-0.75	99.25	0.0036
		6	6.04	+0.60	100.66	0.0017

\*Average for five determinations

**F and T-test, show that there is no significant difference in accuracy between the proposed method and the official British Pharmacopoeia (Bp) method Table (8).**

**Table(8):Application of the proposed and official methods to the determination of PRO-HCl in pure and some dosage forms.**

<b>PRO-HCl</b>			
<b>Pharmaceutical preparation</b>	<b>Proposed method</b>		<b>Standard method(1)</b>
	<b>Rec%</b>	<b>SD%</b>	<b>Rec%</b>
<b>Procaine HCl Pure</b>	100.60	0.0028	100.80
<b>PENICAMINE Injection</b>	99.98	0.0026	99.89
<b>Procaine Penicillin for Injection 1MEGA</b>	100.16	0.0019	100.36
<b>Procaine Penicillin for Injection 0.4 MEGA</b>	99.41	0.0048	99.20
<b>Devapen Injection</b>	99.61	0.0032	101.70
<b>SUM</b>	499.76		501.95
<b>Mean</b>	99.952		100.39
<b>STANDARD deviation</b>	0.00306		
<b>Unpaired t test =(0.626 )</b>	<b>F test=( 4.070 )</b>		

## Comparison of Methods

Table (9): Comparison and characteristics of the different spectrophotometric methods were used for the determination of PRO-HCl

Reagent	Colour reaction	$\lambda_{\text{max/nm}}$	Linear rang/ $\mu\text{g.mL}^{-1}$	Molar Absorptivity	Ref
4-amino-5-hydroxynaphthalene-2,7-disulfonic acid	Diazo-coupling	530	0.100-7.000	-	11
2,5-dimethoxyaniline	Diazo-coupling	482	(0.200-8.000)	$5.28 \times 10^4$	12
Metol	Charge-transfer	510	3.000-80.000	$4.94 \times 10^3$	13
P-dimethylaminocinnamaldehyde	Schiff base	547	0.100-7.000	-	14
PromethazineHCl	Oxidative-coupling	610	0.400-18.000	$1.71 \times 10^4$	22
3-methylbenzothiazolin-2-one	Oxidative-coupling	575	50.000-400.000	$0.6 \times 10^3$	23
p-dimethylaminobenzalhyde	Schiff base	455	15.000-0.2.000	$3.46 \times 10^4$	24
1,2-naphthoquinone-4-sulfonic	Replace reaction	484	0.300-100.000	$5.22 \times 10^3$	25
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Oxidation reduction	550	0.040-1.130	-	26
p-Benzoquinone	Charge-transfer	525	5.000-90.000	$2.42 \times 10^3$	27
1,3-phenelendiamine	Diazo-coupling	454	0.015-7.000	$6.906 \times 10^4$	This work

## Conclusion

A simple ,rapid, precise and sensitive spectrophotometric method has been developed for the determination of trace amounts of procaine hydrochloride in aqueous solution reaction with 1,3-phenylenediamine based on its diazotized coupling reaction ,also the method does not resort to temperature control or to solvent extraction.

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