



Impurity Profiling in different analytical techniques.

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Abstract:

All active pharmaceutical ingredients contain impurities. Both the purity profile and the impurity profile are significant factors in the pharmaceutical sector, and both are required by regulatory authorities. Within the pharmaceutical industry, an impurity is defined as any residual solvent or other inorganic or organic material that is not part of the medicine and that results from synthesis or undesired compounds left behind with APIs. The presence of impurities in drugs has a significant impact on the product's quality. Impurities come in several forms, including organic and inorganic ones, as well as starting sources for residual solvents, intermediates, byproducts, and degradation products. The definitions of impurities in novel drug compounds are provided by the International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) guideline. Extremely complex instruments, like mass spectra metres linked to an HPLC or gas chromatography, are essential tools. The most practical method for determining residual solvent is gas chromatography (GC).

Keywords: Impurity, API, Drug, Identification, Isolation, ICH Guidelines.

Introduction:

Any substance that coexists with the original drug, such as a starting substance or an intermediate, or that is generated as a result of a side effect, is referred to as an impurity[1]. Impurity is a generic phrase that refers to an undesirable substance or component in a desired product. The impurity profile provides information on both known and unknown contaminants. [2]Unwanted substances that remain with the Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs), arise during formulation, or appear as medications age are known as impurities in pharmaceuticals.[3]Selective procedures should be used to identify and quantify any impurities present in excess of 0.1%. We can obtain a pure chemical with reduced toxicity and greater therapeutic safety by isolating, identifying, and quantifying impurities therapy. There are two approaches that can be used to address impurities in novel medicinal compounds. 1) The chemical component that comprises impurity classification and identification, report production, a list of contaminants found in specifications, and a quick explanation of analytical procedure[4] .

Regulatory Guidelines regarding Impurities are as follows :-

ICH and other regulatory organisations use the words listed below to describe impurities:

1. Intermediate
2. Second to last intermediate
3. By-products

4. goods for transformation
5. Product interactions
6. Complementary goods
7. Products of degradation

The compounds created during the synthesis of the intended material or as part of the synthesis process are referred to as intermediates. Intermediate-to-late stage: Prior to manufacture, it is the final compound in the chain of synthesis. Of the desired final compound. By-products: Compounds created during a process that are not necessary intermediates. They can happen due to a number of adverse effects, including overreaction, incomplete reaction, negative interactions between beginning components or intermediates, demonization, and rearrangement using catalysts or chemical reagents. Products of transformation: These are related to both theorised and unheroized phenomena that may take place during an action. They are comparable to by-products, although these reaction products are well understood. Interaction Products: These items are the results of purposeful or accidental interaction between the different substances in play. Related Items: These share molecular properties with psychoactive substances and may even be biological processes. Degradation Products: These are created when an active component or other substance breaks down. By the influence of outside variables like heat, light, and moisture on the material of interest.[1] How are impurities managed? By comprehending how contaminants arise, end up, and are removed during the production process, By installing suitable controls at locations where they enter or form during the production of medication ingredients and/or drug products. A decision is made based on the types of contaminants and potential sources that are known. Through material quality control and process control, a comprehensive control strategy is developed for processes, and ultimately the details of the pharmacological ingredient or product.[2]

The following are the various regulatory guidelines for impurities:

Series	Description
Q.1A	Stability testing of new drug & Product.
Q.3A	Impurities in Now Drug Substances.
Q.3B	Impurities in New Drug product.
US-FDA (NDAs)	Impurities in New Drug Substances.
US-FDA (ANDs)	Impurities in Now Drug Substances.

Classification of Impurities:-

Impurities are categorised differently by authorities. Following ICH [3, 6, 7, 9]

The impurities created during chemical synthesis can be divided into three categories:

Organic impurities (connected to processes and medications)

Organic impurity (b)

Remaining solvents

- a. Organic Impurity: During the manufacturing process, these impurities may keep the novel pharmacological compounds in storage, including their precursors, by-products, and intermediates, degradation products, reagents, ligands, intermediates, degradation products, and stimuli.[2]

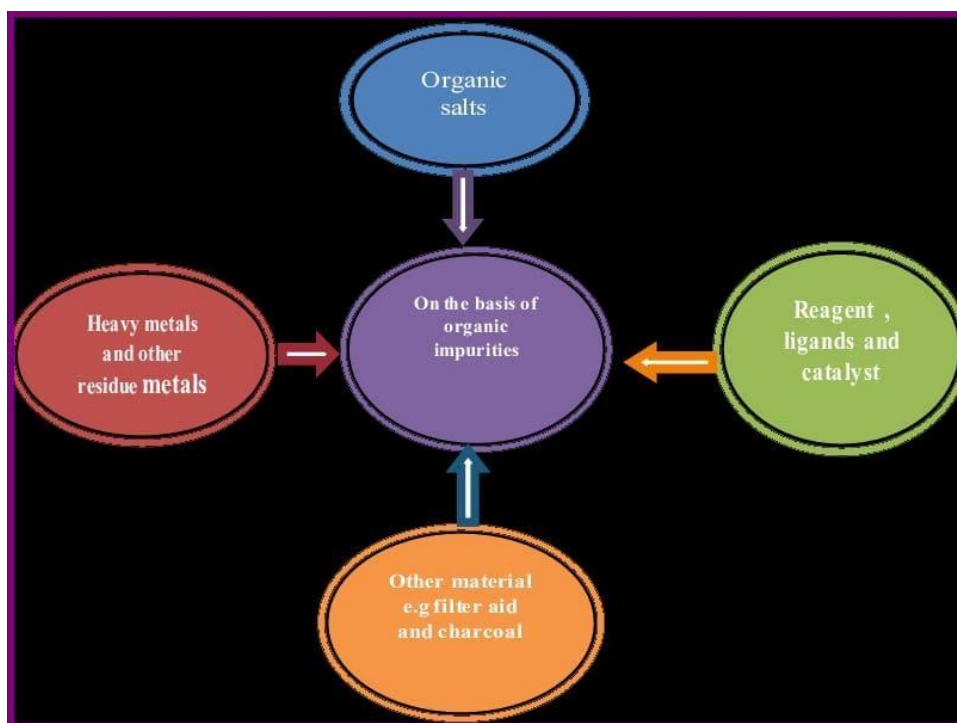


Fig1:classification of Organic impurity

- b. Inorganic Impurity: Similar to organic impurities, inorganic impurities are also found throughout the manufacturing methods that are applied during the formulation of bulk medications. As with heavy metal impurities, residual solvent impurities, and filter aids, they are typically recognized and identified. Reagents, ligands, catalysts, heavy metals or other residual metals, inorganic salts, filter aids, charcoal, etc. are examples of inorganic impurities.

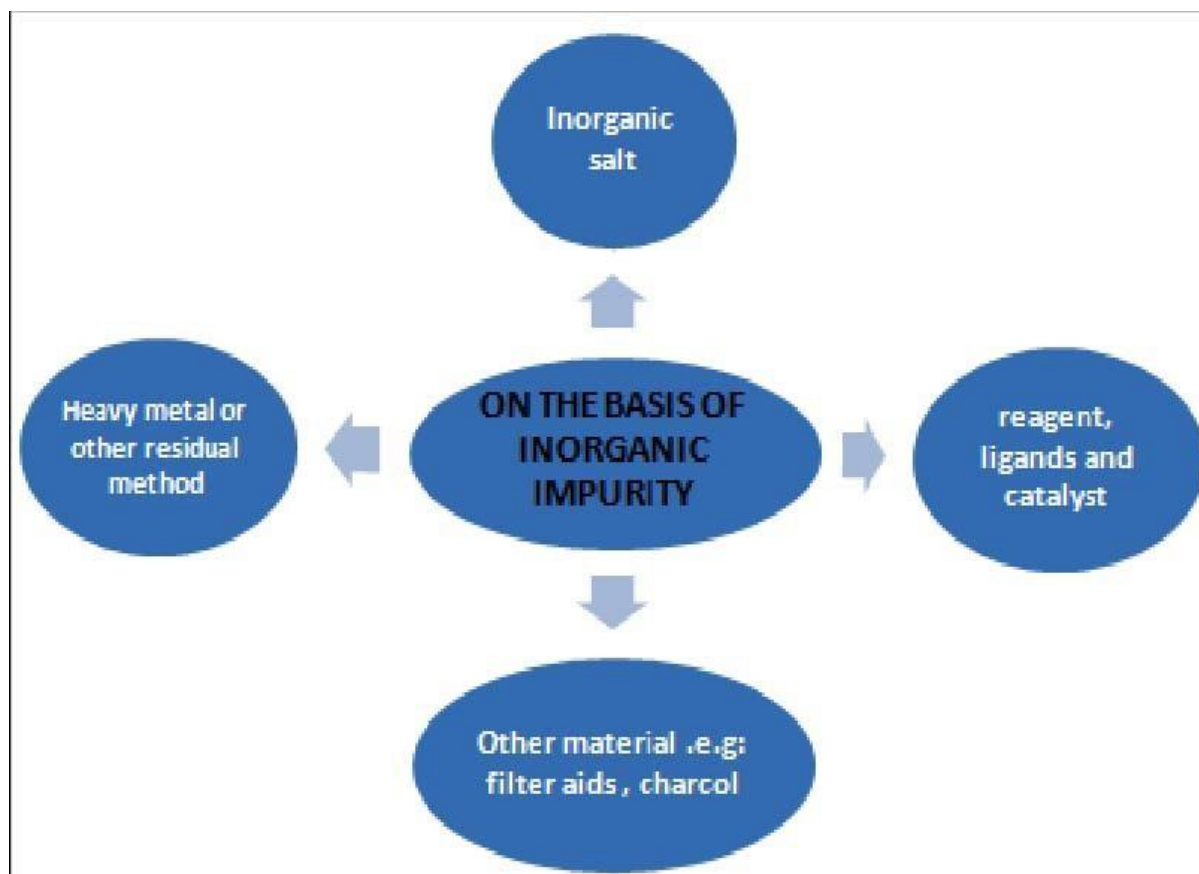


Fig2: classification of inorganic impurities

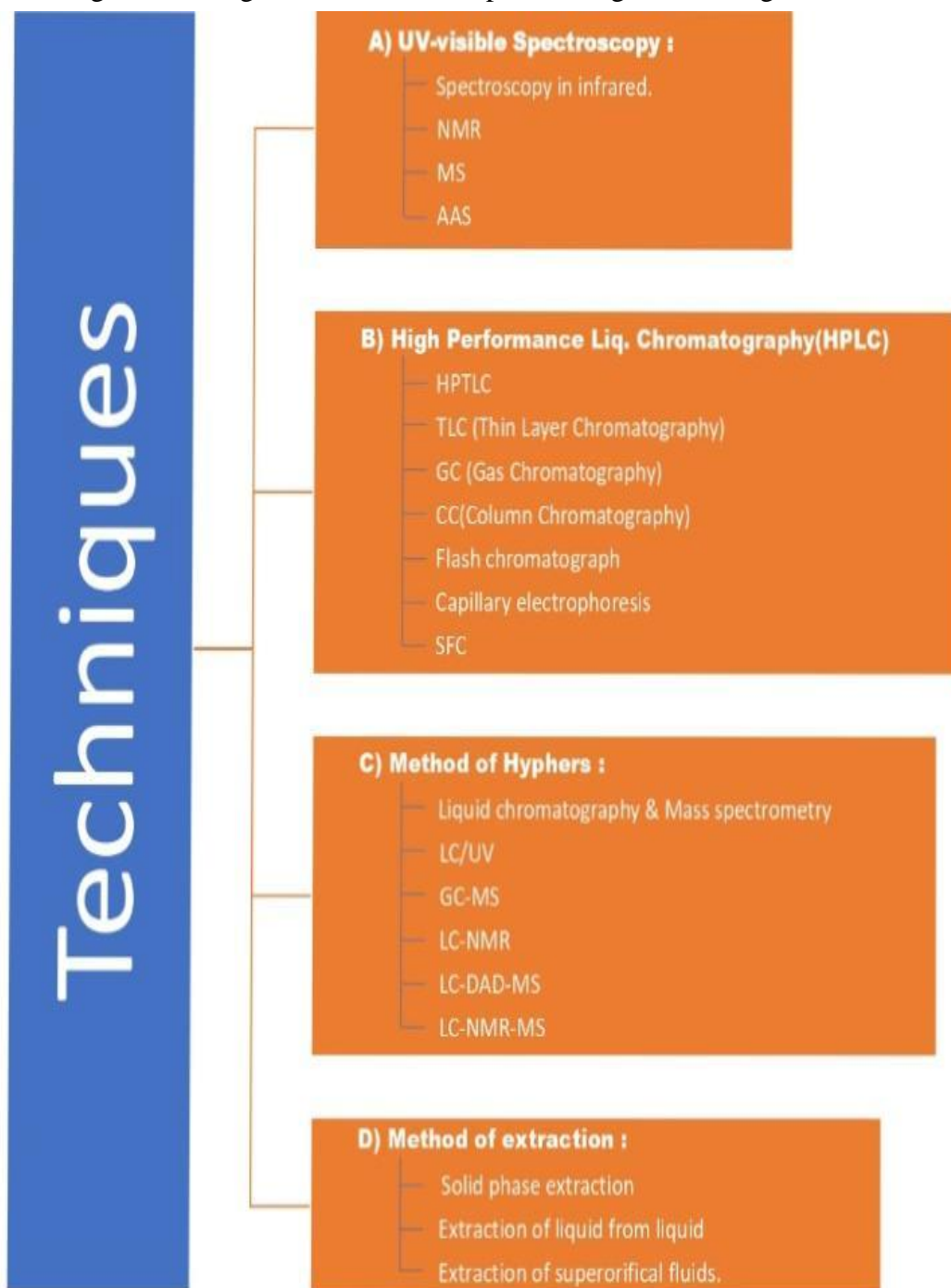
c. Residual Solvents: These solvents are organic or inorganic liquids employed throughout the manufacturing process. The choice of suitable controls can be made with ease because these are typically known to be hazardous. [7] Gas detection for residual solvent detection Because they are the most volatile in nature, chromatography is used. There are non-volatile solvents. chemical dramatization process for converting to volatile solvents[2].

In general term impurity means the unwanted or undesired compound or component in desired product. The impurity profile is a description of Identified and unidentified impurities. The impurity may be developed either during formulation or in the final product upon ageing. The Various instrumental approaches for isolating and identifying the process related impurities and degradation products are Mass spectroscopy (MS), Nuclear magnetic spectroscopy (NMR), High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) etc., has been established to review a summary of the problems and the various possibilities offered by modern analytical chemistry. The identification and qualification of impurities in Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) and pharmaceutical products, is a very important step performed at many levels of the drug discovery and beyond. Impurity is a substance which exists with original drug that is starting material or intermediates or the substances which are formed during any side reactions, during the manufacturing process of the drug.

Impurity is a generic phrase that refers to an undesirable substance or component in a desired product. The impurity profile provides information on both known and unknown contaminants. The impurity may appear in the finished product as it ages or during the formulation process. It has been established to review a summary of the issues and the various opportunities provided by contemporary analytical chemistry. The various instrumental approaches for isolating and identifying the process related impurities and degradation products include mass spectroscopy (MS), nuclear magnetic spectroscopy (NMR), high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), etc. At various stages of the drug discovery process and beyond, the identification and certification of impurities in Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) and pharmaceutical products is a crucial step. A material known as an impurity coexists alongside the original[3]

Techniques of Chromatography:

High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) (9) – HPLC is a flexible method of analysis since it is not restricted to volatile or stable samples. Separation is based on the observation that specific substances have varied migration rates on a specific stationary and mobile phase. An accurate, precise, and reliable method for quantitative analysis of pharmaceutical products as well as impact factors is provided by the separation of components using the HPLC method with any suitable detector, such as the Corona Charged Aerosol Detector (CAD), Nano Quantity Aerosol Detector (NQAD), PDA detector, fluorescence detectors, electrochemical detectors, electrical conductivity detectors, light scattering detectors, and evaporative light scattering detectors. When it comes to



medication formulations and pure drug substances, HPLC also involves stability monitoring. It can be used to quantify things.[3]

Gas Chromatography (GC) (9) - In order to detect impurities that are volatile and thermo-stable in nature, GC is utilised as a technique for qualitative and quantitative evaluation of APIs. It can be applied as a limit test for volatile contaminants like solvent residue in drug compounds. It is also used to characterise the starting ingredients for creating medicinal compounds. Shorter run durations, increased sample throughput, less expensive columns, and a higher signal-to-noise ratio are a few benefits of GC. However, there are certain drawbacks, such as the need

for careful attention when working on the instrument. Only situations in which the chemicals can be vaporised without breaking down and in which they can be vaporised allow for the use of gas chromatography.[3]

Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) (9) – TLC is the technique used for the identification of various components up to trace amounts. This technique has been used for developing stability-indicating analytical method. Its disadvantages are variability, non-quantities most easy, simple, and simultaneous determination is possible. It can be used as a quantitative technique, in conjunction with densitometry detection i.e. high performance thin layer chromatography (HPTLC) for compounds which are difficult to analyse by other chromatographic method because of the absence of chromophore. The detection using TLC is based upon the chemical reaction between the components and detection reagent. TLC is very much used during initial degradation and stress studies to study the number of degradation products formed. HPTLC is more sensitive and faster compare to conventional TLC technique. HPTLC is better in many regards than TLC, such as (i) it requires very less amount of sample; (ii) more than ten spots can be quantified simultaneously; (iii) easily attached with various detectors (iv) give 3D images of all the spots which is very useful for quantitative estimation; (v) separation time is reduced compare to TLC. Various stability indicating methods have been published using HPTLC technique. Drugs such as Temirtau and Ramipril in tablets, Pressure, Driveline and Cyclopean in tablets. Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) (9) is a method used to identify various components in minuscule levels. This strategy has been used to create analytical methods that indicate stability. Variability, non-quantitative analysis that is simple and straightforward, and simultaneous determination are some of its drawbacks. For chemicals that are challenging to analyse by other chromatographic methods because to the lack of a chromophore, it can be employed as a quantitative technique in combination with densitometry detection, or HPTLC. The chemical reaction between the components and the detection reagent forms the basis of the detection process utilising TLC. The amount of degradation products generated is studied using TLC extensively during initial degradation and stress tests.

Column Chromatography (9): Based on the partition chromatography concept, column chromatography separates the components of the sample as it moves through the stationary phase while being influenced by the mobile phase. Different components elute from the column under gravity at varying rates depending on how well they adhere to the mobile phase, which results in an effective separation. Sadly, the solvent percolates through the column at a relatively slow rate. Column chromatography's greatest benefit is that it can typically be scaled to the project at hand. When attempting to separate and purify a reaction mixture in order to prepare an intermediate in a series of reactions, this is extremely helpful. The equivalent drawback is that setting up and using a column may take a lot of time.

HPTLC-HPTLC is faster and more sensitive than traditional Flash Chromatography (9) –

Flash Chromatography-Flash chromatography is a good substitute for gravity fed chromatography, which is sluggish and frequently ineffective. Flash chromatography is a mix of medium pressure and short column chromatography that is air pressure driven. The flow of the solvent is accelerated, thus reducing the amount of time required to purify the sample. Small silica gel particles (between 250 and 400 mesh) are used in flash chromatography under pressure to force solvent through the stationary phase's surface.

Preparative Liquid Chromatography (LC) (12) - Since the drug substance's impurities are typically present in extremely small amounts, thorough examination is only possible after the impurities have been isolated. However, in pharmaceutical facilities, this presents a significant issue. When doing structural analysis using methods like FTIR, NMR, LC/MS, etc., preparative LC assists in isolating impurities (often from impurity-enriched analyses, such as the solution left over from the crystallisation of APIs) in adequate quantities.

IMPURITIES IN ACTIVE PHARMACEUTICAL COMPONENTS; ISOLATION & IDENTIFICATION:

According to Guidance for Industry, Q3A Impurities in New Drug Substances, an impurity profile is a description of the known and unknown impurities that are present in a new drug substance. Processes for impurity profiling often start with the detection of impurities, then move on to isolate and characterise them. It is crucial to create a reliable procedure for each of the three categories of contaminants during process development so that it may eventually be validated and transferred to QA/QC. This approach is made more difficult by the need to develop trustworthy methods for contaminants that are regulated at very low levels, such as nontoxic pollutants.

Pharmaceutical experts rely on quick analytical instruments with great sensitivity to more accurately detect, recognise, quantify, and characterise the impurities present in medicinal ingredients and products.[3]

QUALIFICATION:

The process of gathering and assessing information to determine a person's biological safety is called qualification of uncleanness or a specific uncleanness profile at the level(s) being considered. When suitable, we advise that applicants give an explanation of their impurities and acceptable standards that take safety into account. A contamination is deemed qualified if it satisfies one or more of the circumstances listed below: • When the suggested acceptance and the observed level The impurity criterion should not surpass the threshold shown in a human medication product with FDA approval. • When a substantial metabolite of the contaminant is present, drug-like material • When the suggested acceptance and the observed level The requirements for impurity are sufficiently supported by the literature in science. • When the suggested acceptance and the observed level

IMPURITIES LIMITS:

The ICH recommendations on impurities in new medicinal products state that, unless there is a possible risk, identification of impurities below a 0.1% threshold is not required. Impurities are anticipated to be exceptionally harmful or strong. ICH has set the following restrictions for pollution: If the dosage is less than 2 grimes per day, the amount of impurities should be less than 0.1% or mg p per day, whichever is lower. If the daily dosage exceeds 2 grammes, the amount of impurities should be less than 0.05 percent.

Table 1 Displays the limitations for impurities in drug substances, whereas the limits for impurities in drug substances.

Table 2 Displays medicinal items that have deteriorated.

Table No. 1: Limits for impurities in the drug substance.^[1]

Drug Substance Impurity	Limits
Each identified specified impurity	Not more than 0.5 percent
Each unidentified impurity	Not more than 0.3 percent
Total impurities	Not more than 1.0 percent

Table No. 2: Limits for impurities in the degradation products of drugs.^[1,7]

Degradation Product Impurity	Limits
Each identified degraded product	Not more than 1.0 percent
Each unidentified degraded product	Not more than 0.5 percent
Total degraded products	Not more than 2.0 percent

Strategies to stop pharmaceutical product impurities (3) :

The following is a list of some ways to stop contaminants in pharmaceutical products: Control over crucial elements that impact a product during its manufacturing. It is imperative to exercise extreme caution when handling equipment, machinery, reactors, and other things that By all means, impurities shouldn't be added to the product as a result of operational activity. It is necessary to completely wash the wet cake in order to get rid of any undesired chemicals, including any leftover solvents. For higher quality, the specification should include the maximum allowable contaminants with strict restrictions on products. Periodically, the requirements for drug substances and medication products should be reviewed and updated for particular impurity characterization and ought to.

Conclusion:

This review offers an insight into impurity profiling in drug products and substances. This article offers important details on the many kinds of impurities and how to isolate and characterise them. Numerous analytical methods

have been developed for the purpose of determining, identifying, and qualifying contaminants and important variables. Be taken into account while preparing the bulk medications. This article provides the valuable information about the impurities types and its classification, various techniques of isolation and characterization, analytical techniques for the determination, qualification of impurities and critical factors to be considered while preparation of the bulk drugs. Is quite crucial. It offers essential information about the drug's effectiveness, safety, and quality. Distinct regulatory bodies and ICH had previously established standards in their recommendations, yet even these are insufficient to guarantee the calibre of the product by 100%, thus they must be updated going forward.

