
**Traditional Chinese medicine —
Determination of sulfur dioxide in
natural products by titration**

*Médecine traditionnelle chinoise — Dosage du dioxyde de soufre dans
les produits naturels par titrage*

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 249, *Traditional Chinese medicine*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Traditional Chinese medicine — Determination of sulfur dioxide in natural products by titration

1 Scope

This document specifies the determination method of sulfur dioxide in natural products used in traditional Chinese medicine, which includes the requirements of the device, chemicals, operational procedures and formula.

It is applicable to natural products of traditional Chinese medicine, including Chinese materia medica (whole medicinal materials) and decoction pieces derived from plants or animals.

It is not applicable to minerals used in traditional Chinese medicine.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 sulfur dioxide

toxic gas with a pungent, irritating odour, the chemical compound with the formula SO_2

3.2

sulfur dioxide residue

sulfur dioxide that remains in or on a natural product

Note 1 to entry: Sulfur dioxide residue is expressed as mg/kg.

3.3

maximum residue limit

MRL

highest level of sulfur dioxide that is permitted in or on a natural product

Note 1 to entry: Maximum residue limit is expressed as mg/kg.

3.4

acceptable daily intake

ADI

estimate of the amount of sulfur dioxide in natural products that can be safely consumed daily over a lifetime without adverse health effects

Note 1 to entry: ADI is expressed in milligrams of the sulfur dioxide, as it appears in the natural products, per kilograms of body mass per day (mg/kg/day).

3.5 acid-base titration
determination of the concentration of an acid or base by exactly neutralizing the acid or base with a base or acid of known concentration

4 Apparatus

- 4.1 Glass sample**, cleaned thoroughly before use.
- 4.2 Electronic balance**, with a minimum reading of 0,1 mg.
- 4.3 Separatory funnel**, with a capacity of 50 ml or 100 ml.
- 4.4 Round-bottom flask**, with a capacity of 500 ml or 1 000 ml.

5 Reagents

All reagents shall be of recognized chromatographic grade or analytical purity. Distilled water or water of equivalent purity or above, recently boiled, shall be used.

- 5.1 Distilled water**.
- 5.2 Bromophenol blue**, 1 g/l solution of bromophenol blue in ethanol (20 % volume fraction).
- 5.3 Hydrochloric acid**, 6 mol/l solution of diluted hydrochloric acid. Dilute one volume of concentrated hydrochloric acid.
- 5.4 Hydrogen peroxide**, 3 % volume fraction solution of diluted hydrogen peroxide, free from sulfate ions.
- 5.5 Sodium hydroxide**, 0,1 mol/l solution of sodium hydroxide (standard volumetric solution).

6 Sampling and preservation of samples

6.1 Sampling

6.1.1 Laboratory samples

Raw material samples received by the laboratory shall be accompanied with complete information such as the source and time of collection of the samples. The samples for testing can include Chinese materia medica (whole medicinal materials) and decoction pieces derived from plants or animals.

6.1.2 Sample identification

When a sample is received, it shall be immediately assigned a unique label which will accompany it through all stages of the analysis to the reporting of the results. Samples shall be subject to the appropriate disposal review system and all records shall be accurately kept.