



Instrumental Analysis of Chlordiazepoxide in Different Matrices

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Abstract: Chlordiazepoxide is considered one of most important sedative and hypnotic benzodiazepines drugs which is currently used all over the world with the increased rate of anxiety drugs. In this literature review, we will introduce the pharmacological action of this drug in addition to most of up-to-date reported methods that have been developed for determination of chlordiazepoxide in its pure form, combined form with other drugs, combined form with degradation products, and in biological samples. Most of the reported analytical methods will focus on spectroscopic, chromatographic and electrochemical techniques.

Keywords: Benzodiazepines, Chlordiazepoxide, Pure form, Degradation products, Biological samples.

Introduction

In 1957, Hoffman La Roche laboratory synthesized chlordiazepoxide (CDZO), the first benzodiazepine, which represent one of the most widespread and primarily classes of drugs used for the treatment of psychiatric disorders, anxiety and insomnia [1, 2]. After two months of laboratory testing, the sedative effect of this compound was confirmed to be introduced and approved by the FDA in 1960 under several trade names as (Libritable and Librium) as capsules, tables and injection [3].

Many structural derivatives of CDZO were synthesized in the following years as for example (oxazepam and diazepam), which approved that they have much stronger sedative effect, and furthermore other benzodiazepines by targeted synthesis, allowed to the production with other characteristic hypnotic and/or anticonvulsant functions, with different biological half-life, to be allowed to a larger extent, and at the same time, problems related to drug abuse were reported [2].

As such, in this review article, CDZO has been studied in respect of chemical characters, mode of action and most reported analytical methods that have been developed for determination of this drug in different matrices.

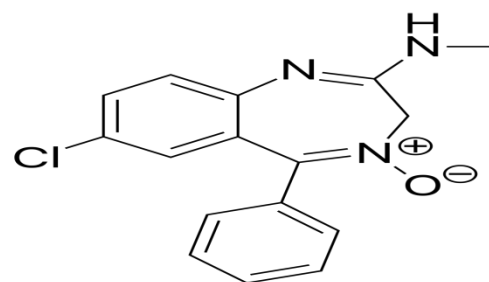


Figure 1. Chemical structure of CDZO

Pharmacological action of CDZO

CDZO is chemically known as 7-chloro-2-methylamino-5-phenyl-3H-1,4-benzodiazepine-4-oxide (Figure 1), it is a benzodiazepine class sedative and hypnotic medication showing powerful antianxiety effects in humans used to enhance effectively the effect of the neurotransmitter gamma-amino butyric acid (GABA) complex formation [1,4], which strengthens pharmacological activity of benzodiazepine derivatives related not only to their anxiolytic activity, but also to sedative and hypnotic effect, skeletal muscle relaxant and anticonvulsant activity [2].

However, further study showed, that benzodiazepines intensify the strength of action by acting in binding target sites as agonists by allosteric interaction, increasing GABA binding level, but they have no effect on GABA receptor activity in the

absence of γ -aminobutyric acid. However, they decrease GABA affinity to GABAA receptor complex with chloride channel, indirectly, increasing frequency, but not the chloride channel opening duration, allowing increased amount of chloride ions penetration under a concentration gradient into the cell [2].

Centrally, Benzodiazepines are used as muscle relaxants without a crucial effect on neuromuscular signaling transduction pathway in motor endplate through the inhibition of multisynaptic impulses [2].

Review of analytical methods

Various techniques were used for the analysis of CDZO in pure forms, in their pharmaceutical formulations and in biological fluids. The available reported methods in the literature can be summarized as follows:

1. Spectroscopic methods

1.1 Spectrophotometric & Spectrofluorimetric methods

| Drugs | Matrix | Method or reagent | λ_{\max} (nm) | Linearity range | LOD | Ref. |
|--|--|---|--|--|-----------------------|------|
| CDZO | Tablets | Indirect method via charge-transfer complex formation with metol | 516 | 3-60 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | 1.16 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | [1] |
| CDZO | Tablets | Complexion reaction with palladium chloride | 424 | 5-120 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | 0.20 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | [3] |
| CDZO | Tablets | Oxidative coupling reaction with phenothiazine | 602 | 0.1-50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | 0.11 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | [4] |
| CDZO | Blood | Combination of ultraviolet spectrophotometry and the Bratton-Marshall reaction | 550 | 0.1-3.0 mg% | ----- | [5] |
| CDZO and clidinium bromide | Tablets | Ratio spectra derivative spectrophotometry | 243.1 | 2.0 - 38.0 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | ----- | [6] |
| CDZO and Demoxepam | Tablets | Difference spectrophotometry | 269 | 0 - 12.5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | ----- | [7] |
| CDZO and Diazepam | Tablets | Combined polynomials method | 230-318 | 0.1-0.7 mg/100mL | ----- | [8] |
| CDZO and Nitrazepam | Tablets | Diazocoupling with ethyl acetoacetate | 408 | 1-16 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | ----- | [9] |
| CDZO and Amitriptyline HCL | Tablets | Multivariate calibration method | 205-305 | 0.0-4.0 ppm | ----- | [10] |
| CDZO and Mebeverine HCL | Binary Mixture | Novel univariate spectrophotometric methods via different manipulation pathways | 200-400 | 1-12 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | ----- | [11] |
| CDZO and Trifluoperazine | Tablets | Multicomponent analysis method | 245 | 2-50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | ----- | [12] |
| CDZO and 2-amino-s-5-chlorobenzophenone impurity | Degradation product | Fluorimetric method (cerium (IV) sulphate in phosphoric acid) | λ_{ex} 405 λ_{em} 440 and 465 | 5×10^{-8} - 3×10^{-5} g/mL | ----- | [13] |
| CDZO | Pharmaceutical dosage form, urine and plasma | Fluorimetric method (Fluorescamine) | λ_{ex} 390 λ_{em} 486 | 0.25-6 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ | ----- | [14] |

2. Chromatographic methods

2.1 HPLC methods

| Drugs | Matrix | Column | Mobile phase | Detector | Linearity range | LOD | Ref. |
|--|---|---|---|---------------|------------------|--------------|------|
| CDZO and mebeverineHCl | Tablets | RP-C ₈ (octylsilyl) | Acetonitrile–0.05 M disodium hydrogen phosphate-triethyl amine (50:50:0.2, v/v/v), pH 2.5 | UV at 247 nm | 2.5–150 µg/mL | 0.04 µg/mL | [15] |
| CDZO | Water, urine, plasma and tablets | MZ ODS- C ₁₈ (250 x 4.6 mm, 5 µm) | Acetonitrile-water (60:40, v/v) | UV at 254 nm | 0.004–10 µg/mL | 0.0012 µg/mL | [16] |
| CDZO | Waste water and tablets | Supelco C ₁₈ (25 cm x 4.6 mm, 5 µm) | Methanol-acetonitrile- 0.05 MKH ₂ PO ₄ (40: 20 :40 v/v/v) | UV at 246 nm | 0.01-0.20 mg/mL | 2 µg/mL | [17] |
| CDZO and Clidinium Bromide | Tablets | Phenomenex Luna C ₁₈ (250 mm x 4.6 mm, i.d., 5 microm) | Potassium dihydrogen phosphate buffer (0.05 M, pH 4.0adjusted with 0.5% ortho phosphoric acid) methanol– acetonitrile (40:40:20, v/v/v) | UV at 220 nm. | 5–500 µg/mL | 0.122 µg/mL | [18] |
| CDZO and diazepam | Urine and plasma | Zorbax SB-C ₁₈ (Agilent) | Acetonitrile:KH ₂ PO ₄ buffer solution (5.0 mmol L ⁻¹ : pH 6.0) (70:30, v/v) | UV at 220 nm | 0.005–10.0 µg/mL | 0.0012 µg/mL | [19] |
| CDZO and amitriptyline hydrochloride | Tablets | Waters Spherisorb [®] C ₁₈ | Methanol: Acetonitrile:0.2M Orthophosphoric acid, pH 4.5, 56:24:20. | UV at 240 nm | 10-320 ng/mL | 4.5 ng/mL | [20] |
| CDZO, diazepam, clonazepam, midazolam, flurazepam, and lorazepam | Soft drinks | C ₁₈ (250 mm x 4.6 mm, 5µm) | 15 mM phosphate buffer: methanol (50:50 v/v) | UV at 245 nm | 0.5- 10 µg/mL | 0.01 µg/mL | [21] |
| CDZO, desmethylchloridiazepoxide, demoxepam | Plasma | Hichrom™ C ₁₈ RPB | deionized water/ methanol/ acetonitrile/ acetic acid (51:28:16: 0'2, v:v; pH 3,7) | UV at 241 nm | 0,125-10 mg/L | 0-075 mg/L | [22] |
| CDZO and Trifluoperazine HCl | Tablet | Phenomenex (Torrance, CA) C ₁₈ column | methanol:water (97:03, v/v) | UV at 262 nm | 0.5-5 µg/mL | 0.05 µg/mL | [23] |
| CDZO | Tape water, river water, urine and plasma | C ₁₈ (150 mm, 4.6 mm, 5 µm) | ACN: water (40:60, v/v) | UV at 225 nm | 0.006–10 µg/mL | 0.0014 µg/mL | [24] |
| CDZO, diazepam, benzodiazepines | Serum | BondElut C ₁₈ | 35% acetronitrile and 65% 7 mM K ₂ HPO ₄ buffer adjusted to pH 3.7 with 0.1 M phosphoricacid. | UV at 242 nm | 50 - 1000 ng/mL | 25 ng/mL | [25] |
| CDZO, Clidinium bromide and dicyclomineHCl | Tablets | Kromasil C ₁₈ | potassium dihydrogen phosphate buffer (0.05 M, pH 4.0adjusted with 0.5% orthophosphoric acid): methanol: acetonitrile (30:40:30, v/v/v) | UV at 270 nm | 24-56 µg/mL | 4.58 µg/mL | [26] |
| CDZO, Flurazepam Oxazepam Lorazepam Clonazepam | Urine Stomach content Tissue Bileand | Knauer 100-5 C ₁₈ (250 mm x 4.6 mm) | buffer phosphate (pH = 2.32) and acetonitrile (63:37). | PDA | 0.1 - 10 µg/mL | 0.05 µg/mL | [27] |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--|--|-------------------|---------------------|------|
| Alprazolam Diazepam | Other biological samples | | | | | | |
| CDZO Anticonvulsants, xanthenes | Plasma | LiChrosorb RP ₈ | Water – methanol – triethylamine (pH = 6.0) (43+57+0.25) | UV at 254 nm | 0.58-5.76 mg/L | 0.02 mg/L | [28] |
| Flunitrazepam CDZO, Clonazepam, Oxazepam, Lorazepam, Nordiazepam, Diazepam, N- Desalkylflurazepam | Plasma | LC-18 DB column (250 mm x 4.6 mm, 5 µm) | 5 mM KH ₂ PO ₄ buffer solution pH6.0:methanol: diethyl ether (55:40:5, v/v/v) | UV at 245 nm | 50–1200 ng/mL | 30 ng/mL | [29] |
| CDZO, Clidinium bromide, DicyclomineHCl , Rabeprazole | Capsules | ODS C ₁₈ RP | Potassium dihydrogen phosphate buffer (0.05 M, pH 4.5 adjusted with 0.5% orthophosphoric acid): Acetonitrile (80:20 v/v) | UV at 215 nm | 10-30 µg/mL | 0.860 3 µg/mL | [30] |
| CDZO, Other benzodiazepines and their metabolites | Serum | Conventional Reversed- phase C ₁₈ | Gradient mobile phases: 1.Solvent A (10 mM aqueous ammonium formate containing 0.1% formic acid) 2.Solvent B (methanol containing 0.1% formic acid) | MS/MS, M = 283.2 m/z | 5-500 ng/mL | 1.0 ng/mL | [31] |
| CDZO and other benzodiazepines | Oral Fluids | Zorbax Eclipse XDB C ₁₈ | Solvent A (20 mM ammonium formate pH 8.6; solvent B was acetonitrile. (50:50 v/v) | MS/MS, M = 283 m/z | 0.5-40 ng/mL | 0.33 ng/mL | [32] |
| CDZO, other benzodiazepines and their 6 metabolites and zolpidem | Human and rat hair | Zorbax Eclipse XDB-C ₁₈ | Gradient mobile phase: 1. Solvent A (2 mM ammonium formate/ 0.2% formic acid in water Solvent B (2 mM ammonium formate/ 0.2% formic acid in acetonitrile | MS/MS, M1 = 227.1 m/z M2 = 283.2 m/z | 0.5–5 ng/mL | 0.05 ng/mL | [33] |
| CDZO, Other benzodiazepines, flumazenil, zolpidem, and zopiclone | Plasma | Merck LiChro CART | Gradient mobile phase: Solvent A (5 mM aqueous ammonium formate adjusted to pH 3 with formic acid Solvent B (acetonitrile) | MS/MS, M1 = 269 m/z M2 = 284 m/z | 0.2–3.75 mg/L | 0.01 mg/L | [34] |
| CDZO, other benzodiazepines, opioids, barbiturates, amphetamines and cocaine | Urine | Poroshell EC- C ₁₈ (2.1 100 mm, 2.7 µm, Agilent) | 0.1% acetic acid in water and methanol | MS/MS, M1 = 282.0798 m/z M2 = 227.0499 m/z M3 = 57.0451 m/z | 20–500 ng/mL | 13.7 ng/mL | [35] |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|--|---|---|-------------------|----------------|------|
| CDZO, other benzodiazepines, Opiates, Synthetic Opiates, and PCP | Waste water | Synergi Hydro-RP | Gradient mobile phase: Solvent A (acetonitrile containing 0.1% formic acid) Solvent B (water with 0.1% formic acid) | MS/MS, M = 227.3 m/z | 0.075-10 µg/L | 0.075 ng/mL | [36] |
| CDZO, Other benzodiazepines and hypnotic drugs | Blood | Infinity LabPoroshell 120 EC-C ₁₈ | Gradient mobile phase: Solvent A (0.05% formic acid in water (v/v)) Solvent B (0.05% formic acid in acetonitrile (v/v)) | MS/MS, M1 = 227.1 m/z M2 = 283.1 m/z | 1–200 ng/mL | 0.25 ng/mL | [37] |
| CDZO and other drugs | Postmortem blood | Raptor Biphenyl columns coupled with Raptor Biphenyl EXP Guard Column Cartridges | Gradient mobile phase: Solvent A (1:1 hexane and ethyl acetate (v/v)) Solvent B (dichloromethane/isopropanol/ammonium hydroxide (78:20:2, v/v)) | MS/MS, M1 = 227.1 m/z M2 = 283.1 m/z | 1–1000 ng/mL | 0.4 ng/mL | [38] |
| CDZO, other benzodiazepines and psychoactive substance | Urine | ACE5 C ₁₈ | Gradient mobile phase: Solvent A (5%acetonitrile with 0.1% formic acid) Solvent B (95%acetonitrile with 0.1% formic acid) | MS/MS, M1 = 283 m/z M2 = 227 m/z | 1-100 ng/mL | 0.5 ng/mL | [39] |
| CDZO, other benzodiazepines, metabolites and benzodiazepine-like substances | Blood | Xterra MS C ₁₈ column | methanol/formic acid approximately 0.006 M (pH 3, 30–60% (v/v) methanol) | MS/MS, M1 = 284 m/z M2 = 269 m/z M3 = 227 m/z | 0.006–2.0 mg/L | 1.7 ng/mL | [40] |
| CDZO, Pharmaceuticals and other abuse drugs | Post-mortem liver | Acquity BEH C ₁₈ | Gradient mobile phase: Solvent A (water, 0.1% formic acid) Solvent B (methanol, 0.1% formic acid) | MS/MS, M1 = 227 m/z M2 = 282 m/z | 5-1500 ng/g | 3.51 ng/g | [41] |
| 88 psychoactive drugs include CDZO and their metabolites | Postmortem blood | Hypersil Gold aQ column | Gradient mobile phase : Solvent A (0.1% formic acid) Solvent B (methanol) | MS/MS, M1 = 227.1 m/z M2 = 192.1 m/z | 0.05-1 µg/mL | 3.2 ng/mL | [42] |

2.2 HPTLC methods

| Drugs | Matrix | Stationary phase | Mobile phase | Detector | Linearity range | LOD | Ref. |
|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------|-------------------|----------------|------|
| Imipramine HCl and CDZO | Tablets | Precoated silica gel 60 F254 plates | Carbon tetrachloride–acetone–triethylamine (pH 8.3; 6 + 3 + 0.3, v/v/v) | UV at 240 nm | 20–240 ng/spot | 3.3 ng/spot | [43] |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|------------------------------|--|--------------|----------------|---------|------|
| Mebeverine hydrochloride and CDZO | Tablets | Pre-coated silica gel 60F254 | Ethyl acetate: methanol (8:4, v:v) | UV at 222 nm | 1-14 µg/band | ----- | [44] |
| Mebeverine hydrochloride and CDZO | Tablets | Silica gel plates | Chloroform: methanol: ammonia (9.5: 0.5: 0.1, (v/v/v)) | UV at 220 nm | 50-600 ng/spot | 0.44596 | [45] |
| CDZO and Clidinium Bromide | Tablets | Silica gel 60 GF2S4 plates | Methanol: acetonitrile: water: glacial acetic acid in the ratio 2.0: 6.5: 1.0 :0.5 | UV at 217 nm | 2.2-12.2 g | ----- | [46] |

3. Electrochemical methods

| Drugs | Matrix | Electrode | Linearity range | LOD | Ref. |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---|--|--|------|
| CDZO | Tablets | Graphene-carbon paste electrode (GCPE) modified with imprinted polymer nanoparticles (nano-MIP) | 6.0×10^{-10} - 7.5×10^{-8} M | 2.61×10^{-10} M | [47] |
| CDZO | Tablets | Mercury electrode & glassy carbon electrode | 2×10^{-7} – 5×10^{-6} M | 5×10^{-8} M | [48] |
| CDZO | Tablets & Human serum | Mercury electrode | 5×10^{-9} M - 2×10^{-7} M | 6.6×10^{-10} M | [49] |
| CDZO & diazepam | Tablets | Sonogel-Carbon electrode (SngCE) modified with bentonite (BENT) | 0.034 – 0.302 µg/mL | 16.0 and 5.0 ng/mL | [50] |
| CDZO | Artificial serum | Hanging mercury drop electrode | 8.0×10^{-9} - 9.5×10^{-8} M | 6.6×10^{-9} M | [51] |
| CDZO | Tablets | ion-selective electrodes (ISEs) | ----- | 6.7×10^{-6} M (CWE) 7.2×10^{-6} M (CWE-T) | [52] |

Conclusion

This literature review represents an up to date survey about all reported methods that have been developed for determination of Chlordiazepoxide in its pure form, combined form with other drugs, combined form with degradation products, and in biological samples such as liquid chromatography, spectrophotometry, spectrofluorimetry, electrochemistry, etc...

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Conflict of interest

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