

## VALIDATION OF REVERSED-PHASE HIGH-PERFORMANCE LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY METHOD FOR SIMULTANEOUS DETERMINATION OF 6-, 8-, AND 10-SHOGAOL FROM GINGER PREPARATIONS

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Received: 08 Jan 2013, Revised and Accepted: 01 Feb 2013

### ABSTRACT

**Objectives:** To develop simple, rapid, and accurate high-performance liquid chromatographic (RP-HPLC) method for quantitative analysis of 6-, 8-, 10-shogaol from ginger preparations.

**Methods:** The separation of 6-, 8-, 10-shogaol was achieved using BDS Hypersil C18 analytical column with the mobile phase composed of acetonitrile and (0.05%) ortho-phosphoric acid (85:15, v/v) at the flow-rate of 1.0 mL min<sup>-1</sup> and UV detector was set at 227 nm.

**Results:** The retention time for 6-, 8-, 10-shogaol was found to be 4.442 min, 5.468 min and 7.258 min respectively. Linear calibration curves were obtained over concentration ranges of 0.50-10.00 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> for 6-, 8-, 10-shogaol with determination coefficients more than 0.9997 for each analyte. The relative standard deviation for intra- and interday precision was found to be below 2 % for each analyte. The corresponding intra- and interday accuracy (relative error) was found to be less than 0.020 % and 0.040 % respectively.

**Conclusion:** In present study simple, accurate, precise and rapid HPLC method was developed for simultaneous analysis of 6-, 8-, 10-shogaol and validated in accordance with ICH guidelines. The developed method was found to be suitable for standardization of herbal extracts and polyherbal formulations for the content of 6-, 8-, 10-shogaol

**Keywords:** 6-shogaol; 8-shogaol; 10-shogaol; RP-HPLC; Validation.

### INTRODUCTION

Rhizome of Ginger is a rich source of homologous series of phenolic ketones, accounts for pungency of Ginger [1]. 6-, 8-, and 10-shogaol [6-, 8-, 10-SGL] (Fig. 1) are one of the important bioactive phenolic ketones present in Ginger and reported to be more pungent than gingerols [1]. 6-, 8-, 10-SGL are known to occur naturally and during

thermal processing (drying/heating) or long-term storage of gingerols by the elimination of the OH group at C-5 with the formation of a double bond between C-4 and C-5 [2]. Shogaols are known to exhibit antipyretic, antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, cardiotoxic, analgesic and antitussive activities along with anticancer activities [2-9]. Recently it has been proved that shogaols are having more potent anticancer properties than gingerols [10].

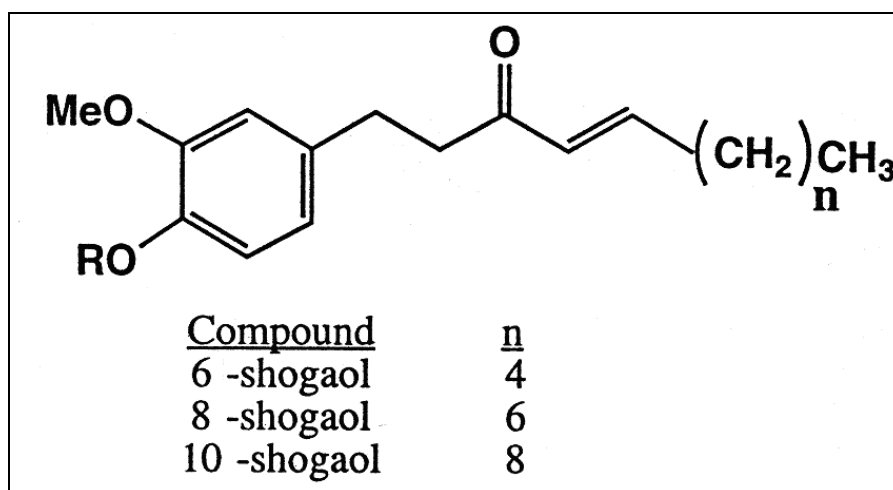


Fig. 1: Structure of 6-, 8-, 10-shogaols

Commonly shogaols are prescribed in the form of Ginger extract [GE] or Ginger oleoresin [GO]. The composition of GE or GO is very complex as both contain series of phytoconstituents along with shogaols [1, 2]. Therefore it is very difficult to identify 6-, 8-, 10-SGL alone from GE or GO. In addition, the quantities of shogaols in GE or GO may get alter with variation in species of Ginger, storage time, environmental conditions, harvest period, and processing methods. The extraction methods used to prepare GE or GO also affect the

quantities of shogaols in GE or GO. Therefore, standardization of GE or GO for quantities of shogaols is of great importance in medicinal applications.

There are very few attempts made to develop reverse phase high performance liquid chromatographic (RP-HPLC) method for identification of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL [11-16]. Recently Balladin et al. [11] and He et al [12] have successfully separated 6-, 8-, 10-SGL by RP-

HPLC but they required more time (approximately 30 min) for adequate separation of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL. Kizhakkayil et al [13] and Gong et al [15] has also identified 6-, 8-, 10-SGL by Gas chromatography- mass spectroscopy (GC-MS) and RP-HPLC. However it has been reported that on exposure to heat, gingerols gets converted into corresponding shogaols [14, 15] hence it is not advisable to use GC-MS system for analysis of GE as it contains variety of phytoconstituents along with gingerols and shogaols. On repetition of RP-HPLC method reported by Kizhakkayil et al. [13] 6-, 8-, 10-SGL eluted very slowly at 40 min.

Hence the aim of present work was to develop validated high performance liquid chromatographic method for the fast and simultaneous determination of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL in GO, GE as well in commercial formulations of Ginger.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Chemicals

GO and GE was purchased from Nisarg Biotech Satara, Maharashtra, India. The reference standard of 6-SGL (>96% purity w/w) was procured from Natural Remedies Pvt. Ltd. Bangalore, Karnataka, India. 8-SGL (>98% purity w/w) and 10-SGL (>98% purity w/w) were purchased from Wuxi App Tec (Tianjin) Co. Ltd., Tianjin, China. Herbal drug formulation used in this study, Honitus (B. No: BD0416, Dabur India Ltd. India) was purchased from the local market. All other reagents and chemicals used in this study were of analytical grade and procured from Merck Specialties Private Limited, Mumbai, India.

### HPLC conditions

The HPLC system (Jasco corporation, Tokyo, Japan) consisted of a Pump (Jasco PU- 2080 Plus) with auto injector sampler programmed at 20  $\mu$ L capacity per injection and UV/VIS detector (Jasco, UV 2075) was used for the analysis. Liquid chromatographic separations were performed on a BDS Hypersil C18 analytical column dimensions (mm) 250  $\times$  4.6, Particle size ( $\mu$ ) 5 (Thermo Scientific, Waltham, USA). The separation was carried out with the mobile phase consisting of acetonitrile and (0.05%) ortho-phosphoric acid (85:15, v/v) at a flow-rate of 1.0 mL min<sup>-1</sup> and chromatograms were monitored at 227 nm. Data was integrated using Jasco Borwin version 1.5, LC-Net II/ADC system.

### Preparation of standard solution

The stock solutions of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL (1 mg mL<sup>-1</sup>) were prepared in methanol individually. The stock solutions were quantitatively transferred into a 10 mL volumetric flask to give solution of appropriate concentration range of 6-SGL, 8-SGL and 10-SGL (0.50-10  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup> each) and made to volume with methanol. Working standard solutions were prepared by dilution of the stock solution.

### Calibration Curve

The working standard solutions 6-, 8-, 10-SGL were injected in triplicate, into the HPLC, and the peak area responses were obtained. Individually calibration curve was constructed for 6-, 8-, 10-SGL by plotting the peak areas versus the concentrations of each analyte respectively. The linear calibration curves were obtained separately by least squares linear-regression analysis for 6-, 8-, 10-SGL and linearity was established by residual analysis.

### Method Validation

The developed analytical method was validated as per ICH guidelines [17] for precision, accuracy, robustness, and stability. The selectivity of the method was estimated by monitoring chromatograms of blank and spiked 6-, 8-, 10-SGL (Fig. 2) samples for probable interference of endogenous substances. Sensitivity of the method was assessed by calculating limit of detection (LOD) and limit of quantitation (LOQ). Precision of the method was ensured by analyzing six replicates of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL at three different concentrations (0.5, 2.5, and 10,  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup>). The results were expressed in relative standard deviation (% RSD). Intra- and interday precision values were determined to confirm reproducibility of method. Precision and accuracy of method was determined from the results of analysis of six determinations of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL at three different concentrations (0.5, 2.5, and 10,  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup>). The precision and accuracy of the method was expressed in terms of % RSD and relative error respectively. Robustness of the method was analyzed by evaluating effect of variation in mobile phase composition and flow rate on the peak areas and retention time of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL at three different concentrations each (0.5, 2.5, and 10,  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup>). The stability of standard solutions was evaluated by monitoring the peak area and retention time after 0, 8, 16, 24, 32, 40 and 48 h of storage.

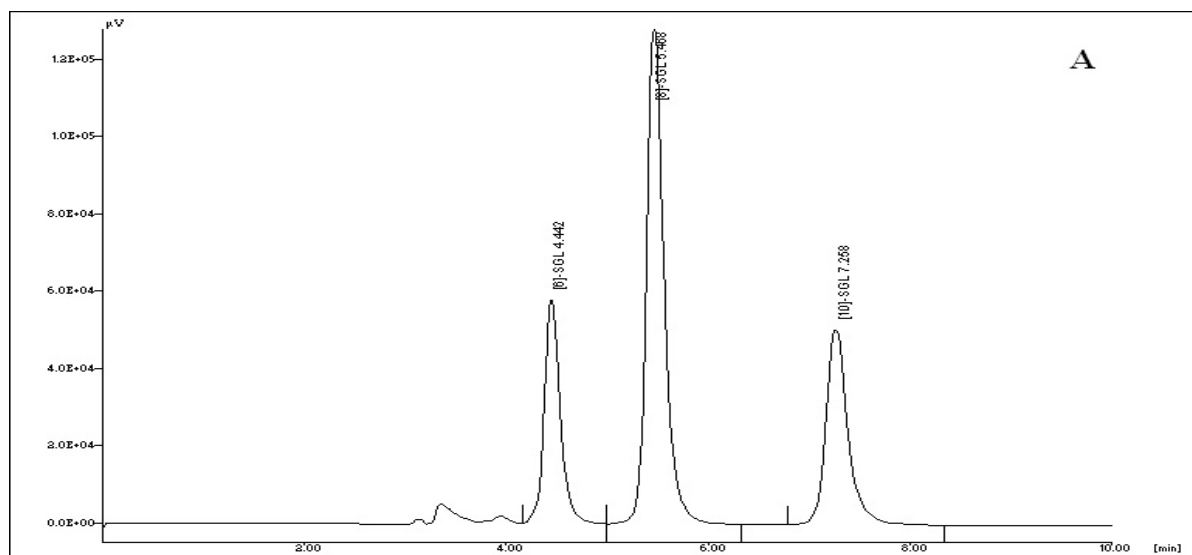
### Preparation of sample solutions

#### GO and GE

Accurately weighed GO and GE (25 mg) were dissolved in methanol (10 mL) separately in 25 mL volumetric flask. Volume of both extracts was made with methanol up to 25 mL and filtered through 0.45  $\mu$  filter. Further both solutions were subjected to HPLC analysis for simultaneous estimation of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL.

#### Honitus Syrup

Accurately weighed a portion of syrup equivalent to 25 mg of Ginger (5 mL contains 25 mg of Ginger) was taken in 25 mL volumetric flask. 10 mL methanol was added and sonicated for 5-10 min to dissolve and made up volume with methanol. Final solution with concentration of 1 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> of Ginger was filtered through 0.45  $\mu$  filter and subjected to HPLC analysis.



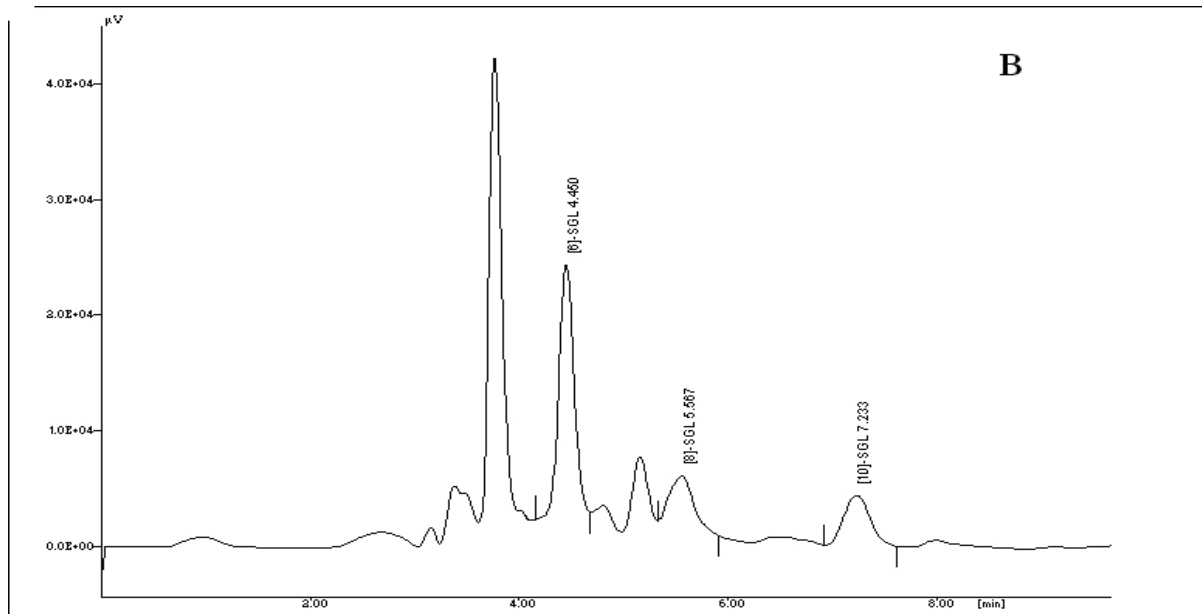


Fig. 2: Chromatogram of (A) standard solutions of the 6-, 8-, 10-shogaols, (B) Ginger Oleoresin

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Chromatography

Recently we have reported the separation and identification of 6-SGL in rat plasma and various tissues [16]. With the reported method, acetonitrile: (0.1%) orthophosphoric acid (70:30) [16], 6-, 8-, 10-SGL was successfully separated. However 8- and 10-SGL were eluted, in 20 min, with poor baseline resolution accompanied by peak tailing (tailing factor peak >1.2). Change in mobile phase composition to acetonitrile: (0.05%) orthophosphoric acid (85:15), improves baseline resolution and reduces the peak tailing (tailing factor peak <1.2) along with elution time (10 min). The acceptable results were obtained at 1

mL min<sup>-1</sup> flow rate and 227 nm wavelength (Fig. 3). Retention time for 6-, 8-, 10-shogaol was found to be 4.442 min, 5.468 min and 7.258 min respectively (Fig. 2).

### Calibration Curve

Linearity of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL was evaluated by determining six working standard solutions containing 0.50–10.00 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> of each analyte in triplicate. The calibration equation and correlation coefficients were calculated by least square linear regression analysis of peak area and concentrations. The linear regression data shows good linear relationship over selected concentration range (Table 1) and linearity was ascertained by residual analysis (Fig. 4).

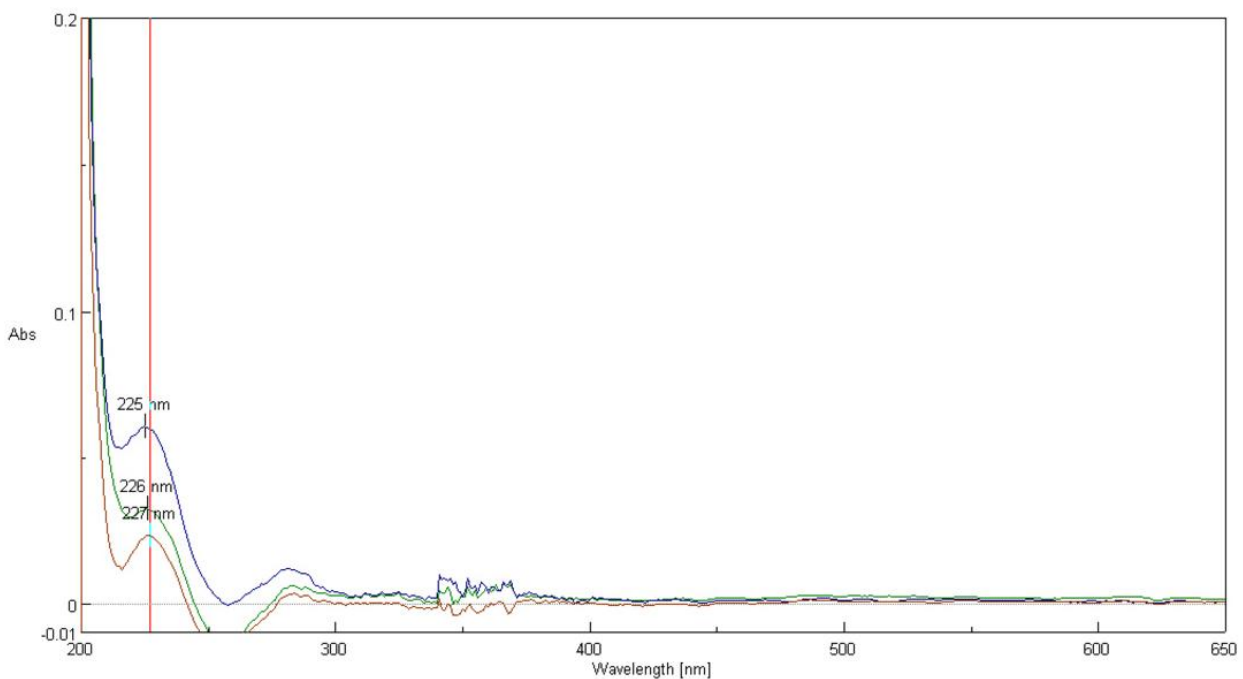


Fig. 3: Overlay of UV spectrum of 6-, 8-, 10-shogaols.

Table 1: Statistical parameters for calibration curve of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL

| Parameter                                  | 6-SGL              | 8-SGL             | 10-SGL            |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Linearity Range ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )  | 0.50-10            | 0.50-10           | 0.50-10           |
| Correlation Coefficient ( $r^2$ )          | 0.9999             | 0.9998            | 0.9999            |
| Slope $\pm$ SD                             | 15620 $\pm$ 81.87  | 37330 $\pm$ 206.6 | 25690 $\pm$ 99.17 |
| Confidence limit of Slope <sup>a</sup>     | 15410 to 15830     | 36800 to 37860    | 25430 to 25940    |
| Intercept $\pm$ SD                         | -334.1 $\pm$ 425.8 | -4984 $\pm$ 1074  | -5330 $\pm$ 515.7 |
| Confidence limit of Intercept <sup>a</sup> | -1429 to 760.5     | -7746 to -2222    | -6656 to -4004    |
| Sy.x                                       | 746.9              | 1885              | 904.8             |

<sup>a</sup>95 % confidence limit.

Sy.x-Standard deviation of residuals from line.

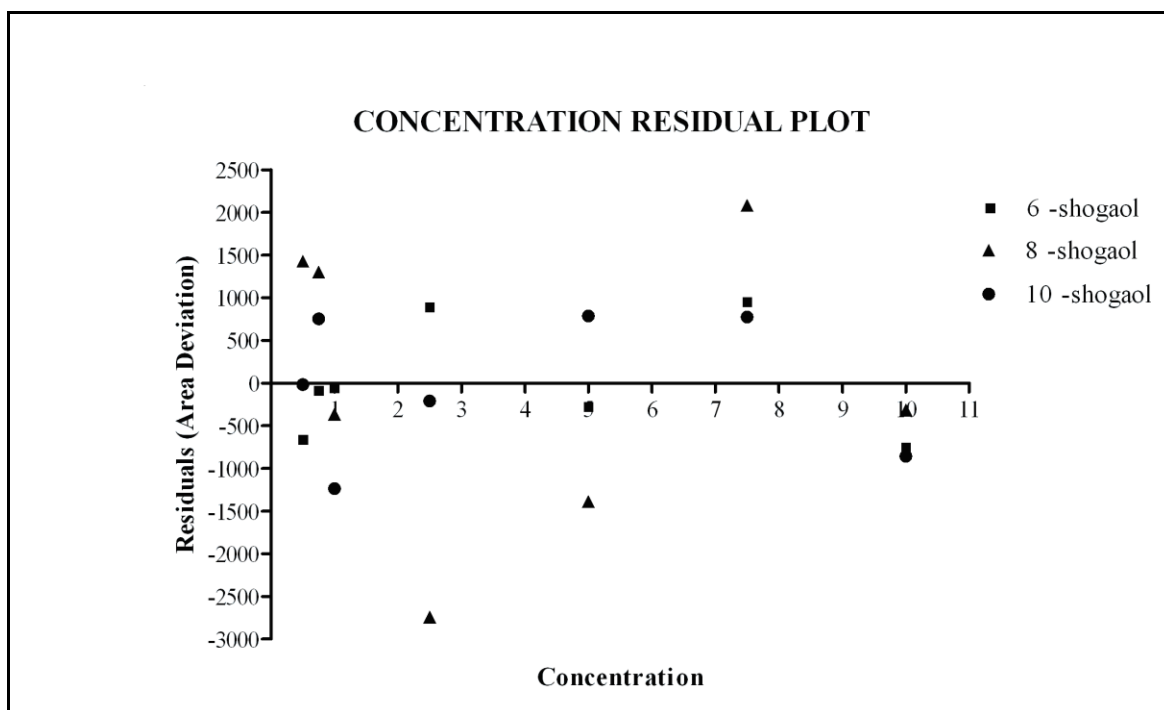


Fig. 4: Concentration versus Residual plot of 6-, 8-, 10-shogaols.

#### Method Validation

##### Selectivity and sensitivity

No interference was observed at the retention time when chromatograms of blank and spiked 6-, 8-, 10-SGL samples (n=6) were monitored (Fig. 2). LOD and LOQ were calculated by using slope and the residual standard deviation of a regression line. LOD values were 0.145  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ , 0.153  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ , 0.104  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ , for 6-, 8-, 10-SGL respectively. The LOQ for 6-, 8-, 10-SGL was found to be 0.436  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ , 0.461  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ , 0.312  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ , respectively.

##### Precision and accuracy

The intra- and interday precision of the analytical method was tested by confirming the intra- and interday variation of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL. The developed method was found to be precise since the relative standard deviation (% RSD) values for intra- and interday precision did not exceed 2 % for selected concentrations (n=6) (Table 2). The accuracy of the method was evaluated by investigating the relative error (% error) of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL at three different concentration levels (n=6) and was found to be less than 0.035 for 6-, 8-, 10-SGL respectively (Table 2).

Table 2: Intra- and interday Precision and Accuracy (n=6)

| Analyte | Concentration<br>$\text{mg mL}^{-1}$ | Intraday         |       |        | Interday        |       |        |
|---------|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------|--------|-----------------|-------|--------|
|         |                                      | Mean $\pm$ SD    | % RSD | %Error | Mean $\pm$ SD   | % RSD | %Error |
| 6-SGL   | 0.5                                  | 0.49 $\pm$ 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.020  | 0.48 $\pm$ 0.00 | 0.00  | 0.040  |
|         | 2.5                                  | 2.49 $\pm$ 0.01  | 0.40  | 0.004  | 2.48 $\pm$ 0.01 | 0.40  | 0.007  |
|         | 10                                   | 9.98 $\pm$ 0.02  | 0.20  | 0.002  | 9.95 $\pm$ 0.01 | 0.10  | 0.005  |
| 8-SGL   | 0.5                                  | 0.50 $\pm$ 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.000  | 0.49 $\pm$ 0.00 | 0.00  | 0.020  |
|         | 2.5                                  | 2.51 $\pm$ 0.03  | 1.20  | -0.004 | 2.45 $\pm$ 0.04 | 1.63  | 0.019  |
|         | 10                                   | 10.04 $\pm$ 0.16 | 1.59  | -0.004 | 9.99 $\pm$ 0.17 | 1.70  | 0.001  |
| 10-SGL  | 0.5                                  | 0.50 $\pm$ 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.000  | 0.49 $\pm$ 0.00 | 0.00  | 0.020  |
|         | 2.5                                  | 2.49 $\pm$ 0.02  | 0.80  | 0.004  | 2.49 $\pm$ 0.01 | 0.40  | 0.004  |
|         | 10                                   | 9.99 $\pm$ 0.02  | 0.20  | 0.001  | 9.97 $\pm$ 0.02 | 0.20  | 0.003  |

### Robustness of the method

The effect of small and deliberate variations in the mobile phase composition and flow rate on the peak areas (n=6) and retention time (n=6) of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL was monitored. The relative standard deviation (% RSD) of peak areas and retention time for each drug was calculated and found to be less than 2 % (Table 3). The lower values of relative standard deviation (% RSD) confirm robustness of method.

### Solution stability

The standard solutions were found to be stable up to 48 h as no unknown peak was observed. For evaluation of stability, standard solution was stored at ambient temperature away from light. There was no change observed in peak areas and retention time of standard solution over the period of 48 h. The %RSD of peak areas (n=3) and retention time (n=3) of standard solution at different times was found to be less than 2 %.

The data of summary of validation parameters are listed in Table 4.

### Methods Comparison

Balladin et al. [11] and He et al [12] have reported separation and identification of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL from ginger preparation by RP-HPLC and LC-MS respectively. However, these methods suffer from drawbacks such as poor base line resolution and poor separation. He et al [12] used gradient elution method and elution time of both methods was more than 30 min whereas the proposed method uses simple isocratic elution with mobile phase of acetonitrile and (0.05%) ortho-phosphoric acid (85:15, v/v) that require the elution time of only 10 min. Besides, in comparison with LC-MS, LC with UV detection is chiefly characterized by its simplicity of operation, inexpensive and widespread.

### Analysis of GO, GE and marketed herbal formulation

Developed method was applied for standardization GO, GE and marketed herbal formulation Honitus for content of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL. There was no interference from other phytoconstituents or excipients present in extracts or herbal formulation. The percent contents for each component identified are summarized in Table 5.

Table 3: Robustness study (n=6)

| Analyte | Change in Flow Rate ( $\pm 0.1$ mL min <sup>-1</sup> ) |       |         |       | Change in % of Acetonitrile ( $\pm 1\%$ ) |       |         |       |
|---------|--|-------|---------|-------|---|-------|---------|-------|
|         | RT   |       | Area    |       | RT  |       | Area    |       |
|         | SD   | % RSD | SD      | % RSD | SD  | % RSD | SD      | % RSD |
| 6-SGL   | 0.07   | 1.59  | 891.68  | 1.18  | 0.07                                      | 1.55  | 1488.51 | 1.68  |
| 8-SGL   | 0.09   | 1.54  | 1014.19 | 1.08  | 0.09                                      | 1.56  | 1055.31 | 1.20  |
| 10-SGL  | 0.11   | 1.49  | 1677.55 | 1.05  | 0.11                                      | 1.56  | 2065.32 | 1.36  |

Table 4: Summary of Validation Parameters.

| Parameters                                      | 6-SGL    | 8-SGL    | 10-SGL   |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| Linearity range ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )       | 0.50-10  | 0.50-10  | 0.50-10  |
| Correlation coefficient                         | 0.9999   | 0.9998   | 0.9999   |
| Limit of detection ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )    | 0.15     | 0.15     | 0.10     |
| Limit of quantitation ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) | 0.44     | 0.46     | 0.31     |
| Precision (% RSD)                               |          |          |          |
| Intraday (n = 6)                                | 0.20     | 0.93     | 0.33     |
| Interday (n = 6)                                | 0.17     | 1.11     | 0.20     |
| Accuracy (% Error)                              |          |          |          |
| Intraday (n = 6)                                | 0.009    | -0.003   | 0.002    |
| Interday (n = 6)                                | 0.017    | 0.013    | 0.009    |
| Robustness                                      | Robust   | Robust   | Robust   |
| Specificity                                     | Specific | Specific | Specific |

Table 5: Determination of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL from marketed formulation, GE and GO

| Analyte       | Amount of Ginger (mg) | Amount found (%) |       |        |
|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------|--------|
|               |                       | 6-SGL            | 8-SGL | 10-SGL |
| Honitus Syrup | 25                    | 0.068            | 0.029 | 0.044  |
| GO            | 25                    | 0.997            | 0.185 | 0.307  |
| GE            | 25                    | 0.897            | 0.158 | 0.273  |

### CONCLUSION

In the present study a simple, accurate, precise and rapid HPLC method was developed and validated for simultaneous analysis of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL. The method was found to be suitable for the standardization of herbal extracts or formulations for the content of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL. The simplicity of the procedure, combined with excellent sensitivity, resolution, and short analysis time, makes this method a useful tool for identification of 6-, 8-, 10-SGL from herbal medicines.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors are thankful to the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) (Grant No.:8/281(0020)/2011-EMR-I), New Delhi, India for financial assistance to carry out the research and also thankful to the Poona College of Pharmacy, for providing necessary facilities to carry out the work efficiently.

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