Oxcarbazepine Oral Suspension

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In accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the Council of Experts, the Small Molecules 4 Expert Committee has revised the Oxcarbazepine Oral Suspension monograph. The purpose of this revision is to update the acceptance criteria in the *pH* test from 2.5–3.7 to 2.5–4.0 to accommodate an FDA-approved drug product specification.

The Oxcarbazepine Oral Suspension Revision Bulletin supersedes the currently official monograph.

Should you have any questions, please contact Brice Wagner, Scientist IV (301-998-6832 or brice.wagner@usp.org).

Revision Bulletin
Official: April 1, 2026

Oxcarbazepine Oral Suspension

DEFINITION

Oxcarbazepine Oral Suspension contains NLT 95.0% and NMT 105.0% of the labeled amount of oxcarbazepine ($C_{15}H_{12}N_2O_2$).

IDENTIFICATION

● **A.** The retention time of the major peak of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the *Assay*.

● **B.** The UV spectrum of the major peak of the *Sample solution* corresponds to that of the *Standard solution*, as obtained in the *Assay*.

ASSAY

● **Procedure**

Protect all solutions from light.

Buffer: Dissolve 1.36 g of sodium acetate and 0.6 g of glacial acetic acid in 1 L of water. Adjust with glacial acetic acid to a pH of 4.4.

Solution A: Acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran, *tert*-butyl methyl ether, and *Buffer* (130:30:9:830)

Solution B: Acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran, *tert*-butyl methyl ether, and *Buffer* (670:30:9:290)

Mobile phase: See *Table 1*.

Table 1

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0	93	7
2	90	10
10	90	10
25	10	90
26	93	7
35	93	7

Diluent: Dissolve 0.1 g of ascorbic acid and 1 mL of acetonitrile in 1 L of water.

Standard stock solution: 1 mg/mL of USP Oxcarbazepine RS in acetonitrile. Sonicate to aid in dissolution.

Standard solution: 0.25 mg/mL of USP Oxcarbazepine RS from the *Standard stock solution*, prepared as follows. Dilute a suitable volume of the *Standard stock solution* first with *Diluent*, using 70% of the

final volume. Allow the solution to equilibrate to room temperature, and then dilute with acetonitrile to volume.

System suitability stock solution: 0.01 mg/mL of USP Oxcarbazepine Related Compound A RS and 0.02 mg/mL of USP Oxcarbazepine Related Compound C RS in acetonitrile

System suitability solution: 0.5 µg/mL of USP Oxcarbazepine Related Compound A RS and 1 µg/mL of USP Oxcarbazepine Related Compound C RS from the *System suitability stock solution*, in *Standard solution*

Sample solution: 0.25 mg/mL of oxcarbazepine from a portion of Oral Suspension, prepared as follows. Dissolve first with *Diluent* using 8% of the final volume, and then fill to 30% of the final volume with acetonitrile. Sonicate for 15 min. Add *Diluent* to fill to 36% of the final volume. Shake the flask vigorously. Allow the solution to equilibrate to room temperature, and dilute with *Diluent* to volume.

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography* ⟨621⟩*, System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 254 nm. For *Identification B*, use a diode array detector in the range of 210–400 nm.

Column: 3.0-mm × 25-cm; 3-µm packing L1

Column temperature: 50°

Flow rate: 0.6 mL/min

Injection volume: 5 µL

System suitability

Samples: *Standard solution* and *System suitability solution*

[Note—See *Table 2* for the relative retention times.]

Suitability requirements

Resolution: NLT 1.3 between oxcarbazepine related compound C and oxcarbazepine related compound A, *System suitability solution*

Relative standard deviation: NMT 1.0%, *Standard solution*

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of oxcarbazepine ($C_{15}H_{12}N_2O_2$) in the portion of Oral Suspension taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times 100$$

r_U = peak response of oxcarbazepine from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response of oxcarbazepine from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Oxcarbazepine RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

C_U = nominal concentration of oxcarbazepine in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

Acceptance criteria: 95.0%–105.0%

PERFORMANCE TESTS

- **Dissolution** ⟨711⟩

Test 1

Medium: 1% sodium dodecyl sulfate in water; 890 mL

Apparatus 2: 75 rpm

Time: 30 min

Analysis: Shake manually a bottle of Oral Suspension for about 20 s. Using a 10-mL syringe, draw 10.0 mL of the Oral Suspension. Attach a long needle to the syringe. Deliver carefully 10.0 mL of Oral Suspension through the needle to the bottom of the vessel containing preheated *Medium*. Take about 10 mL of the *Medium* from the vessel to clean the syringe, and transfer it back to the vessel. Start the paddle rotation immediately after introduction of each sample.

Mobile phase: Methanol, glacial acetic acid, and water (24:1:75)

Standard solution: 0.7 mg/mL of USP Oxcarbazepine RS in *Medium*

Sample solution: Pass a portion of the solution under test through a suitable filter of 1-µm pore size, discarding the first few milliliters.

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography* ⟨621⟩, *System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 310 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 10-µm packing L10

Column temperature: 30°

Flow rate: 1.5 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 µL

System suitability

Sample: *Standard solution*

Suitability requirements

Relative standard deviation: NMT 2.0%

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of oxcarbazepine ($C_{15}H_{12}N_2O_2$) dissolved:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/L) \times V \times 100$$

r_U = peak response from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Oxcarbazepine RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

L = label claim (mg in 10 mL)

V = volume of *Medium*, 900 mL

Tolerances: NLT 80% (Q) of the labeled amount of oxcarbazepine ($C_{15}H_{12}N_2O_2$) is dissolved.

Test 2: If the product complies with this test, the labeling indicates that it meets USP *Dissolution Test 2*.

Medium: 7.5 g/L of sodium dodecyl sulfate in water; 890 mL, deaerated

Apparatus 2: 75 rpm

Time: 15 min

Mobile phase: Methanol, glacial acetic acid, and water (24:1:75)

Standard solution: 0.7 mg/mL of USP Oxcarbazepine RS prepared as follows. Transfer a suitable amount of USP Oxcarbazepine RS to a suitable volumetric flask. Add 20% of the final volume of acetonitrile and sonicate for 10 min with frequent vortexing. Add 50% of the final volume of *Medium* and sonicate again for 10 min with frequent vortexing. Make sure USP Oxcarbazepine RS is fully dissolved at room temperature. If not fully dissolved, sonicate for an additional 10 min or until completely dissolved. Dilute with *Medium* to volume and mix well. Pass a portion of the solution

through a suitable filter of 1-µm pore size, discarding the first few milliliters. [NOTE—Immediately keep it at 10° for the *Analysis*. This solution is stable for 24 h at 10°.]

Sample solution: Use a separate bottle of Oral Suspension for each vessel. After the dissolution *Medium* has reached the appropriate temperature, remove about 10 mL of heated *Medium* from each vessel and set aside for cannula rinsing after sample introduction. Shake manually a bottle of Oral Suspension for about 20 s. Using a 10-mL syringe, draw 10.0 mL of the Oral Suspension. Wipe the syringe with paper towels to remove excess Oral Suspension that may stick to the outside of the syringe. Attach a suitable cannula to the syringe. Deliver carefully 10.0 mL of Oral Suspension through the cannula to the bottom of the vessel. Start the paddle rotation immediately after introduction of each sample. Rinse the cannula into the vessel with 10 mL of the previously removed *Medium*. Pass a portion of the solution under test through a suitable filter of 1-µm pore size, discarding the first few milliliters. [NOTE—The plunger of the syringe should be pushed at a consistent rate and sample delivery should be completed in about 15 s.]

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography* ⟨621⟩, *System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 310 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 10-µm packing L10

Temperatures

Autosampler: 10°

Column: 30°

Flow rate: 1.5 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 µL

Run time: NLT 2 times the retention time of oxcarbazepine

System suitability

Sample: *Standard solution*

Suitability requirements

Tailing factor: NMT 2.5

Relative standard deviation: NMT 2.0%

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of oxcarbazepine ($C_{15}H_{12}N_2O_2$) dissolved:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S) \times (1/L) \times V \times 100$$

r_U = peak response of oxcarbazepine from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response of oxcarbazepine from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Oxcarbazepine RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

L = label claim (mg in 10 mL)

V = volume of *Medium*, 900 mL

Tolerances: NLT 80% (Q) of the labeled amount of oxcarbazepine ($C_{15}H_{12}N_2O_2$) is dissolved.

Test 3: If the product complies with this test, the labeling indicates that it meets USP *Dissolution Test 3*. Protect solutions containing oxcarbazepine from light.

Medium: Dissolve 8 g of sodium dodecyl sulfate in 1000 mL of water; 890 mL, deaerated by sonication.

Apparatus 2: 50 rpm

Time: 20 min

Mobile phase: Methanol, glacial acetic acid, and water (24:1:75)

Standard solution: 0.7 mg/mL of USP Oxcarbazepine RS prepared as follows. Transfer a quantity of USP Oxcarbazepine RS to an appropriate volumetric flask and dissolve in 20% of the flask volume of acetonitrile. Sonicate to dissolve, if necessary. Dilute with *Medium* to volume.

[NOTE—The *Standard solution* may be stable for 48 h at 10°.]

Sample solution: After the *Medium* has reached the appropriate temperature, remove about 10 mL of *Medium* from each vessel and set aside. Determine the density, *d* (g/mL), of the Oral Suspension using appropriate means. Shake manually a bottle of Oral Suspension for about 20 s. Collect 10 mL of the Oral Suspension using a suitable syringe. Clean the syringe from outside and weigh. Attach a cannula to the syringe. Start the dissolution test apparatus and deliver immediately 10 mL of Oral Suspension through the cannula into each vessel to a zone that is between the surface of the *Medium* and the top of the rotating paddle blade. Add 10 mL of the previously withdrawn dissolution *Medium* with the help of same cannula to each vessel. Weigh the syringe again and determine the weight, *W* (g), of suspension delivered into each vessel. After completing the specified time, withdraw a suitable volume of the solution under test. Pass through a suitable filter of 0.45-µm pore size, discarding an appropriate volume of filtrate so that a consistent result can be obtained.

[NOTE—The *Sample solution* may be stable for 48 h at 10°.]

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography* ⟨621⟩, *System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 310 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 25-cm; 5-µm packing L10

Temperatures

Autosampler: 10°

Column: 30°

Flow rate: 1.5 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 µL

Run time: NLT 1.5 times the retention time of oxcarbazepine

System suitability

Sample: *Standard solution*

Suitability requirements

Relative standard deviation: NMT 2.0%

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of oxcarbazepine ($C_{15}H_{12}N_2O_2$) dissolved:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times C_S \times V \times (d/W) \times (1/L) \times 100$$

r_U = peak response of oxcarbazepine from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response of oxcarbazepine from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Oxcarbazepine RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

V = sum of the volume of *Medium* and the volume of Oral Suspension taken, 900 mL

d = density of the Oral Suspension (g/mL)

W = weight of the Oral Suspension taken (g)

L = label claim of Oral Suspension (mg/mL)

Tolerances: NLT 80% (Q) of the labeled amount of oxcarbazepine ($C_{15}H_{12}N_2O_2$) is dissolved.

Test 4: If the product complies with this test, the labeling indicates that it meets USP *Dissolution Test 4*. Protect solutions containing oxcarbazepine from light.

Medium: 0.75% sodium dodecyl sulfate in water (Add 7.5 g of sodium dodecyl sulfate into 1000 mL of water. Sonicate to dissolve.); 890 mL

Apparatus 2: 50 rpm

Time: 15 min

Buffer: Dissolve 2.72 g of sodium acetate and 1.5 mL of glacial acetic acid in 2000 mL of water. Sonicate to dissolve. Adjust with glacial acetic acid to a pH of 4.4.

Solution A: Add 20 mL of *tert*-butyl methyl ether to the *Buffer*.

Solution B: Acetonitrile

Mobile phase: See *Table 2*.

Table 2

Time (min)	Solution A (%)	Solution B (%)
0.01	80	20
7	40	60
10	25	75
10.5	80	20
15	80	20

Standard solution: 0.7 mg/mL of USP Oxcarbazepine RS prepared as follows. Transfer a quantity of USP Oxcarbazepine RS to an appropriate volumetric flask and dissolve in 2% of the flask volume of dimethyl sulfoxide. Sonicate for 5 min. Add 60% of the flask volume of *Medium*. Sonicate to dissolve, if necessary. Dilute with *Medium* to volume.

Sample solution: Use a separate bottle of Oral Suspension for each vessel. Determine the density, d (g/mL), of the Oral Suspension using appropriate means. Shake manually a bottle of Oral Suspension for about 20 s. Collect 10 mL of the Oral Suspension using a suitable syringe and weigh. Attach a cannula to the syringe. Deliver carefully 10 mL of Oral Suspension through the cannula to the bottom of each vessel containing the preheated *Medium*. Withdraw 10 mL of *Medium* from the vessel to clean the cannula and transfer it back to the vessel. Start the dissolution test apparatus immediately. Weigh the syringe again and determine the weight, W (g), of suspension delivered into each vessel. After completing the specified time, withdraw a suitable volume of the solution under

test. Pass through a suitable filter of 0.45-µm pore size, discarding an appropriate volume of filtrate so that a consistent result can be obtained.

Chromatographic system

(See *Chromatography* ⟨621⟩, *System Suitability*.)

Mode: LC

Detector: UV 310 nm

Column: 4.6-mm × 15-cm; 5-µm packing L11

Column temperature: 40°

Flow rate: 1 mL/min

Injection volume: 10 µL

System suitability

Sample: *Standard solution*

Suitability requirements

Tailing factor: NMT 2.0

Relative standard deviation: NMT 2.0%

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of the labeled amount of oxcarbazepine ($C_{15}H_{12}N_2O_2$) dissolved:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times C_S \times V \times (d/W) \times (1/L) \times 100$$

r_U = peak response of oxcarbazepine from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response of oxcarbazepine from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Oxcarbazepine RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

V = sum of the volume of *Medium* and the volume of Oral Suspension taken, 900 mL

d = density of the Oral Suspension (g/mL)

W = weight of the Oral Suspension taken (g)

L = label claim of Oral Suspension (mg/mL)

Tolerances: NLT 80% (*Q*) of the labeled amount of oxcarbazepine ($C_{15}H_{12}N_2O_2$) is dissolved.

- **Deliverable Volume** ⟨698⟩**:** Meets the requirements

IMPURITIES

- **Organic Impurities**

Protect all solutions from light.

Solution A, Solution B, Mobile phase, Diluent, System suitability solution, Sample solution, and **Chromatographic system:** Proceed as directed in the *Assay*.

Standard stock solution: 0.5 mg/mL of USP Carbamazepine RS in acetonitrile. Sonicate to aid in dissolution.

Standard solution: 0.5 µg/mL of USP Carbamazepine RS from the *Standard stock solution* prepared as follows. Dilute a volume of the *Standard stock solution* first with *Diluent*, using 70% of the final volume. Cool to room temperature, and dilute with acetonitrile to volume.

System suitability

Samples: *System suitability solution* and *Standard solution*

Suitability requirements

Resolution: NLT 1.3 between oxcarbazepine related compound C and oxcarbazepine related compound A peaks, *System suitability solution*

Relative standard deviation: NMT 5.0%, *Standard solution*

Analysis

Samples: *Standard solution* and *Sample solution*

Calculate the percentage of each individual impurity in the portion of Oral Suspension taken:

$$\text{Result} = (r_U/r_S) \times (C_S/C_U) \times (1/F) \times 100$$

r_U = peak response of each individual impurity from the *Sample solution*

r_S = peak response of carbamazepine from the *Standard solution*

C_S = concentration of USP Carbamazepine RS in the *Standard solution* (mg/mL)

C_U = nominal concentration of oxcarbazepine in the *Sample solution* (mg/mL)

F = relative response factor (see *Table 3*)

Acceptance criteria: See *Table 3*.

Table 3

Name	Relative Retention Time	Relative Response Factor	Acceptance Criteria, NMT (%)
Acridine carboxylic acid[a]	0.24		0.1
Carbamazepinedione[b]	0.65	0.68	0.2
Oxcarbazepine	1.0	1.0	—
Oxcarbazepine related compound C	1.33	12.5	0.1
Oxcarbazepine related compound A[c]	1.38	—	—
Carbamazepine	1.66	1.0	—
Dibenzazepinodione[d]	1.97	1.1	0.2
Acridine[e]	2.49	11.1	0.1
Dibenzazepinone[f]	2.62	2.9	0.1
Any unspecified individual degradation product	—	1.0	0.1
Total impurities	—	—	0.8

[a] Acridine-9-carboxylic acid.

[b] 10,11-Dioxo-10,11-dihydro-5*H*-dibenzo[*b,f*]azepine-5-carboxamide.

[c] For system suitability purposes only.

[d] 5*H*-Dibenzo[*b,f*]azepine-10,11-dione.

[e] Acridine.

[f] 10(11*H*)-Oxo-5*H*-dibenz[*b,f*]azepine.

SPECIFIC TESTS

Change to read:

- **pH** ⟨791⟩**:** 2.5–▲4.0▲ (RB 1-Apr-2026)

- **Microbial Enumeration Tests** ⟨61⟩ and **Test for Specified Microorganisms** ⟨62⟩**:** The total aerobic microbial count is NMT 10^2 cfu/mL. The total yeasts and molds count is NMT 10^1 cfu/mL. It meets the requirements of the test for absence of *Escherichia coli*.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- **Packaging and Storage:** Store at controlled room temperature.

- **Labeling:** When more than one *Dissolution* test is given, the labeling states the *Dissolution* test used only if *Test 1* is not used.

- **USP Reference Standards** ⟨11⟩

  USP Carbamazepine RS

  USP Oxcarbazepine RS

  USP Oxcarbazepine Related Compound A RS

  N-Formyl-10-oxo-10,11-dihydro-5*H*-dibenzo[*b,f*]azepine-5-carboxamide.

  $C_{16}H_{12}N_2O_3$ 280.28

  USP Oxcarbazepine Related Compound C RS

  Acridin-9(10*H*)-one.

  $C_{13}H_9NO$ 195.22

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Not Applicable

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