

Analytical Method Validation: A Comprehensive Review

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Abstract: *The creation of reliable analytical method(s) is essential to the process of discovering novel medications, bringing them to market, and refining them further to obtain marketing clearance. This research examines the creation, refinement, and verification of the medication's method. Product from the initial creation of the formulation to the commercial batch. Approach development for the interested party in process tests, the sample, or the final product manufacturing of the therapeutic product and to provide practical methods for determining the following: linearity, range, accuracy, precision, stability of the recovery solution, specificity, detection limit, quantitation limit, selectivity, and the resilience and robustness of liquid chromatographic techniques to enable routine, in-process, and stability analysis.*

Keywords: Analytical Method Development, Validation Parameters, Acceptance Criteria

I. INTRODUCTION

In order to guide scientists in the development stage and impurity profile in the dissolving data and stability research as well as regular analysis, the dependability of an analytical finding is crucial. Validation is important because it produces consistent and dependable results for both routine and stability analysis. As the importance of analysis in dissolution and the impurity profile has grown in recent years, this is especially true with regard to quality control and accreditation. Therefore, in order to reach a consensus on the quantity of validation trials and acceptance criteria for the validation parameters of the analytical methods^{1,31–35}, this problem should be widely debated on a worldwide basis.

Need of analytical method validation:

To get accurate findings, it is essential to use analytical techniques that have been carefully verified and well-characterized when analyzing the registration batch and accelerated stability testing samples in the lab. It's also important to emphasize that each analytical technique has distinct characteristics that vary depending on the analyte. In these situations, specific validation standards must be developed for every analyte. Furthermore, the ultimate objective of the study may influence the technique's appropriateness. It is crucial to confirm the analytical technique(s) in compliance with ICH guidelines, provide accurate validation data for multiple sites and parameters, and assess intra- and inter-laboratory reliability after a sample analysis for a specific study is conducted at multiple sites and a commercial batch for individual consumption.

Analytical method development and validation:

Before starting analyses of routine samples, research samples, and stability, a specific analytical technique must be created for drug products from the in-process to the final product stages. Minivaldation must be finished first. Developing analytical techniques and completing the process include:

- 1) Developing a consistent working standard by using reference standards as a basis.
- 2) Enhancing the chromatographic conditions, concentrations of the standard and sample solutions, and the extraction procedure for the samples.
- 3) Analytical procedures, including dissolution, assay, and related material under development laboratories, must be verified, or minivaldation, before analysis (standard samples).

4) The acceptable findings from the short validation should suggest that formulation has to be finished before the validation procedure starts.3, 76–78.

Defination of validation:

It is acknowledged that a defined analytical technique will go through several revisions during a normal medicinal product development program due to composition changes, the addition of lower strength, or changes in the formulation's proportion of coating material. The analytical method can be altered as a result of the modifications, and if it is, it has to be validated using various levels. Complete validation and partial validation, sometimes known as mini validation, are two distinct levels or sorts of method validations that are defined and described as follows.

1) Full validation: Before a clinical or registration batch of a drug product is executed, full validation is required. The current procedure should be altered and revalidated if the formulation is changed or if an impurity is discovered during the stability study. The parameters are also examined in accordance with ICH principles.

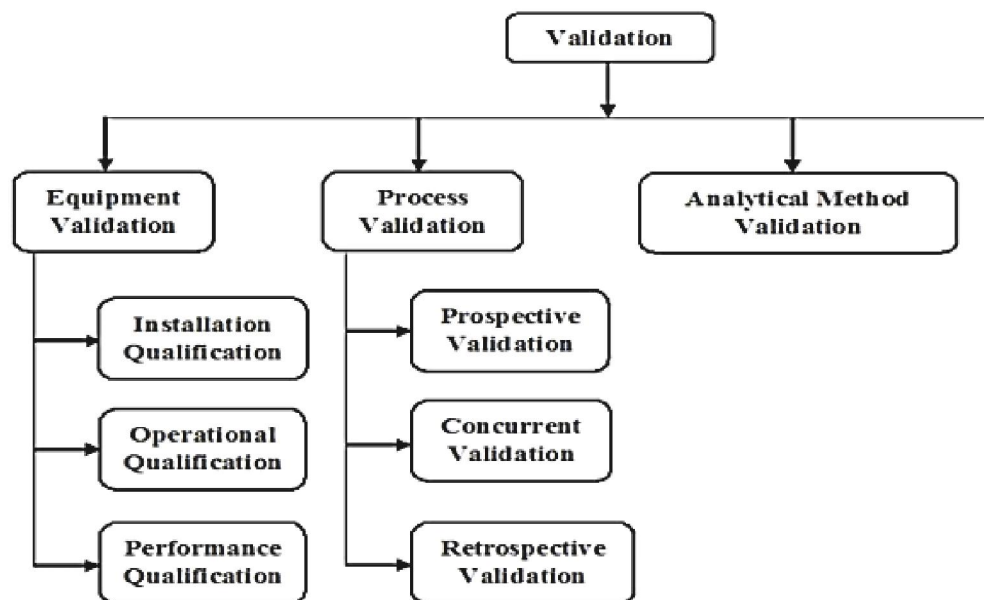
2) Mini validation: Before beginning the full validation, some parameters must be verified in accordance with ICH guidelines. Mini validations are necessary for all test methods, including Assay, Related Substance, UOD, and Blend Uniformity for analyzing the routine samples.

Justifications for validation:

- It is a must for enrolling in any pesticide or pharmaceutical plan.
- It guarantees high-quality results and helps to achieve the extent of "legitimate/reference technique" approved by administrative agencies.
- It enhances the research facility's primary financial concern.
- According to ISO 17025 regulations, it is a mandatory requirement for the research center's certification.
- It assists international organizations in reaching drug confessions (5–6, 56–58). **Importance of validation:**

- 1) Assurance of quality.
- 2) Minimal batch failure.
- 3) Decreased number of rejections.
- 4) Enhanced effectiveness and output.
- 5) Higher production.
- 6) Less testing both during and after completion items 7,48-55 .

Validations are of different types which are given below:



Equipment validation:

The thorough process of verifying that an instrument is placed correctly, functioning effectively, and performing error-free is known as equipment validation.

Process validation: Establishing recorded proof that particular procedures reliably yield a product that satisfies predefined criteria and quality features is known as "process validation.

Analytical method validation:

Analytical Methodology Validation: An essential prerequisite for moving further with the chemical evaluation is the validation of the analytical method. the process of doing several evaluations intended to ascertain whether an analytical method offers a plausible and anticipated explanation and exhibits their ability to provide profitable and acceptable measurement in compliance with the regulations. The strategy should provide useful information that ensures the product's quality in compliance with the laws and regulations. The material is put through a number of tests in order to determine this. A well-validated method should satisfy all of the requirements. The validation of the analytical technique should focus on conventional testing conditions and include testing the excipients. These requirements all show that the analytical method's approval is product-specific.

Analytical Method Validation's goal is:

- 1) If and only if the method validation of the analytical technique is carried out, additional validation is not necessary when the formulation or concentration is altered.
- 2) It lowers the possibility of violation with regulations.
- 3) The analytical technique allows for a thorough understanding of the process's critical characteristics.
- 4) Reducing interference with precision and accuracy.
- 5) It is employed in product authorization and marketing licensing for novel, non-pharmacopeia items.

Cleaning validation:

The only way to ensure that the product is free from contamination is to validate the cleaning procedure. The cleaning approach ensures that undesirable materials are removed from the equipment and facilities utilized during the operation. The amount of undesired contamination should be less than what is required by law. Cleaning validation is essentially a procedure in the medication manufacture. Several analytical techniques can be used to validate the cleaning procedure. The most popular test for determining how clean the equipment is is the swab test. The establishment of acknowledgment measures should also be made clearer by the assessment of the cleaning procedure. It is important to use the appropriate sample technique. It is essential to be free from both chemical and microbiological contaminants. The detection limit should be exceeded by the contaminants.

Analytical method validation:

A suitable standard procedure should be established in order to produce reliable analytical results from the skilled laboratory. Only the analytical method's validation can make it feasible. For the method's setup and validation, all available chemical information should be examined. Even when the analytical process is carried out by different analysts in separate lab locations using different reagents, tools, and equipment, the results should be reproducible. Certain factors, including linearity, accuracy, precision, specificity, and repeatability of the sample result, should be adhered to in order to validate the analytical technique. The quantity of drugs offered to customers has been rising daily at an accelerated pace. These drugs could have a new component that hasn't been introduced to the market yet, or they might have minor structural changes from the original drug. The validation of the drug analysis method is one of the crucial processes listed below.

- 1) The analytical procedure for biological fluids may make the assay difficult to perform.
- 2) There are a lot of excipients in the formulation that might interfere. Access to the whole literature on the drug's analytical methods is impossible due to the patient.
- 3) Because the present analytical methods involve costly reagents and solvents, they might not be suitable. It could also entail attempting incorrect extraction and separation methods.
- 4) No pharmacopeia has the medicine or combination of drugs. Analytical method validation is mandated by law and needs to be done.
- 5) The ICH recommendations [Q2 (R1)] have defined the standards for the analytical method's validation. Types of analytical techniques that require verification The analytical techniques must be verified for the subsequent test:

- 1) Identity evaluations.
- 2) Impurity analysis for quantification and limit testing.
- 3) A measurement of the medication's active component.
- 1) Identification Tests: To ascertain the identify of a chemical or substance, an identification test is planned. Many analytical methods can be used to finish it. Examination of a variety of features, including as spectrum analysis, chromatogram qualities, and interactions with other substances. The sample and the reference standard are contrasted in this test.
- 2) Impurity analysis for limit testing and quantification: Impurities can be identified and quantified. Almost all raw materials have impurities. Eliminating the contaminants completely is a very difficult undertaking. As a result, the regulatory authority has set precise rules for the limit when contaminants are present. The % purity of the substances is displayed by this test. Taking note of the various parameters: Although it is less significant in limit testing, validation is an essential requirement for quantification analysis.
- 3) Analysis of API for quantification: The quantification of API or other chemicals is the most crucial component of the analytical test. It demonstrates that the medication product correctly contains the API and performs as planned. In this context, the assay refers to the qualitative measurement of a medicinal component that is active in the product. API quantification should follow a certain procedure with the same verification criteria. Dissolution, which deals with API release as well, should follow the same guidelines for the validation.

Steps in Method Validation:

- 1) Create an operational process or validation protocol.
- 2) Describe the method's use, goal, and parameters.
- 3) Specify the acceptance criteria and performance specifications.
- 4) Describe the validation tests.
- 5) Check the equipment's pertinent performance attributes.
- 6) Assess materials, such as reagents and standards.
- 7) Conduct experiments for pre-validation.
- 8) If required, modify the acceptance criteria or procedure parameters.
- 9) Conduct thorough validation tests both internally and outside.
- 10) Create SOPs to carry out the procedure in the routine.
- 11) Establish revalidation standards.
- 12) Specify the kind and frequency of the routine's analytical quality control (AQC) and/or system appropriateness testing.
- 13) Record the results of the validation trials in the validation15.

Advantages:

- 1) It builds a degree of confidence, not only for the developer but also to the user.
- 2) Produces quality products.
- 3) Reduce the product cost by increasing efficacy, few reject and longer equipment life.
- 4) Helps in optimization of process or method.
- 5) Helps in process improvement, technology transfer related products validation and increased employee awareness.
- 6) It eliminates testing repetitions and leads to better time management in the end . **Analytical method validation**

Characteristics:

An ICH guideline has set certain criteria for the validation of the analytical method. The parameters are listed below.

- 1) Specificity.
- 2) Accuracy.
- 3) Precision.
 - a. Repeatability.
 - b. Intermediate Precision.
 - c. Reproducibility.
- 4) Limit of Detection.

- 5) Limit of Quantification.
- 6) Linearity.
- 7) Range.
- 8) Robustness.
- 9) Ruggedness.
- 10) System Suitability. Besides, revalidation may be essential for the following conditions:
 - 1) Alteration in the process of product manufacturing.
 - 2) Alteration in the ingredients in the final product of the drug.
 - 3) Alteration in the steps of the analytical method (ICH harmonized tripartite guideline, 2005). The level of revalidation requires relies upon the alteration type. Validation is required for more other alteration. Indication of sign: -ve = not essential parameter to performed. +ve =essential parameter to performed. (1) = the test of intermediate precision is not necessary to performed if reproducibility test id performed.
 - (2) Another supporting method can cover the specificity if specificity is unable to perform.
 - (3) For certain condition it might be required (ICH harmonized tripartite guideline, 2005).

Characteristics	Test of Identification	Kinds of Analytical Procedures		
		Impurities test		Assay
		Quantification	Limit	Test of dissolution (measurement only) Content/Potency
Accuracy	-ve	+ve	-ve	+ve
Precision				
• Repeatability	-ve	+ve	-ve	+ve
• Intermediate Precision	-ve	+ve(1)	-ve	+ve
Specificity	+ve	+ve	+ve	+ve
Limit of Detection	-ve	-ve(3)	+ve	-ve
Limit of Quantification	-ve	+ve	-ve	-ve
Linearity	-ve	+ve	-ve	+ve
Range	-ve	+ve	-ve	+ve

Specificity (Selectivity) 20,85: According to ICH, an assay's specificity is its capacity to detect the analyte precisely and precisely even when there are other substances present that may be anticipated in the sample medium. In general, a procedure that generates a response for only one analyte is said to as specific. Identification: It guarantees that the constituent is identified. Purity Examinations: It is quite hard to completely eliminate the contaminants. As a result, impurity limitations are established. Heavy metals, related chemicals, residual solvent content, and other substances can all be considered impurities. Such compounds can be tested using a purity test. The quantitative assessment of the API is known as assay (content or potency). API displays the drug's potency. (Tripartite Harmonized Guidelines, ICH, 2005).

Accuracy (Recovery): The degree of agreement between the value obtained, or analytical result, and the value that is recognized as either a conventional true value or an approved reference value is a measure of an analytical procedure's accuracy. The recovery of analytical results is a sign of an analytical method's accuracy. It is accomplished by either spiking or taking linear conc. of samples in triplicate at each concentration, ranging from 80% to 120% of the target concentration. Accuracy is also known as trueness.

Determination methods: Analytical technique application to a known-concentration analyte: Applying the analytical technique to an analyte of known purity (such as a reference standard) and comparing the method's results with those obtained using a different, previously validated approach are two ways to assess accuracy. The Spiked-Placebo Recovery Approach: This approach involves adding a known quantity of pure active substances to a formulation blank, which is a sample that has all other ingredients but the active. The resultant combination is then assayed, and the results are compared to expected results. The standard addition technique involves performing the assay on the provided sample and then adding a known quantity of the active ingredient to the tested sample. This sample is then examined

once again. The predicted findings and the differences between the two tests' results are compared. A minimum of nine determinations per three concentration levels should be used to assess accuracy, according to the Recommended Data ICH guideline. The following equation determines the recovery: $Recovery = \frac{Analytical\ Result}{True\ 100\% \text{ Limit}}$. The recovery need to fall between 98.0% and 102.0%.

Precision : The degree of agreement between a set of measurements derived from successive samplings of the same sample under the same conditions at the same time is reflected in precision. Three levels of accuracy can be distinguished: reproducibility, moderate precision, and repeatability. Repeatability: Repeatability is the ability to convey accuracy over a brief period of time under the same operating conditions. Another name for it is intra-assay precision. a homogeneous sample generated at the 100% test concentration or at least six duplicate samples of the same sample. Variations within the laboratory, such as various days, different analyzers, and different equipment, are reflected in intermediate precision. Two separate analysts, each creating six sample preparations in accordance with a defined analytical procedure, can perform intermediate precision testing. On various days, the analysts use different tools and analytical columns to carry out their tests. Reproducibility: This describes how accurate a procedure is when there are variations in the laboratory, such as various days, different analysts, and different equipment, among other things. According to the analytical procedure, a total of six sample preparations can be made at each testing location. To guarantee statistical equivalency across different testing locations, results are assessed. Reproducibility is subject to the same acceptance requirements as intermediate precision. Detection limit: The analytical procedure's limit of detection is the lowest concentration of an analyte in a sample that can be recognized but might not be quantified under particular experimental circumstances. It shows if the sample is above or below a particular threshold. LOD is dependent on the type of instrument as well as the analysis process.

Measurement is based on:

- 1) Visual evaluation.
- 2) Signal to noise ratio.
- 3) The standard deviation of the response and the slope. Visual evaluation: LOD is established by determining the lowest level at which the analyte can be detected and by analysis of samples with known analyte concentrations. Both instrumental and non-instrumental procedures can use it.

Signal to noise ratio: Only analytical procedures that exhibit baseline noise can use this method. It determines the lowest concentration at which the analyte may be detected by comparing the recorded signals from samples with known low analyte concentrations with those of blank samples. It is commonly agreed that the signal to noise ratio should be 2:1 or 3:1. The slope and the response's standard deviation: $LOD = 3.3\sigma/S$ where σ is the response's standard deviation. S is the slope of the analyte calibration curve from the regression line.

Quantification's limit

The limit of quantification, or LOQ, is the lowest amount of analyte in a sample that can be quantitatively identified and quantified with a reasonable level of accuracy and precision under the method's stated operating circumstances. The kind of sample and the method employed may affect the LOQ. It is usually used to identify contaminants or degradation products.

- 1) Visual evaluation serves as the foundation for measurement.
- 2) Ratio of signal to noise.
- 3) The slope and the response's standard deviation.

Visual assessment: Analyzing samples with known analyte concentrations and figuring out the lowest level at which the analyte can be identified are two ways to determine LOD. It can be applied to both instrumental and non-instrumental techniques. Ratio of signal to noise: Only analytical procedures that exhibit baseline noise can use this method. It determines the lowest concentration at which the analyte may be detected by comparing the recorded signals from samples with known low analyte concentrations with those of blank samples. It is commonly agreed that the signal to noise ratio is 10:1. The response's standard deviation and slope: $LOD = 10\sigma/S$ where σ is the response's standard deviation. S is the slope of the analyte calibration curve from the regression line.

Linearity: A technique is said to be linear if it can yield test findings that are precisely proportional to the analyte concentration within a certain range. A linear relationship must be evaluated at every stage of the analysis. By diluting a reference stock solution, it may be ascertained straight from the drug substance. The most effective way to assess

linearity is to visually examine a plot that displays the concentration (on the x-axis) against the mean response (on the Y-axis). Find the regression equation, Y-intercept, and correlation coefficient. Data from the regression line itself may be used to derive mathematical estimations of the degree of linearity. To assess linearity, a minimum of five concentrations should be used.

The range of analyte concentrations in the sample, both upper and lower, for which it has been demonstrated that the analytical technique has an adequate degree of precision, accuracy, and linearity is known as the RANGE^{26,86}. Typically derived via linearity studies, the exact range is determined by the recommended usage of the process. The minimal ranges listed below must to be taken into account:

1. A drug material or a completed drug product can be assayed at 80–120% of the test concentration.
2. Uniformity of content: 70–130% of the concentration tested.
3. Testing for dissolution: +/-20% above the prescribed range.

Robustness: This refers to the analytical method's ability to withstand minor but intentional modifications in order to give an indicator of the method's variability under typical laboratory circumstances. Typical variances include things like extraction time and the stability of analytical solutions. Examples of common changes in liquid chromatography include:

- 1) The impact of pH variations in a mobile phase;
- 2) The impact of compositional differences in a mobile phase;
- 3) Various columns (different batches and/or vendors);
- 4) Temperature; and
- 5) Flow rate. Examples of common differences in gas chromatography include:
 - 1) Various columns (various batches and/or vendors);
 - 2) Temperature; and
 - 3) Flow rate.

RUGGEDNESS²⁸: Ruggedness is a metric for repeatability test findings under settings that differ from one lab to another and across analysts. The degree of consistency of test findings achieved by analyzing the same samples under various conditions such as different laboratories, analysts, instruments, reagents, temperature, time, etc. is known as the robustness of an analytical process.

Testing for system suitability: Testing for system appropriateness is a crucial component of many analytical processes. The tests are predicated on the idea that the tools, electronics, analytical processes, and samples that need to be examined form a cohesive system that can be assessed as such. The type of process being validated determines the parameters of the system suitability test that should be set for that specific operation. For more details, consult Pharmacopoeias.

II. CONCLUSION

In the pharmaceutical sector, analytical method validation and method transfer data are essential for releasing commercial batch and long-term stability data; as such, the data must be generated in accordance with recognized scientific standards. This is why all analytical techniques should be thoroughly verified and recorded, in addition to meeting regulatory authority standards. This article's goal is to enhance the quality of the analytical method creation and validation process by offering straightforward methods with a sound scientific foundation. For a broader variety of analytical technique validation parameters, this article provides an overview of the various sample preparation, process, and acceptance criteria. This paper also considers the applications of the analytical technique and method transfer. To raise the bar and increase acceptability in this field of study, these several crucial development and validation features for analytical approach have been explored.

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