



# Biochemical Diagnostics, Inc.

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## DETECTABUSE® GRAVITY SERIES GV-65 / GV-65C CATION EXCHANGE METHOD FOR THE ANALYSIS OF TRICYCLICS IN

### **SAMPLE PREPARATION** - (Please see Notes and Supplemental Information before proceeding)

1. Pipet 2.0 mL of urine into a 16 x 100 mm disposable borosilicate glass tube with an inert screw cap.
2. Add the appropriate deuterated standards to each sample.
3. Add 0.5 mL 1% HCl in deionized water.
4. The occasional cloudy or precipitated sample should be centrifuged for 3 minutes at 3000 RPM.

**Note:** When adding an internal standard dissolved in an organic solvent to a urine or blood sample, the solvent volume must not exceed 3% of the buffered sample volume. Higher solvent concentrations may produce extraction losses.

### **HARDWARE SETUP** - (Please refer to the Detectabuse Hardware Setup Instructions)

### **COLUMN CONDITIONING** – (Follow Column Conditioning procedure for EITHER GV-65 or GV-65C columns.)

#### **Column conditioning and Activation of Cation Function using GV-65 Columns**

1. Wash column with 1.0 mL of Methanol. Allow to flow by gravity.
2. Add 1.0 mL of a Sodium Bisulfite solution to each column. Prepare by dissolving 5 grams of Sodium Bisulfite in 100 mL of a (1:1) mixture of H<sub>2</sub>O:0.25M Phosphate Buffer, pH 6.0. Prepare monthly. (Store refrigerated)
3. Proceed to Sample Extraction within 60 min. of column conditioning.

#### **Column Conditioning using GV-65C Columns**

**Note:** The GV-65C column is manufactured with the cation exchanger and does not require the addition of sodium bisulfite.

1. Wash column with 1.0 mL of Methanol. Allow to flow by gravity.
2. Wash with 1.0 mL of deionized water. Allow to flow by gravity.
3. Proceed to Sample Extraction within 60 min. of column conditioning.

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(See: Column Conditioning – Revised GV-65C conditioning)

### **SAMPLE EXTRACTION** - (Please see Notes at end of this section before proceeding)

1. Pour samples onto preconditioned column. Allow to flow by gravity. Samples will flow through the column at a rate of 1-2 mL/min.
2. Wash column with 3.0 mL of deionized water.
3. Wash column with 2.0 mL of Methanol:H<sub>2</sub>O (40:60). Allow the columns to flow by gravity.
4. Dry the columns by applying vacuum adjusted to at least 7" Hg for 5 minutes (Test by momentarily placing the heel of hand over the column top. A strong pull should be felt through the column).
5. Add 1.0 mL Hexane. Allow the columns to flow by gravity. Proceed to Sample Elution.

**Note:** If liquids do not elute freely by gravity flow, there is probably air trapped within the column bed or frits. Tapping the column mounting plate onto the vacuum box should initiate flow.

### **SAMPLE ELUTION**

1. Sample elution is done outside of the vacuum box.
2. Place the column mounting plate on the elution rack loaded with an appropriate number of 12 x 75 mm or 15 x 85 mm borosilicate glass test tubes. Make sure that the hole pattern on the plate matches the hole pattern on the rack.
3. Add 1.5 mL of n-Butyl Chloride:Ethyl Acetate (80:20) with 4% Triethylamine (TEA)\* to each column and allow solvent to flow through the columns by gravity into the test tubes.
4. Dry under N<sub>2</sub> or argon at less than 50°C.

\* **Elution Solvent with 4% TEA** (4 mL TEA is added to 96 mL of n-Butyl Chloride:Ethyl Acetate, 80:20) is stable for approximately one week stored in a glass bottle with a Teflon or polypropylene lined cap. Close bottle tightly when not in use. A white residue begins to appear in the dried down eluate when the TEA begins to deteriorate. Artifacts from this process may interfere with "fast" GC/MS methods.

**Note:** If a sample does not elute freely by gravity flow, there is either air trapped within the column bed or aqueous phase remaining on the column because of weak vacuum during the column drying step. In most cases, tapping the column will initiate flow. If this does not do the job, use a rubber bulb to gently push a few drops of elution solvent and trapped air into the collection tube. Allow the remainder of solvent to flow by gravity.

## DERIVATIZATION - MBTFA

1. To each dried extract add 50  $\mu$ L Acetonitrile, vortex mix, then add 50  $\mu$ L MBTFA.
2. Mix the tube contents, flush with nitrogen or argon and cap the tube or transfer contents into 100  $\mu$ L reaction vials and seal.
3. Inject 2.0  $\mu$ L.

**SUPPLEMENT** - When using an automated robotic system all liquids may be allowed to flow unassisted through the column or may be pulled through the column with vacuum or pushed through with positive pressure.

### Assisted flow parameters may be set as follows:

Column Conditioning - Pass through column in approximately 20 seconds ( $\pm$  20%).

Sample, Sample Washes, and Elution Solvent - Pass through column in approximately 60 seconds ( $\pm$  20%).

**Column Drying Steps** - Use 12-15 PSI of positive pressure for 40 seconds or vacuum set at 15" Hg for 30 seconds (These drying parameters are for individual columns).

## GC/MS ANALYSIS

GC/MS: Hewlett-Packard equipped with Mass Selective Detector

GC Column: H.P. Ultra 2 Capillary Column (or equivalent), 15 m x 0.25 mm, 0.25  $\mu$ m film thickness

Acquisition Mode: SIM

Temperature Program:

Injector Temp.: 265°C

Detector Temp.: 300°C

Initial: 140°C, program @ 20°C/min. to 245°C

Final: 245°C-285°C @ 30°C/min

Equil. Time: 1.0 min.

Split Ratio: Splitless

He Flow: 1.0 mL/min. @ 200°C

Septum Purge: 2 mL/min.

Purge Off Time: 1.0 min.

Dwell: 30

Solvent Delay: 4.0 min.

Start Acq.: 4.0 min.

Stop Run: 8.0 min.

## MSD PROGRAM

Drug	Ions Monitored	Retention Time (min.)
Amitriptyline	189, <u>202</u> , 215	5.56
Trimipramine	234, 248, <u>249</u>	5.67
Imipramine	<u>234</u> , 235, 280	5.69
Nortriptyline	202, 204, <u>232</u>	6.45
Clomipramine	268, <u>269</u> , 270	6.53
Protriptyline	<u>191</u> , 192, 359	6.61

*This method is a preliminary procedure for investigational use only. Although it has performed well in our laboratory, the method must be validated by your laboratory before it is used to report patient values.*

*We would appreciate your comments on its performance and welcome your suggestions for improvements or enhancements.*