Fast Extraction of Metanephrine and Normetanephrine from Synthetic Urine using EVOLUTE® EXPRESS CX in a 96 Fixed Well Plate Prior to LC-ESI-MS/MS

This application note describes a method of extraction for metanephrine and normetanephrine from synthetic urine using EVOLUTE EXPRESS CX 96 fixed well plates.

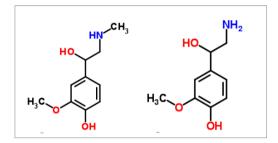


Figure 1. Structure of metanephrine and normetanephrine

Introduction

The normalized metabolite concentrations of epinephrine and norepinephrine precursors have common utility in clinical diagnostics related to neuroendocrine tumors. Of particular interest are the selected metabolites metanephrine and normetanephrine. The challenges in population screening for these metabolites are time, cost and efficacy of sample preparation strategies required for trace level determinations (pg/mL-ng/mL levels) by liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry.

A new solid phase extraction technology has been developed to reduce the time associated with sample preparation methods by eliminating steps in the extraction workflow. Leveraging this technology, a method protocol was developed using a load, wash and elute approach. The method was evaluated for relative recovery, repeatability and linearity of analyte response with concentration. Recoveries exceeding 80% were achieved for both metanephrine and normetanephrine.

EVOLUTE EXPRESS CX ion exchange SPE materials offer an efficient alternative to traditional ion exchange SPE plates for bioanalytical sample preparation, providing high analyte recoveries and significantly reduced sample preparation time.

Analytes

Metanephrine, normetanephrine.

Sample Preparation Procedure

Plate configuration: EVOLUTE EXPRESS CX 96 30 mg fixed well plate, part number 601-0030-PXO1

Sample pre-treatment: Dilute 1:1 with HPLC grade water.

Sample loading: Load pre-treated sample (1 mL). Apply positive pressure (PRESSURE+ 96 Positive Pressure

Manifold PPM-96) to maintain a steady flow rate of 1 mL/min (10-12 drops).

Interference wash 1: Remove polar and ionic interferences with water (1 mL).

Interference wash 2: Remove organic material with methanol (1 mL).

Extraction: Elute analytes of interest methanol/ concentrated ammonium hydroxide (95:5, v/v) (1 mL).

Post extraction: Evaporate to dryness and reconstitute in 80/20 (v/v, mobile phase A/mobile phase B) (0.5 mL).



HPLC Conditions

Instrument: Agilent 1200 Liquid Handling System (Agilent Technologies, Berkshire, UK)

Column: Restek Organic Acids 150 mm x 4.6 mm (5 μm) (catalogue # 9165565)

Mobile Phase: Solvent A: 1% Formic acid in Water

Solvent B: Acetonitrile

Injection Volume: 20 µL

Temperature: 35° C

Gradient:

Step	Time (min)	Flow Rate (mL/ min)	%A	%В
1	0.0	1.0	80	20
2	3.0	1.0	80	20

Mass Spectrometry Conditions

Instrument: Applied Biosystems/MDS Sciex 4000 Q-Trap triple quadrupole mass spectrometer

(Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA.) equipped with a Turbo Ionspray® interface for

mass analysis.

Table 1. MRM transitions in positive mode Turbo Ionspray.

Scan Function	Analyte	MRM Transition	Declustering Potential (DP)	Collision Energy (CE)	Cell Exit Potential (CXP)
1	Metanephrine	198	30	15	16
2	Normetanephrine	184}166	30	30	16

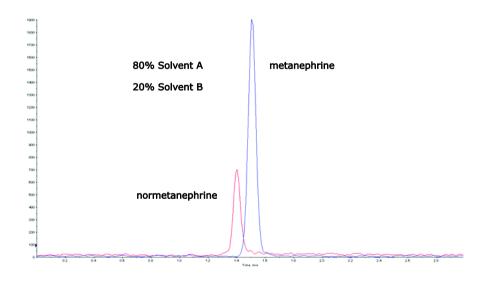


Figure 2. The analytes of interest were eluted from an Organic Acids HPLC column post extraction from the EVOLUTE EXPRESS CX sorbent. A typical ion chromatogram for a 20 ng/mL fortified synthetic urine standard is shown above.



RESULTS

Calibration standards were prepared in synthetic urine matrix. The selected metabolites were ordered as a mixed solution standard from Cerilliant (Round Rock, Texas) at a 1 mg/mL concentration in methanol. A working stock solution (1 μ g/mL in methanol) was prepared. Synthetic urine was obtained from Carolina Biological Supply (Burlington, NC). The fortified synthetic urine calibration standards prepared were 10 ng/mL, 30 ng/mL, 40 ng/mL, 60 ng/mL, 70 ng/mL. Recoveries exceeding 80% were achieved for each analyte as demonstrated in figure 5.

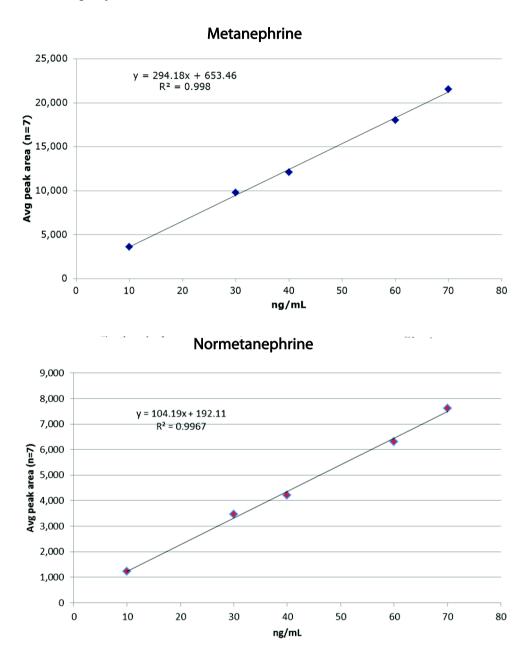


Figure 4. Calibration curves for Metanephrine and normetanephrine showing linearity over the range from 10—70 ng/mL



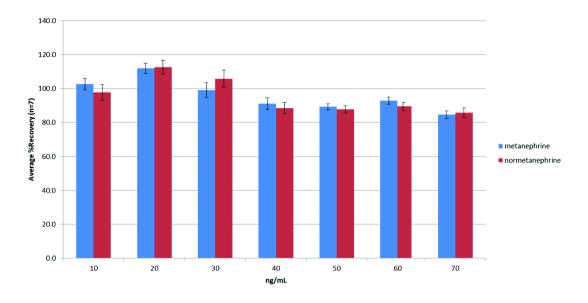


Figure 5. Analyte %recoveries for metanephrine and normetanephrine using the EVOLUTE EXPRESS CX protocol

Ordering information

Part Number	Description	Quantity
601-0030-PX01	EVOLUTE EXPRESS CX 30 mg 96 fixed well plate	1
PPM-96	PRESSURE+48 Positive Pressure Manifold	1
SD-9600-DHS-NA	SPE Dry Dual Sample Concentrator 110 V	1

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