Determination of Bupropion Hydrochloride in Rat Plasma by LC–MS/MS and Its Application to Pharmacokinetic Study

Lufeng HU 1, Guanyang LIN 1, Xianqin WANG 2, Renai XU 3, Xiuhua ZHANG 1*, & Chunhong ZHANG 1

1 Department of Pharmacy, The First Affiliated Hospital of Wenzhou Medical College, Wenzhou 325000, China
2 Analytical and Testing Center, Wenzhou Medical College, Wenzhou 325035, China
3 Department of Pharmacology, Wenzhou Medical College, Wenzhou 325035, China

SUMMARY. A selective and sensitive liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry method was developed and validated for quantitation of bupropion hydrochloride in rat plasma using triazolam as an internal standard. Chromatographic separation was achieved on a SB-C18 column at 30 °C, with 50: 50 (v/v) acetonitrile-0.1 % formic acid in water as mobile phase. The flow rate was 0.3 mL/min. The determination of bupropion was performed in MRM mode, m/z 239.9 → 183.7 for bupropion and m/z 343.0 → 308.0 for triazolam (IS) and positive ion electrospray ionization interface. Calibration curve was linear over range of 1.2 to 480 ng/mL. The intra- and inter-run relative standard deviations of the assay were less than 10 %. The mean absolute recoveries determined at the concentrations of 2.4, 48 and 360 ng/mL were 91.00 %, 92.06 %, 91.71 %, respectively. The validated method is successfully used to analyze the drug in samples of rat plasma for pharmacokinetic study.

KEY WORDS: bupropion hydrochloride, LC-MS/MS, rat plasma
*Author to whom correspondence should be addressed: E-mail: wzzhangxiuhua@yahoo.cn