



## **Overcome N-Nitrosamine Analysis Challenges with Chromatography and Mass Spectrometry Techniques**

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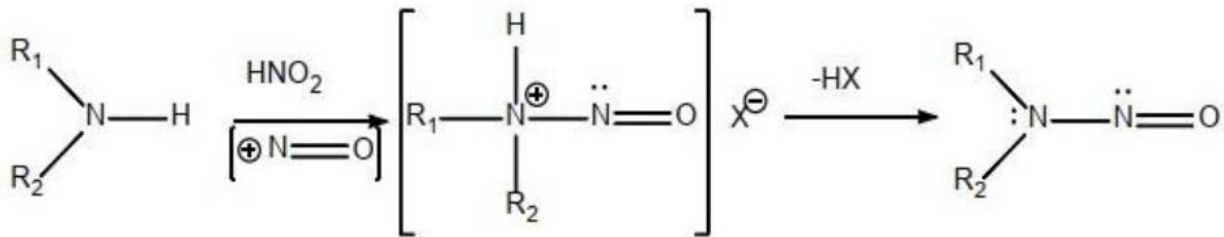
# Agenda

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- Why is nitrosamine assessment necessary?
- Origin of nitrosamines
- Evaluation of nitrosamines
  - FDA evaluation
    - High-resolution mass spectrometry
    - Nominal mass spectrometry: QTRAP system
  - SCIEX solution

# What are N-nitrosamines?

- They are molecules containing a nitroso functional group
- They are of concern because their impurities could be carcinogenic to humans
- Their presence in medicines is considered unacceptable



# Why is nitrosamine assessment necessary?



# Why is nitrosamine assessment necessary?

- Nitrosamines are chemical compounds that have been determined in animal studies to cause cancer in humans
- US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and European Medicines Agency (EMA) guidelines require screening limits of 26.5 ng/day or 96 ng/day, depending on the nitrosamine
- In February 2021, European Pharmacopoeia Commission published a new chapter (chapter 2.5.42) that proposes new procedures for the analysis of N-nitrosamines in active substances
- The new chapter focuses on 5 monographs: valsartan, losartan potassium, candesartan cilexetil, irbersartan and olmesartan medoxomil
  - The proposed procedures cover N-nitrosamines: NDMA, NDEA, NDBA, NMBA, NDiPA, NEiPA and NDPA



*Figure 1. Structure of a nitrosamine*

- In 2018, the presence of nitrosamines (including NDMA) was detected in several blood pressure control drugs known as sartans
- Subsequently, nitrosamines were detected in lots of ranitidine (a drug for the treatment of gastritis and stomach ulcers), and as a result, it was withdrawn from the Mexican market by COFEPRIS, the Mexican ministry of health
- In 2020, the presence of nitrosamines was found in metformin, causing COFEPRIS to add it to the list of drugs that must be tested to rule out the presence of nitrosamines
- New monographs for pharmaceutical requirements were mandate by FEUM, the pharmaceutical standard issues by COFEPRIS

# Nitrosamines - limits

## FDA – CONTROL OF NITROSAMINE IMPURITIES IN HUMAN DRUGS

**Table 1. AI Limits for NDMA, NDEA, NMBA, NMPA, NIPEA, and NDIPA in Drug Products**

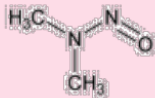
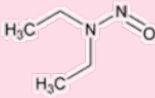
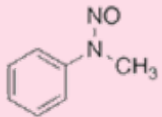
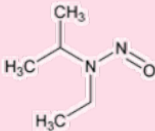
Nitrosamine	AI Limit (ng/day) <sup>1,2</sup>
NDMA	96
NDEA	26.5
NMBA	96
NMPA	26.5
NIPEA	26.5
NDIPA	26.5

<sup>1</sup> The AI limit is a daily exposure to a compound such as NDMA, NDEA, NMBA, NMPA, NIPEA, or NDIPA that approximates a 1:100,000 cancer risk after 70 years of exposure. Appendix B includes a description of the AI derivation for NDMA, which is an example of how FDA applied ICH M7(R1) to set a limit.

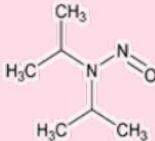
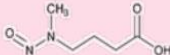
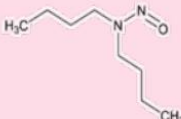
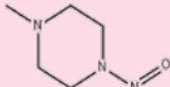
<sup>2</sup> The conversion of AI limit into ppm varies by product and is calculated based on a drug's maximum daily dose (MDD) as reflected in the drug label ( $\text{ppm} = \text{AI (ng)}/\text{MDD (mg)}$ ).

These limits are applicable only if a drug product contains a single nitrosamine. If more than one of the nitrosamine impurities identified in Table 1 is detected and the total quantity of nitrosamine impurities exceeds 26.5 ng/day (the AI for the most potent nitrosamines) based on the maximum daily dose (MDD), the manufacturer should contact the Agency for evaluation. For drug products with an MDD of less than 880 mg/day, a recommended limit for total nitrosamines of 0.03 ppm is not more than 26.5 ng/day and is considered acceptable. For drug products with an MDD above 880 mg/day, the limit for total nitrosamines should be adjusted so as not to exceed the recommended limit of 26.5 ng/day

<https://www.fda.gov/media/141720/download>

Common Name and Chemical Name	Acronym	CAS #	Structure	Chemical Formula	Acceptable Intake Limits (ng/day)
Nitrosodimethylamine; <i>N</i> -Methyl- <i>N</i> -nitrosomethanamine	NDMA	62-75-9		$C_2H_6N_2O$	96
Nitrosodiethylamine; <i>N</i> -Ethyl- <i>N</i> -nitrosoethanamine	NDEA	55-18-5		$C_4H_{10}N_2O$	26.5
<i>N</i> -nitrosomethylphenylamine	NMPA	614-00-6		$C_7H_8N_2O$	26.5 (USFDA) / 34.5 (EMA)*
Nitrosoisopropylethylamine; <i>N</i> -Ethyl- <i>N</i> -nitroso-2-propanamine	NIPEA	16339-04-1		$C_5H_{12}N_2O$	26.5



Common Name and Chemical Name	Acronym	CAS #	Structure	Chemical Formula	Acceptable Intake Limits (ng/day)
Nitrosodiisopropylamine; <i>N</i> -Isopropyl- <i>N</i> -nitrosoisopropyl-amine	NDIPA	601-77-4		$C_6H_{14}NO$	26.5
<i>N</i> -Nitroso- <i>N</i> -methyl-4-aminobutyric Acid; 4-[Methyl(nitroso)amino] butanoic acid	NMBA	61445-55-4		$C_5H_{10}N_2O_3$	96
Nitrosodibutylamine; <i>N</i> -Butyl- <i>N</i> -nitroso-1-butanamine	NDBA	924-16-3		$C_8H_{18}NO$	26.5
1-methyl-4-nitrosopiperazine	MeNP	16339-07-4		$C_5H_{11}N_3O$	26.5

# Root cause of Nitrosamine contaminated

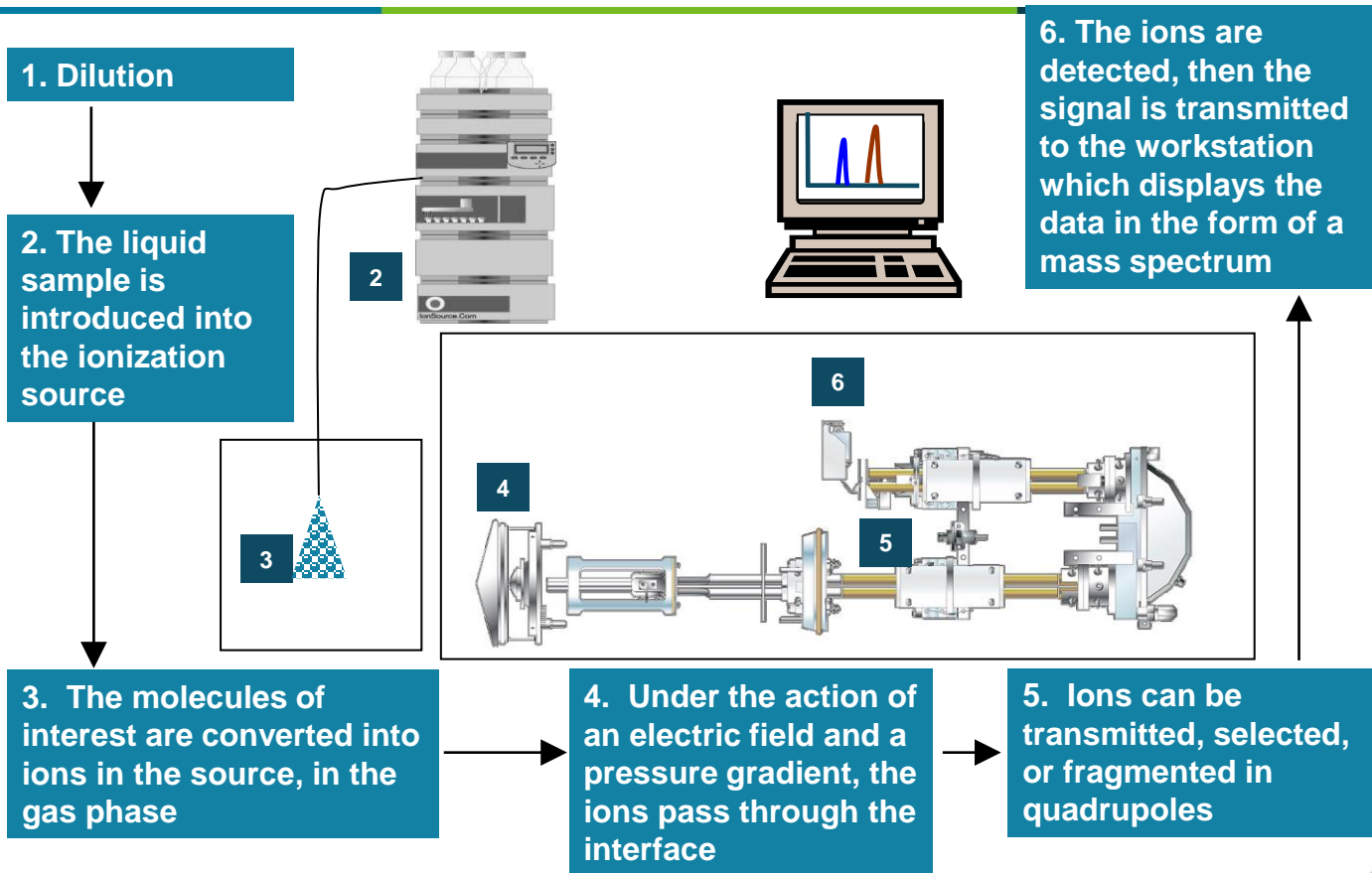
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- Sodium nitrite ( $\text{NaNO}_2$ )
- Contaminated Solvent or reagents
- Recycled solvents
- Contaminated intermediate
- Manufacturing process
- Storage process

# Evaluation of nitrosamines



# System Components



# Components of MS

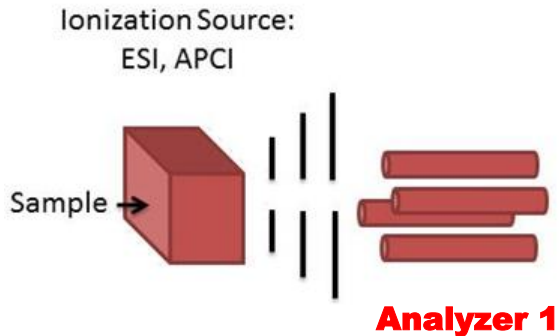


✓ API: ESI  
APCI

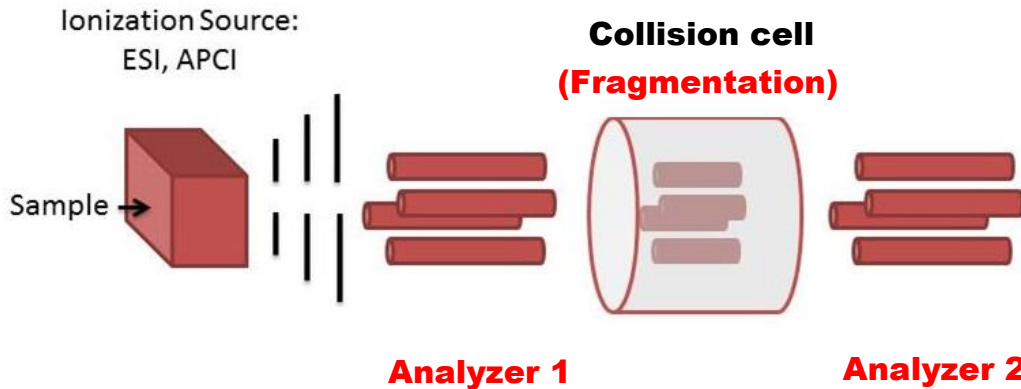
- ✓ Quadrupole
- ✓ Time of flight (TOF)
- ✓ Ion trap (IT)

# LC-MS VS LC-MS/MS

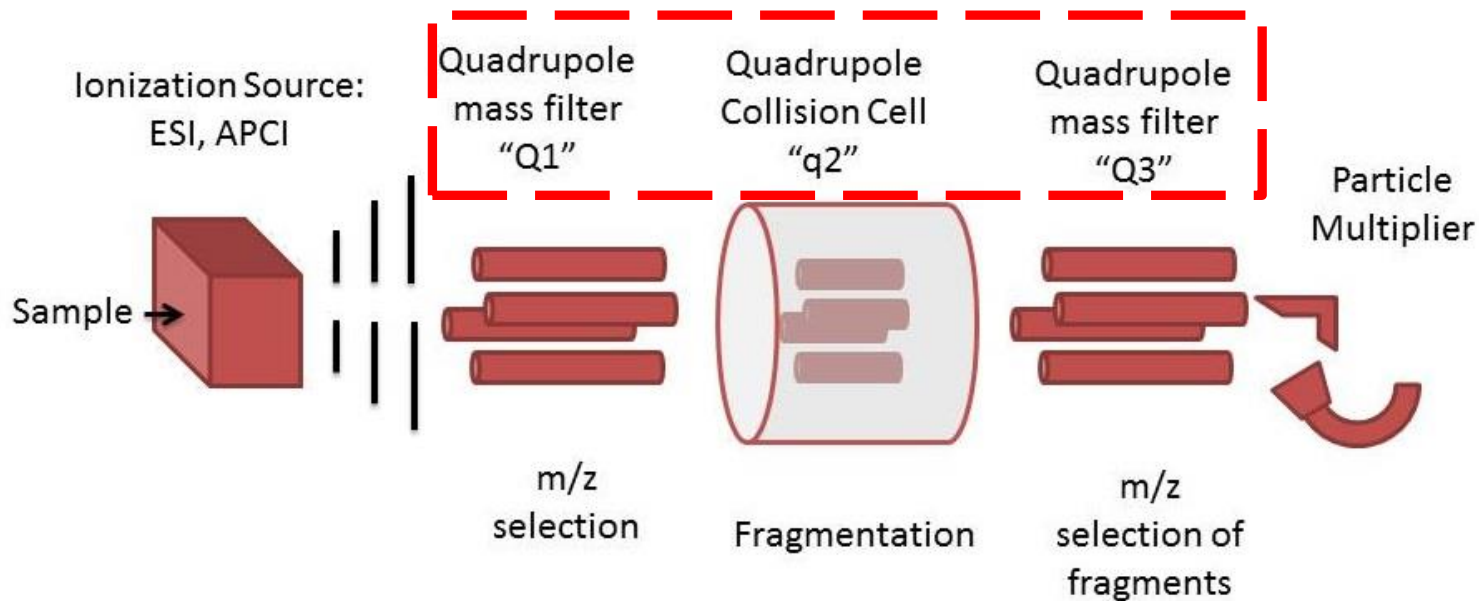
## LC-MS



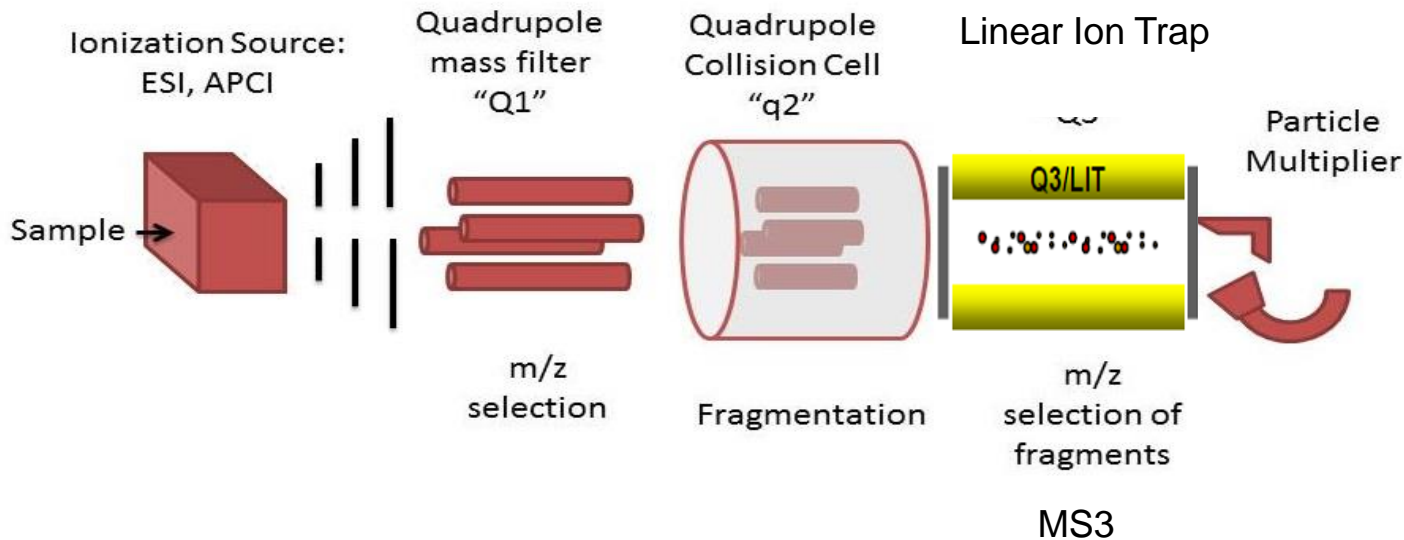
## LC-MS/MS



# Triple Quadrupole Mass Spectrometer; QQQ

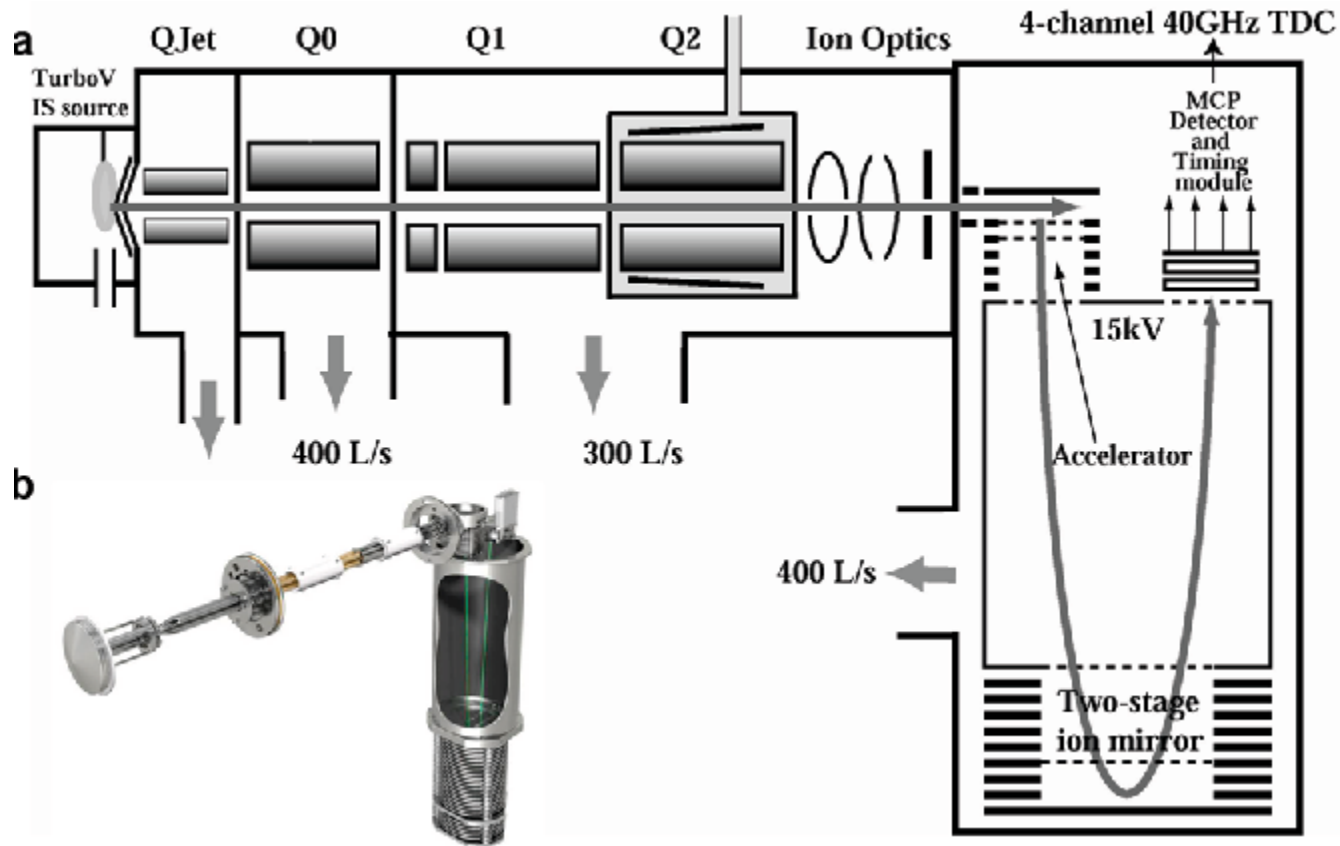


# Triple Quadrupole Linear Ion Traps Mass Spectrometer; QTRAP





# Quadrupole Time of Flight (QTOF)

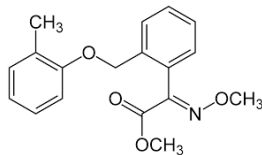


# Advantages of high-resolution mass spectrometry

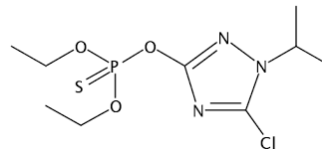
- QTOF can distinguish between compounds of similar mass
  - X500R = 30,000 resolution, 300 Da compound,  $\Delta m = 0.01$  Da
- QTOF can accurately measure molecular weight to *several decimal places*
  - 300 Da compound, 5 ppm mass error = 0.0015 Da

High-resolution mass spectrometry  
can distinguish these pesticides!

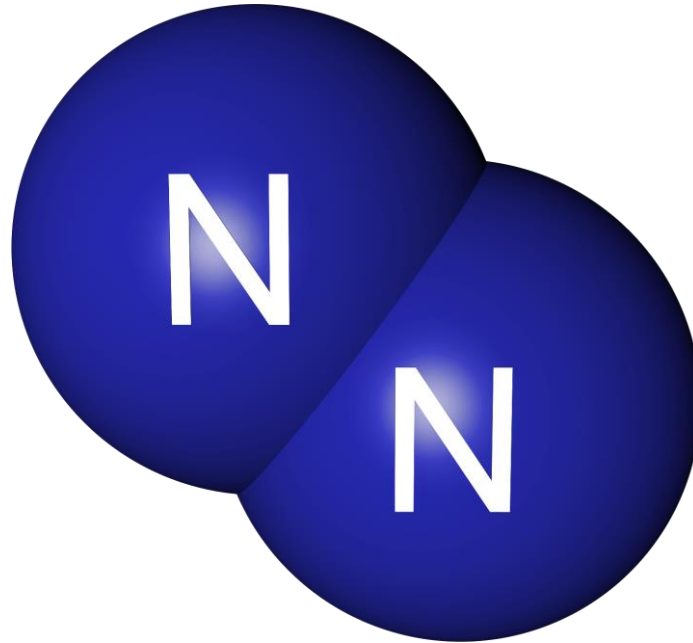
**Kresoxim-methyl**  
**C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>**  
**Mass = 313.1214 Da**



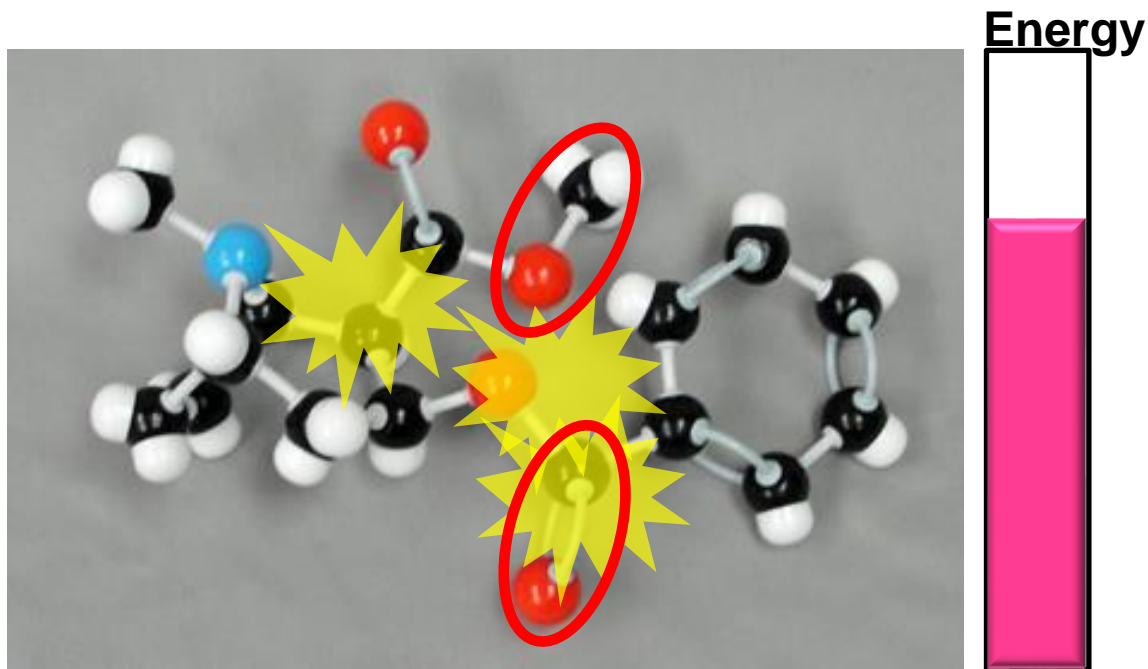
**Isazophos**  
**C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>17</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>PS**  
**Mass = 313.0417 Da**



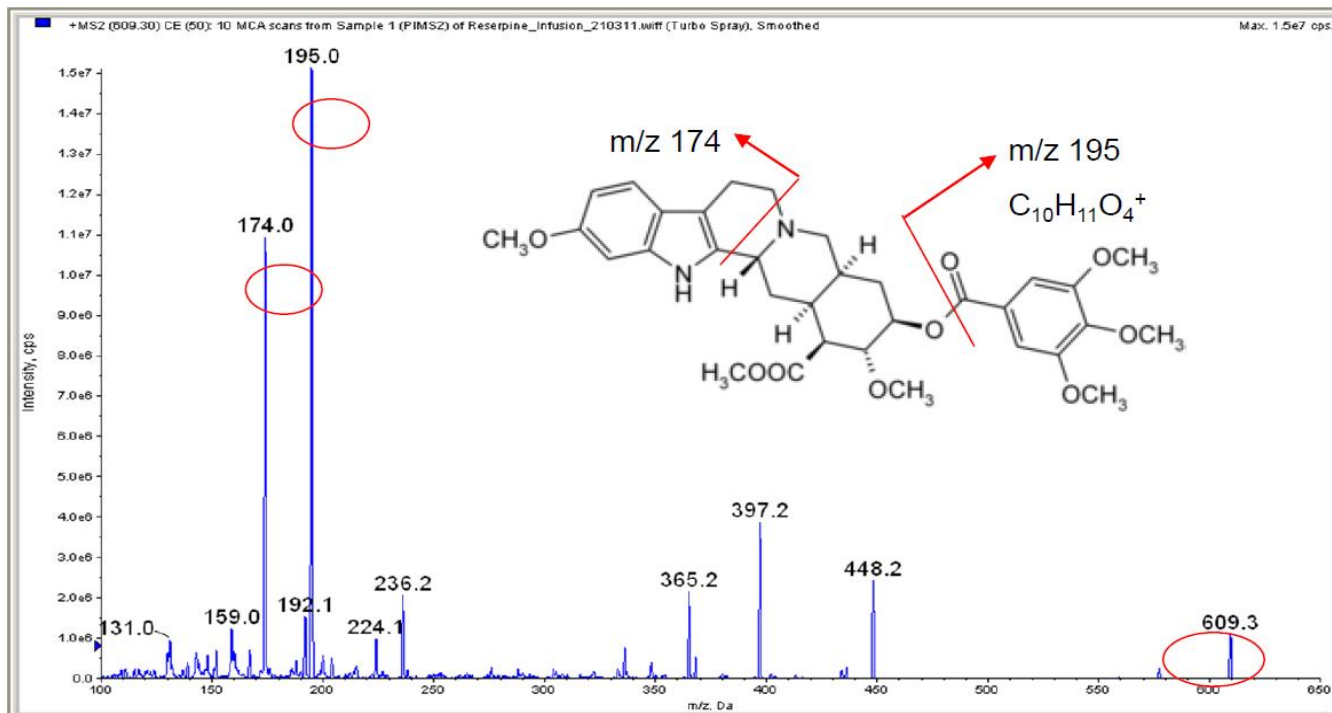
# FRAGMENTATION



# Fragmentation



# Example : Reserpine MSMS



# Evaluation: FDA

## Triple quadrupole evaluation



SCIEX Triple Quad 6500+  
and QTRAP 6500+  
systems



SCIEX 7500 system

## High-resolution evaluation



X500 QTOF system

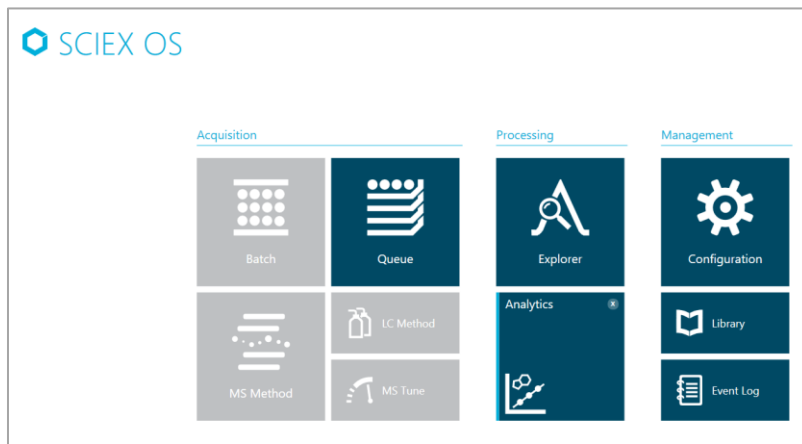
# High resolution systems



# Search for unknowns

## BATCH-BATCH INSPECTION USING LC-HRMS

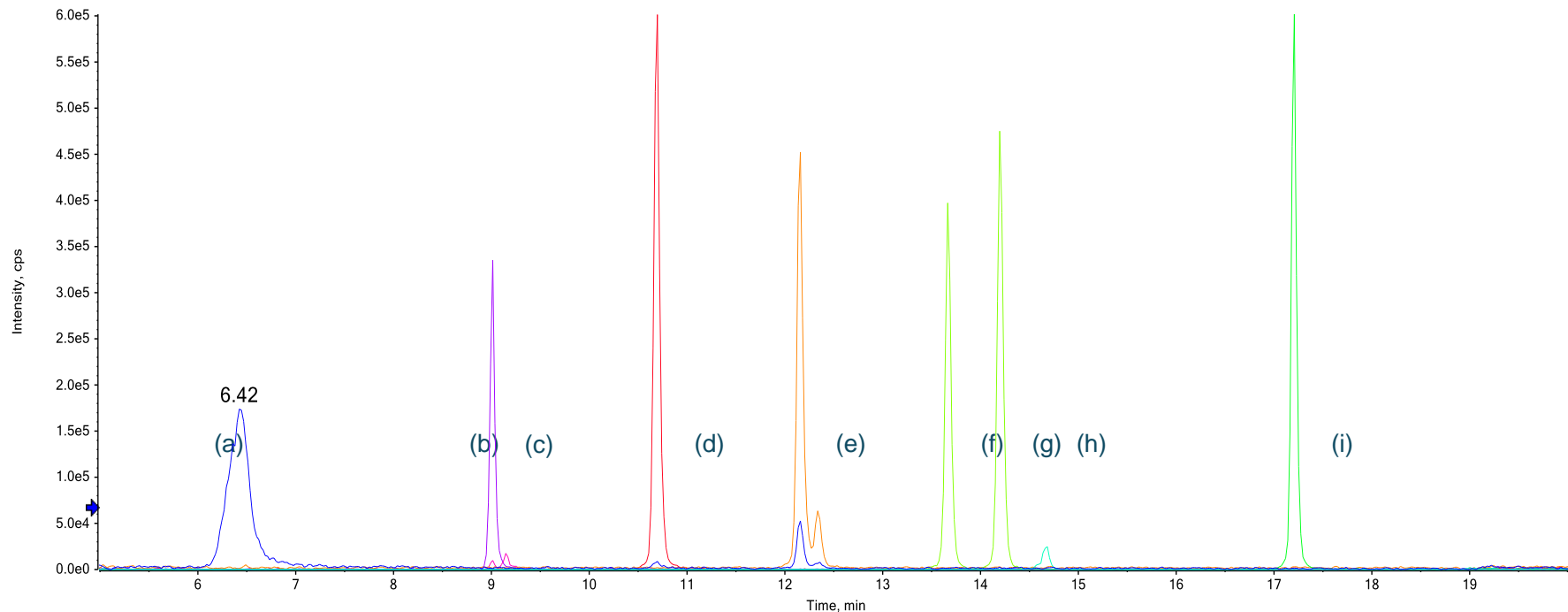
- Characteristics of the X500 QTOF system
- Reliable, easy to calibrate
- SWATH acquisition
- SCIEX OS software



X500R QTOF system



# Chromatogram of metformin analysis

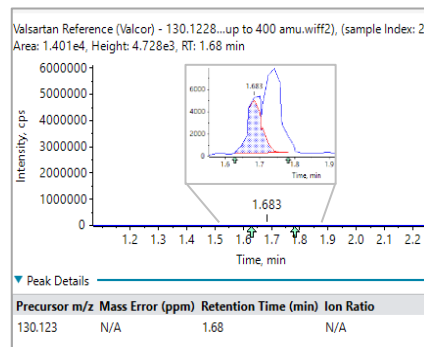
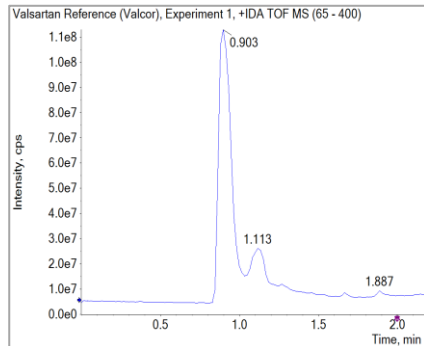


(a) NDMA; (b) NMO; (c) NMBA; (d) NDEA; (e) NEIPA;  
(f) NDIPA; (g) NDPA; (h) NMPA; (i) NDBA

# Search for unknowns

## BATCH-BATCH INSPECTION USING LC-HRMS

REFERENCE



ChemSpider results for: C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O

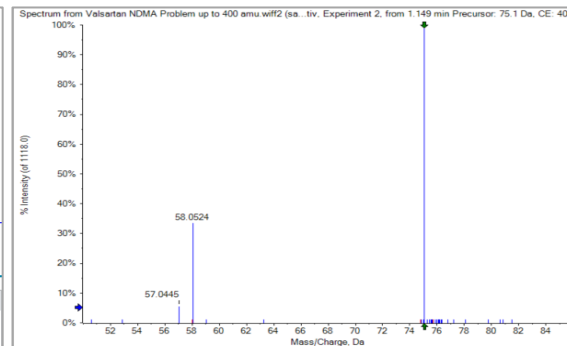
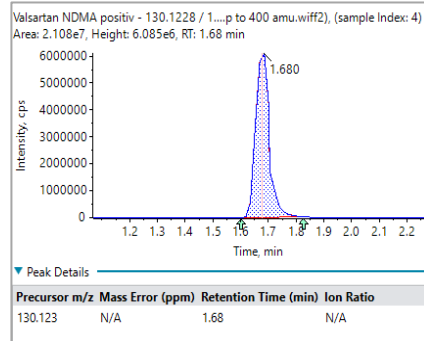
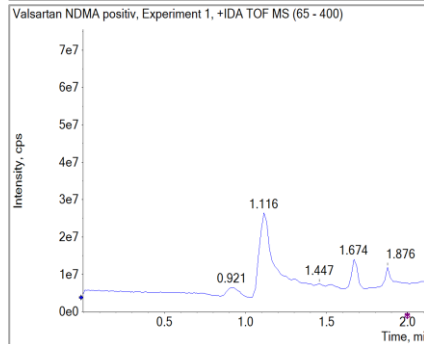
1-26 of 26

CSID	Common Name	Molecular Weight
5894	M43H21O8R	74.0818
30663	azoxymethane	74.0818
62242	4/DT453NWO	74.0818
11227	1-Methylurea	74.0818

☐ Display all Carbon Atoms [Options...](#)

CN(C)C=O

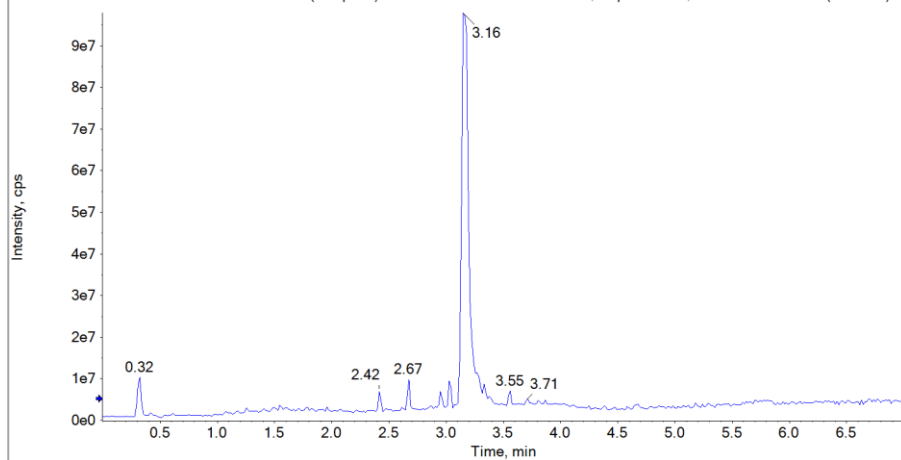
SAMPLE



# Search for unknowns using SWATH acquisition

## ELECTROSPRAY IONIZATION (ESI)

TIC from Valsartan-1A Pharma HL6907.wif2 (sample 1) - Valsartan-1A Pharma HL6907, Experiment 1, +SWATH TOF MS (70 - 750)



Index	Component Name	Expe... RT	Area	Height	Retenti... Time	Precur... Mass	Area Ratio of comparison		
6272	130.1221 / 1.97	1.97	1.679e6	5.851e5	1.97	130.122	1666.100		
6479	323.1619 / 2.19	2.19	4.929e4	1.740e4	2.19	323.162	146.070		
9617	336.2512 / 3.87	3.87	2.349e5	4.805e4	3.87	336.251	91.827		
7885	456.2013 / 2.96 [M+Na]+	2.96	3.012e5	1.061e5	2.97	456.201	90.882		
9906	282.2792 / 4.80 [M+NH4]+	4.80	6.413e5	2.075e5	4.80	282.279	86.068		
7879	416.2088 / 2.96	2.96	3.588e5	1.244e5	2.97	416.209	69.522		
9489	419.2271 / 3.64	3.64	5.066e5	1.790e5	3.57	419.227	52.319		
7884	434.2185 / 2.96 [M+H]+	2.96	1.582e6	5.473e5	2.97	434.218	49.198		
9378	308.2206 / 3.42	3.42	4.191e4	9.304e3	3.42	308.221	49.155		
9495	291.1492 / 3.65	3.65	1.248e7	1.138e6	3.18	291.149	46.702		
6057	711.3074 / 1.80	8219	345.1560 / 3.03 [2M+H]+	3.03	1.660e4	4.242e3	3.10	345.157	12.050
9792	733.4978 / 4.43	5268	457.2295 / 1.18 [M+H]+	1.18	4.623e4	1.209e4	1.18	457.230	11.979
9841	734.5054 / 4.63	6110	683.3115 / 1.83	1.83	5.807e5	3.851e4	1.84	683.311	11.730
9840	716.4942 / 4.63	9754	298.2741 / 4.14	4.14	2.937e4	6.957e3	4.13	298.274	11.656
9774	733.5007 / 4.32	6049	662.3253 / 1.80 [M+NH4]+	1.80	1.067e5	2.139e4	1.81	662.325	11.599
5629	427.2185 / 1.51 [M+H]+	9120	277.2163 / 3.12 [M+H]+	3.12	1.798e4	6.098e3	3.10	277.216	11.592
9836	713.4772 / 4.60	5552	552.2353 / 1.47	1.47	2.808e4	4.249e3	1.46	552.235	11.527
9837	731.4863 / 4.60	8474	207.0916 / 2.96 [M+NH4]+	2.96	1.627e5	5.795e4	2.97	207.092	11.518
6242	675.3559 / 1.93	8482	313.1292 / 3.03 [M+CH3OH+H]+	3.03	3.514e4	4.059e3	3.06	313.129	11.505
5887	544.2970 / 1.71	5844	713.3217 / 1.67	1.67	3.649e5	2.259e4	1.63	713.322	11.442
8646	185.0808 / 3.06 [M+H]+	5302	102.0909 / 1.21	1.21	5.094e4	1.781e4	1.21	102.091	11.322
5957	714.3238 / 1.74	8909	199.0976 / 3.12 [M+CH3OH+H]+	3.12	1.880e5	4.317e4	3.09	199.098	11.296
6173	727.3375 / 1.86	9206	418.2248 / 3.25 [M+H]+	3.25	3.616e7	7.820e6	3.18	418.225	11.281
6076	676.3737 / 1.82	6497	530.2816 / 2.20 [M+NH4]+	2.20	5.393e4	1.345e4	2.21	530.282	11.256
6350	720.3670 / 2.05 [M]+	5357	207.0920 / 1.28	1.28	3.402e4	1.231e4	1.29	207.092	11.228
		5987	458.2606 / 1.77 [M+NH4]+	1.77	1.452e5	4.560e4	1.78	458.261	11.083
		5787	639.2845 / 1.62 [M+Na]+	1.62	2.959e4	1.054e4	1.62	639.284	11.006
		5628	444.2451 / 1.50 [M+NH4]+	1.50	1.753e5	5.929e4	1.50	444.245	10.966
		5684	249.1336 / 1.53 [M+CH3OH+H]+	1.53	2.593e4	4.159e3	1.53	249.134	10.825
		5983	187.0963 / 1.77 [M+H]+	1.77	1.925e4	6.205e3	1.78	187.096	10.818
		8895	113.0595 / 3.09 [M+CH3OH+H]+	3.09	1.996e4	5.008e3	3.09	113.059	10.759
		5804	661.3399 / 1.64	1.64	7.519e4	8.005e3	1.63	661.340	10.727
		5861	109.1010 / 1.70	1.70	1.793e4	5.676e3	1.70	109.101	10.698
		9202	281.1496 / 2.74	2.74	1.153e7	2.440e6	2.17	281.150	10.627

# ChemSpider and auto-fragmentation tool in SCIEX OS software 1.7

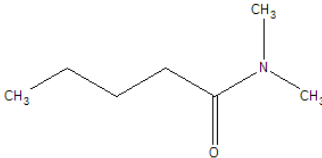
ChemSpider results for: C7H15NO

41-80 of 2111

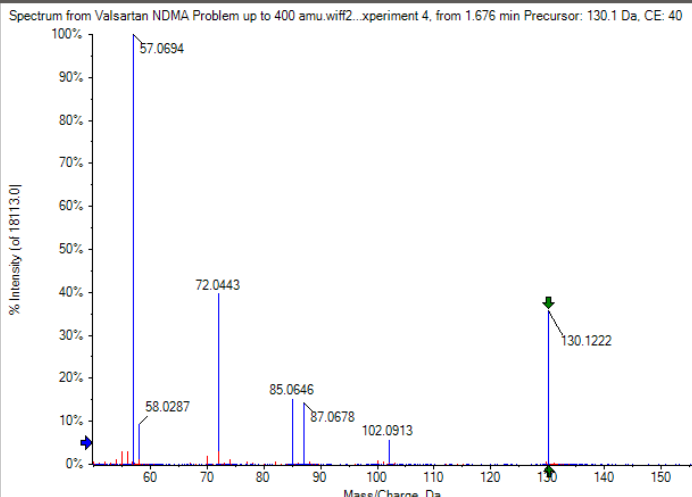
CSID	Common Name	Molecular Weight
18860955	(1R,2R)-2-(Dimethylamino)cyclopentanol	129.2001
26000772	4-Methoxyazepane	129.2001
66625	4-Isopropylmorpholine	129.2001
13778538	(3-Methyl-3-piperidinyl)methanol	129.2001
26051311	2-[(3R)-3-Pyrrolidinyl]-2-propanol	129.2001
23499556	(3R)-3-Isopropylmorpholine	129.2001
72594	NN-Dimethylvaleramide	129.2001
1363685	2-[(2R)-2-Piperidinyl]ethanol	129.2001
2056387	5-(Dimethylamino)-2-pentanone	129.2001
24597400	(trans-4-Aminocyclohexyl)methanol	129.2001
13756888	N-(Cyclopropylmethyl)-2-methoxyethanamine	129.2001
14341873	2-(Tetrahydro-2H-pyran-3-yl)ethanamine	129.2001
10813846	4-Ethyl-4-piperidinol	129.2001
11217914	3-Propoxypyrrolidine	129.2001
23499555	(3S)-3-Isopropylmorpholine	129.2001
4144195	3-(Cyclopropylmethoxy)-1-propanamine	129.2001
4371677	2-(Tetrahydro-3-furan-1-yl)propanamine	129.2001

☐ Display all Carbon Atoms

Options...



Spectrum from Valsartan NDMA Problem up to 400 amu.wiff2...xperiment 4, from 1.676 min Precursor: 130.1 Da, CE: 40



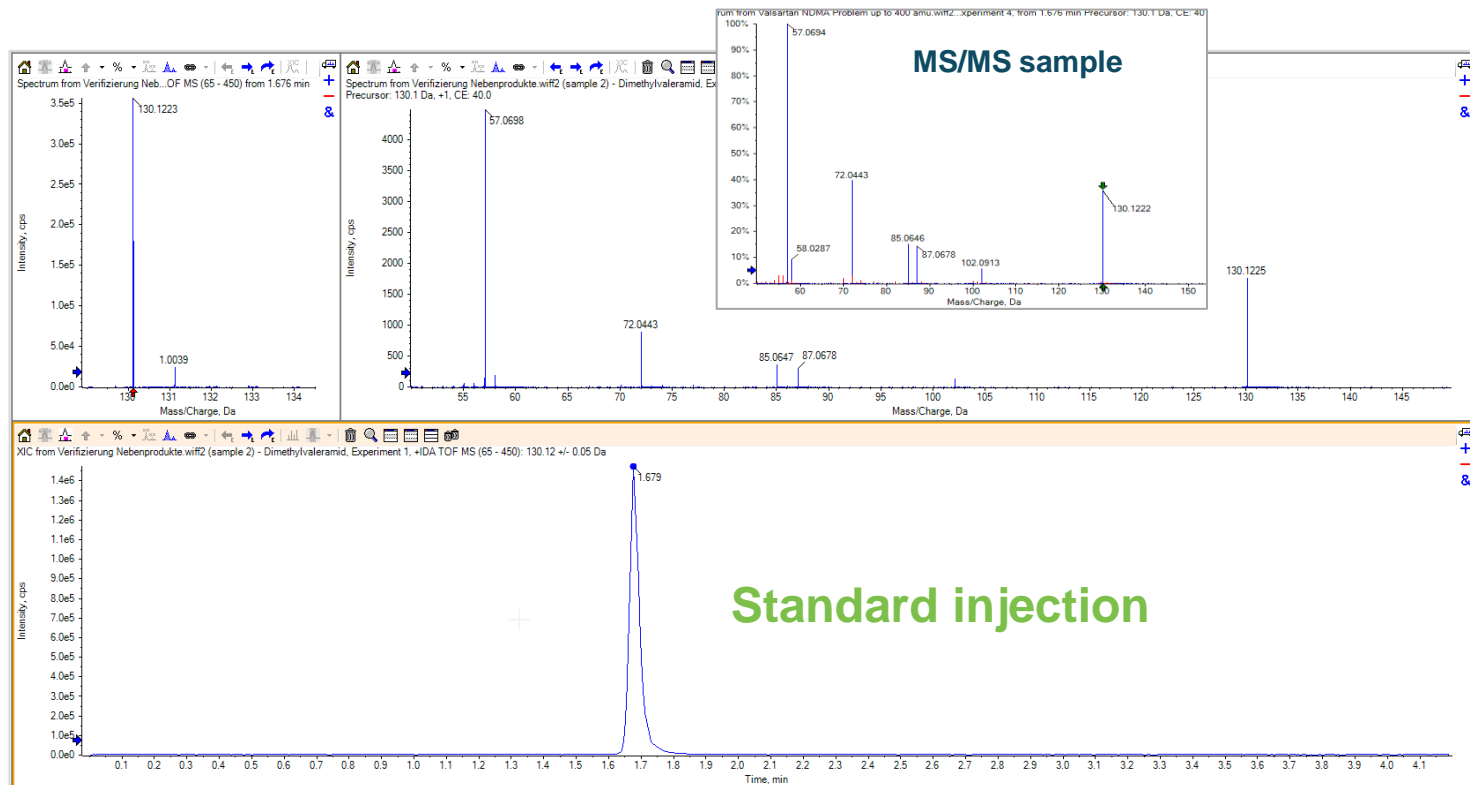
Options...

m/z	Num H	Broken Bonds	Bond Closure	Rad.	Error (Da)	Composition
57.0335	0	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.000	C3.H5.O+
57.0699	-1	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.000	C4.H9+
58.0287	0	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.000	C2.H4.N.O+
72.0444	-1	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.000	C3.H6.N.O+

Num. fragments: 10

Select Cancel

# Compound identification by standard addition



# QTRAP system

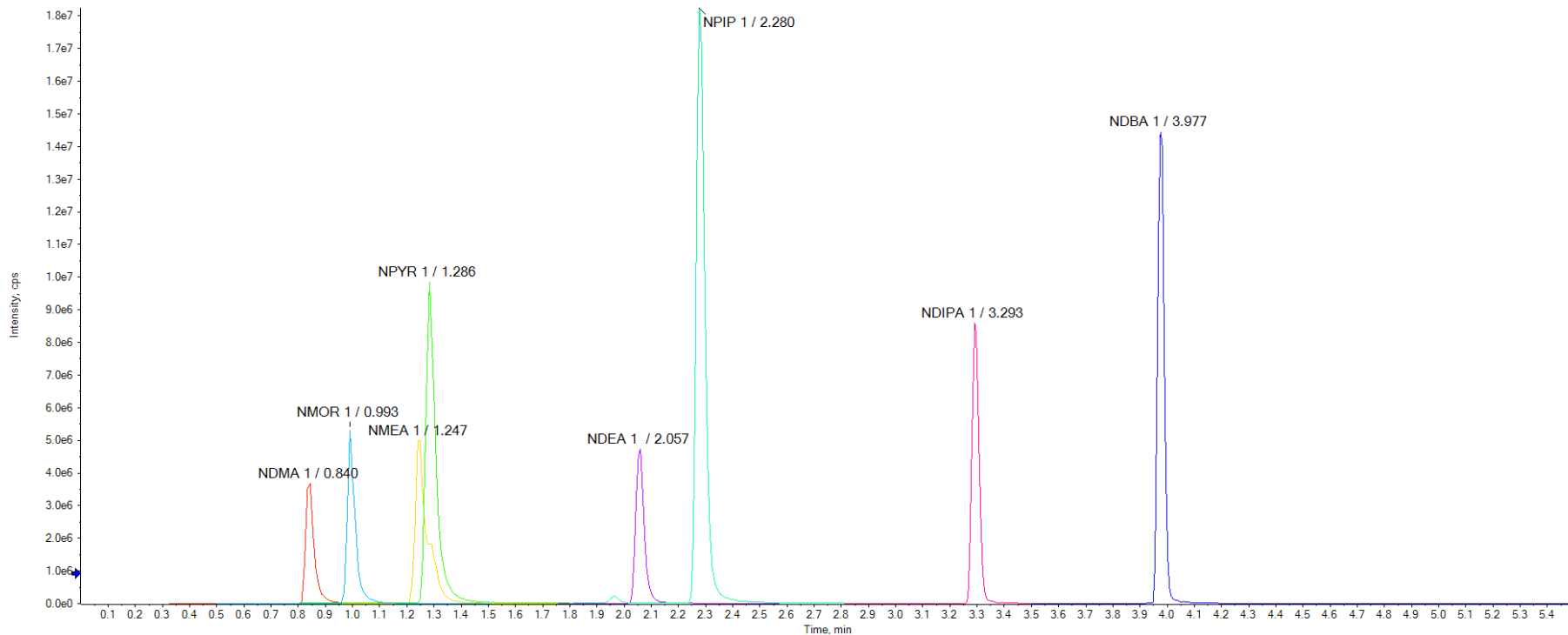


# Nitrosamine compounds analyzed

## QTRAP 6500+ SYSTEM

Compound Name	CAS Number	Molecular Formula
N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA)	62-75-9	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
N-Nitrosodibutylamine (NDBA)	924-16-3	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
N-Nitrosodi-n-propylamine (NDIPA)	621-64-7	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
N-Nitrosomethylethylamine (NMEA)	10595-95-6	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
N-Nitrosodiethylamine (NDEA)	55-18-5	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
1-Nitrosopyrrolidine (NPYR)	930-55-2	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
1-Nitrosopiperidine (NPIP)	100-75-4	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
4-Nitrosomorpholine (NMOR)	59-89-2	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>

# Positive XIC and HPLC separation

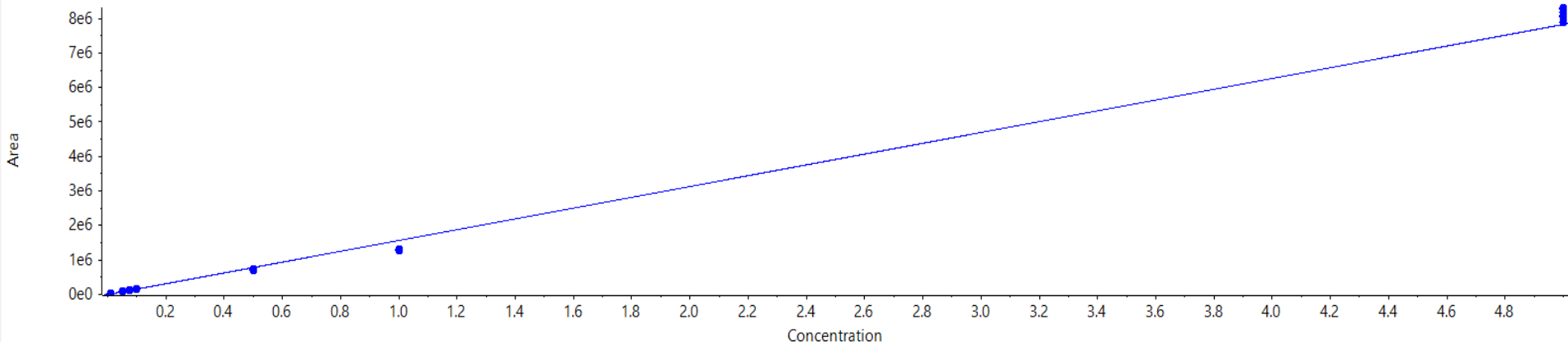




# Calibration and accuracy

- All calibration curves for both quantifier and qualifier transition have an  $r$  value  $>0.99$
- Accuracies at each level of the calibration curve for all analytes between 70% and 130%
- Calibration curve range between 10 pg/mL and 5,000 pg/mL (50-5,000) pg/mL for NMEA and NPYR)

Calibration for NDMA 1:  $y = 1.56540e6 x + 251.28403$  ( $r = 0.99664$ ,  $r^2 = 0.99329$ ) (weighting:  $1 / x$ )



Note: calibration curve concentration in ng/mL

# LOD and LOQ results

- A limit of quantification (LOQ) of 10.00 pg/mL of 2.50 pg/mL achieved for the majority of compounds
- 2 compounds have a slightly raised LOQ and LOD of 50.00 pg/mL and 10.00 pg/mL respectively
- &CV achieved for all compounds (6 injections) at both LOQ and 10x LOQ is well within acceptable limits or trace analysis.

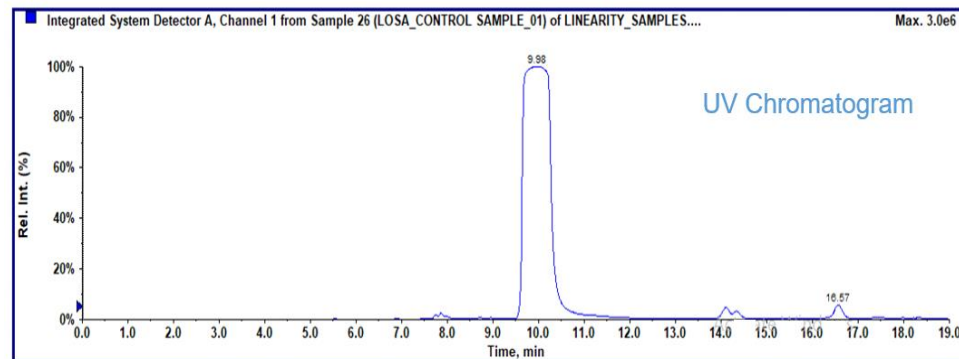
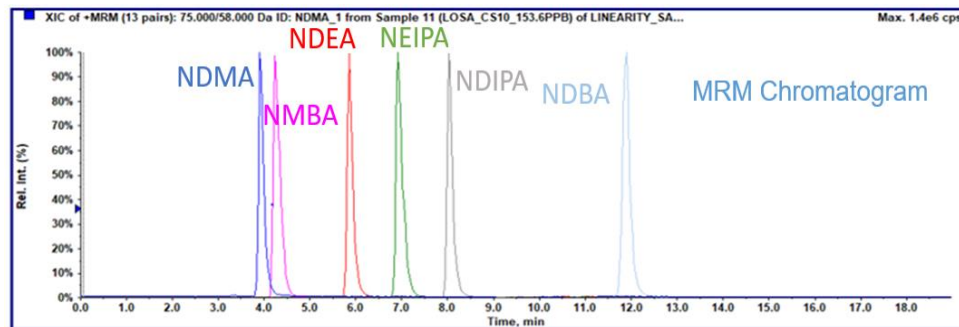
Compound Name	LOQ (pg/mL)	LOD (pg/mL)	%CV at LOQ	%CV at 10x LOQ
N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA)	10.00	2.50	4.61	3.23
N-Nitrosodibutylamine (NDBA)	10.00	2.50	3.06	1.29
N-Nitrosodi-n-propylamine (NDIPA)	10.00	2.50	2.60	2.04
N-Nitrosomethylethylamine (NMEA)	50.00	10.00	3.24	1.31
N-Nitrosodiethylamine (NDEA)	10.00	2.50	5.19	1.69
1-Nitrosopyrrolidine (NPYR)	50.00	10.00	2.43	0.63
1-Nitrosopiperidine (NPIP)	10.00	2.50	2.20	0.95
4-Nitrosomorpholine (NMOR)	10.00	2.50	4.68	2.03

# Chromatography for nitrosamine analysis in sartan family

## NITROSAMINES IN LOSARTAN

- MRM signals for 6 nitrosamines

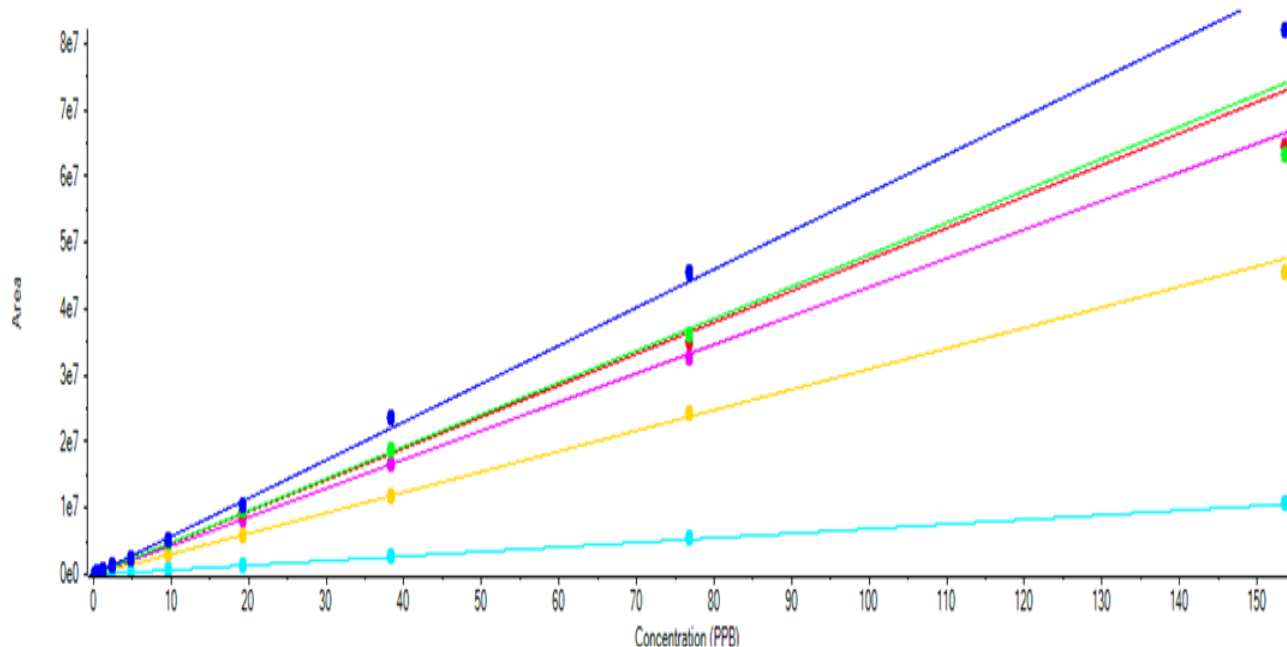
LLOQ: 0.4 ng/mL or 0.01 ppm Losartan			Threshold: 1.2 ng/mL or 0.03 ppm Losartan	
Analyte	%CV	Avg Accuracy	%CV	Avg Accuracy
NDMA	9.21	89.36	4.15	81.81
NMBA	8.36	79.77	4.47	78.01
NDEA	2.83	98.72	4.10	90.85
NEIPA	3.00	94.46	4.31	82.93
NDIPA	2.19	88.64	4.54	77.22
NDBA	4.83	111.01	2.54	98.38



# Representative calibration curves

## NITROSAMINES IN LOSARTAN

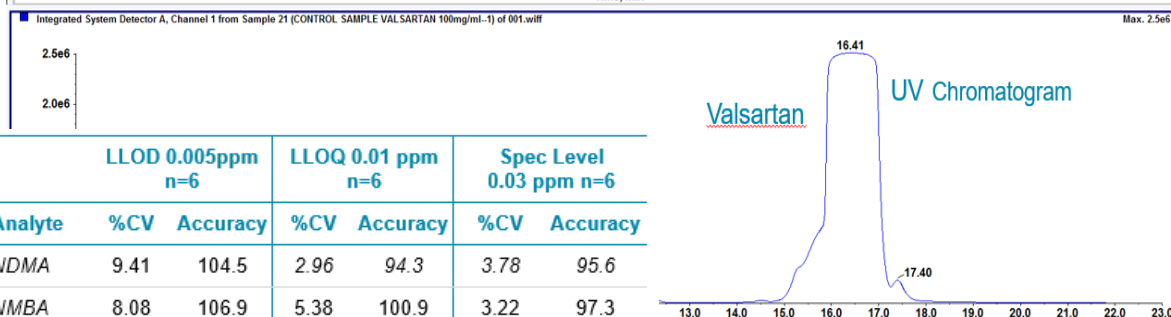
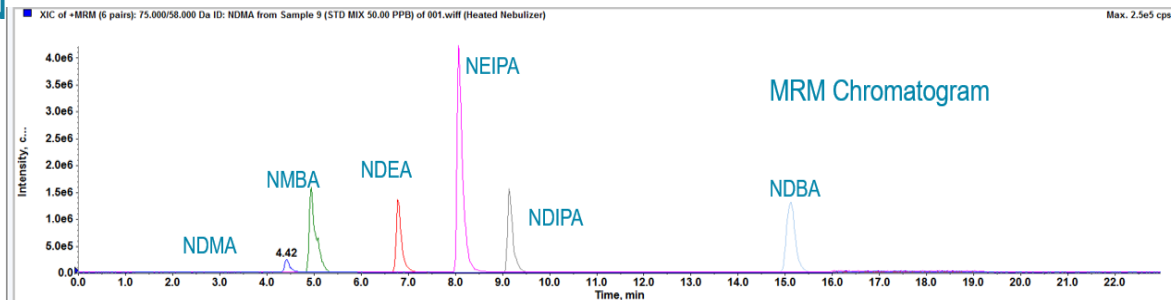
- Calibration curves ranging from 0.2 ng/mL to 153.6 ng/mL for all nitrosamines evaluated correspond to 0.005 - 3.8 µg/g with respect to losartan
- In all cases, linearity is demonstrated with an  $r$  value  $>0.99$



# Chromatography for nitrosamine analysis in sartan family

## NITROSAMINES IN VALSARTAN

- MRM signals for 6 nitrosamines
- All the compounds showed correlation values  $r > 0.99$
- Recovery in the matrix was also evaluated at the LOD at the LOQ and at the daily exposure limit specified by the FDA (0.03 ppm in the API)



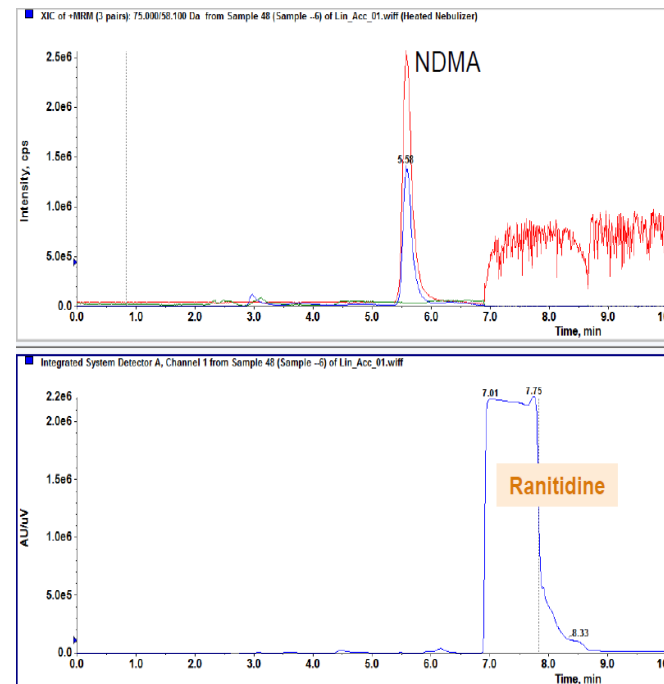
	LLOD 0.005ppm n=6		LLOQ 0.01 ppm n=6		Spec Level 0.03 ppm n=6	
Analyte	%CV	Accuracy	%CV	Accuracy	%CV	Accuracy
NDMA	9.41	104.5	2.96	94.3	3.78	95.6
NMBA	8.08	106.9	5.38	100.9	3.22	97.3
NDEA	6.58	104.7	0.94	103.1	3.41	100.2
NEIPA	4.45	95.5	1.61	96.8	2.57	102.4
NDIPA	6.73	102.3	6.17	90.3	3.82	82.8
NDBA	9.69	94.5	9.15	100.8	3.18	97.8

# Chromatogram for ranitidine analysis

## NDMA IN RANITIDINE

- MRM signals for NDMA - 2 transitions are monitored

Sample	Concentration in 50 mg/mL Ranitidine	Avg. Accuracy %	Precision %RSD	Recovery %
LOD (0.01ppm)	0.5 ng/mL	101%	1.5	80-120
LLOQ (0.03ppm)	1.5 ng/mL	102.8	2.5	80-120
Spec Level (0.09ppm)	4.5 ng/mL	104.1	1.4	80-120



# Enhanced product ion scan

## SEARCH IN LIBRARIES USING THE QTRAP SYSTEM



# QTRAP system technology

## WHAT IS A QTRAP SYSTEM?

- In a QTRAP system, a linear ion trap (LIT) is added to the Q3 of a typical triple quadrupole instrument
- This allows for a multitude of additional workflows beyond basic MRM applications for better specificity and quantitative performance

Scan Type	Triple Quad	QTRAP
Precursor	•	•
MRM	•	•
Neutral Loss	•	•
Product Ion	•	•
Enhanced MS (EMS)		•
Enhanced Multiply Charged (EMC)		•
Enhanced Resolution		•
Enhanced Product Ion		•
MS <sup>3</sup> (MS/MS/MS) and MRM <sup>3</sup>		•

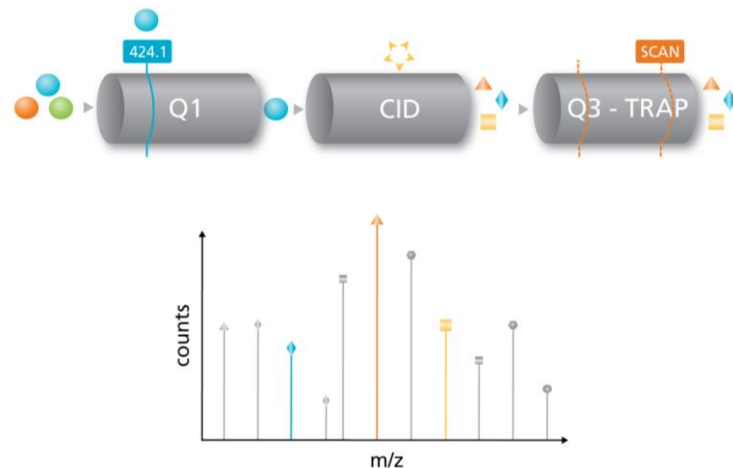




# What is an enhanced product ion scan?

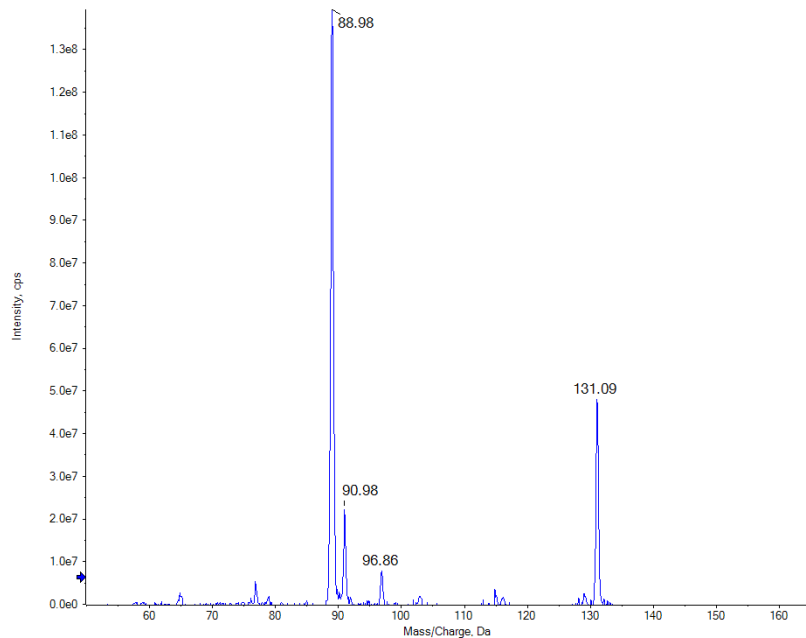
## FAST AND SENSITIVE MS/MS SCAN

- Precursor ions are filtered in Q1
- The ions are then fragmented in the LINAC collision cell
- Trapping is performed in Q3 (fixed or dynamic fill time)
- Trapped ions are scanned to give a full MS/MS spectra
- This scan can be performed alongside typical MRM analysis to provide a further level of confirmation to your analysis
- If a library of target compounds is present, this can be used to provide a library match and hit score, which provides further confidence in the specificity of the analysis without having to perform multiple injections

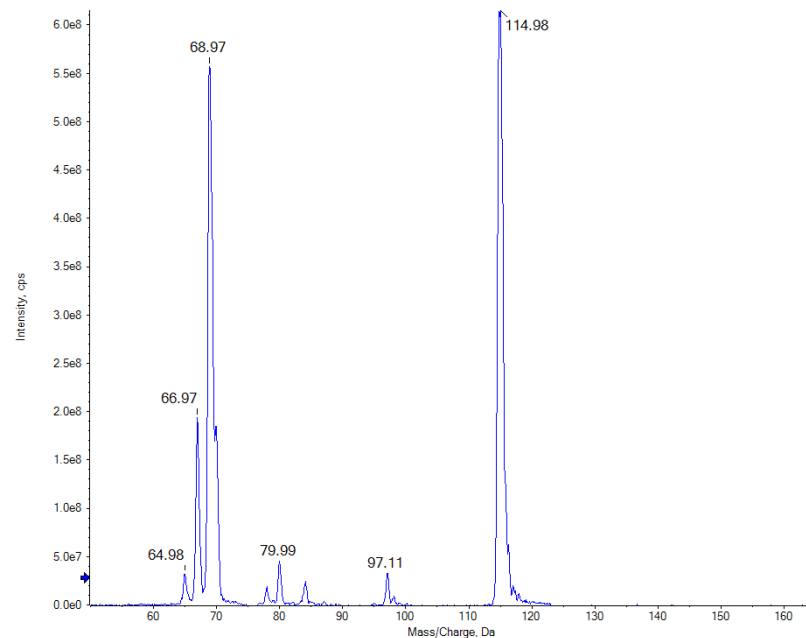


# Enhanced product ion scan QTRAP system

## NDIPA



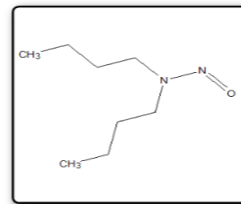
## NPIP



# Library entry example: NDBA

## NDBA 1

Identifier  
CAS Index **924-16-3**  
Formula **C8H18N2O**  
Molecular Weight **158.24163**  
Monoisotopic Mass **158.14191**  
Libraries **Nitrosamines**  
Classes  
Synonyms



Compound information

### ▼ Additional Information

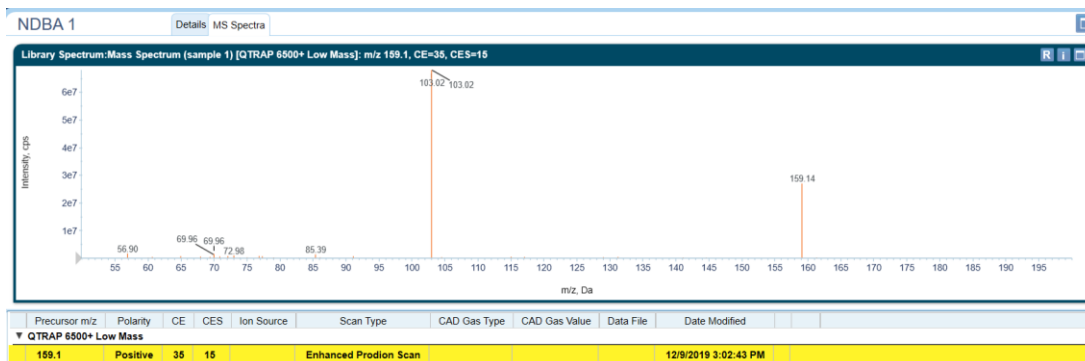
Comments

### ▼ Library Search Thresholds

### ▼ Retention Times

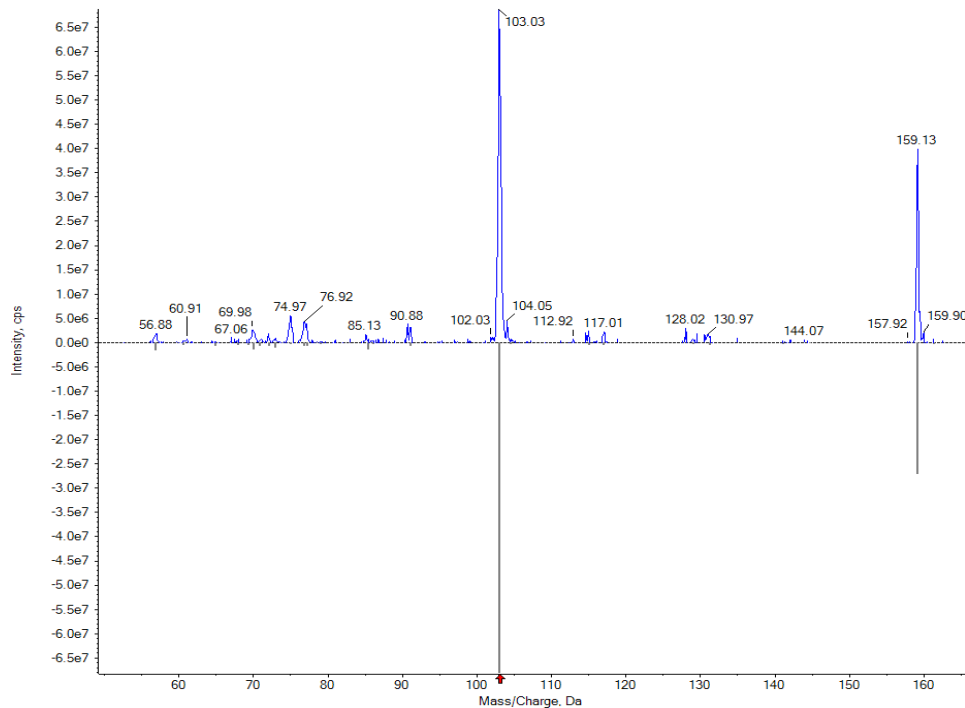
Default	LC Model	Name	Retention Time		
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### ▼ Transitions



MS/MS spectra

# Library search functionality: NDBA



- By using a nitrosamine library, we can perform confirmation to ensure the specificity of our analyte.
- In this case, NDBA has been identified with a purity of 94.6% based on library spectra
- Therefore, this provides confidence in the assignment of the analyzed peak and can exclude any artifact peaks that may occur

Library Search Results

Name	CAS#	Formula	MM (Da)	Fit	Rev. Fit	Purity	CE (eV)
NDBA 1	924-16-3	C8H18N2O	158.14191	100.0	94.6	94.6	35

# Achieved LOD, LOQ and linearity

API Load ~100 mg	Methanol Diluent	Impurity	NDMA	NDEA	NEIPA	NDIPA	NDPA	NMPA	NDBA	NMBA	NMO <sup>\$</sup>
	USFDA Method Limits <sup>##</sup>	LOD (ppm)	0.005	0.002	0.003	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.002	NAV
		LOQ (ppm)	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	NAV
		Linearity (ppm)	0.01 – 0.1	0.02 – 0.1	0.02 – 0.1	0.02 – 0.1	0.005 – 0.1	0.005 – 0.1	0.005 – 0.1	0.005 – 0.1	NAV
	Methanol Diluent	Impurity	NDMA	NDEA	NEIPA	NDIPA	NDPA	NMPA	NDBA	NMBA	NMO <sup>\$</sup>
	Limits Achieved on QTRAP® 5500+ System	LOD (ppm)	0.005	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
		LOQ (ppm)	0.01	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005
		Linearity (ppm)	0.01 - 2	0.005 - 2	0.005 - 2	0.005 - 2	0.005 - 2	0.005 - 2	0.005 - 2	0.005 - 2	0.005 - 2
	Methanol Diluent	Impurity	NDMA	NDEA	NEIPA	NDIPA	NDPA	NMPA	NDBA	NMBA	NMO <sup>\$</sup>
	Limits Achieved on X500B System	LOD (ppm)	0.005	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.005	0.001	0.001	0.005
		LOQ (ppm)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.005	0.01	0.005	0.005	0.01
		Linearity (ppm)	0.01 - 1	0.01 – 1	0.01 – 1	0.01 - 1	0.005 - 1	0.01 - 1	0.005 – 0.5	0.005 - 1	0.01 - 1

API Load ~25 mg	Water/Acidified Water	Impurity	NDMA	NDEA	NEIPA	NDIPA	NDPA	NMPA	NDBA	NMBA	NMO <sup>\$</sup>
	Limits Achieved on X500B System	LOD (ppm)	0.005	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.005	0.002	0.002	0.005
		LOQ (ppm)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
		Linearity (ppm)	0.01 - 2	0.01 – 2	0.01 – 2	0.01 – 2	0.01 – 2	0.01 – 2	0.01 – 2	0.01 – 2	0.01 - 2

# Conclusions

## QTRAP AND HRMS LC-MS/MS SYSTEMS

- Any of our systems has the necessary sensitivity to determine the values requested by regulatory authorities
- Extensive sample preparation is not required
- Selective, sensitive and reproducible methods for the detection and quantification of various APIs are presented and can be transferred to your laboratory immediately
- HRMS systems will help enable timely detection of nitrosamines and their precursors
- QTRAP systems allow additional contaminations to be explored by searching libraries, and aid matrix effect elimination MRM<sup>3</sup>

# Tech notes

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## Drug Discovery and Development



### Método Altamente Selectivo y Sensible para la Cuantificación de Nitrosaminas en Sustancias Farmacológicas en Valsartán

Cuantificación con el sistema SCIEX Triple Quad™ 5500+ LC-MS/MS - QTRAP® Ready acoplado al sistema ExionLC™ AD

Aman Sharma<sup>1</sup>, Sandeep Choudhary<sup>1</sup>, M Chandrasekar<sup>1</sup>, Manoj Pillai<sup>1</sup>  
SCIEX, India

Valsartán y otros medicamentos relacionados a la familia "sartán" se usan para tratar pacientes con hipertensión (presión arterial alta) y aquellos con insuficiencia cardíaca o que han sufrido un ataque cardíaco. El mecanismo de acción de los "sartanes" es bloquear la acción de la Angiotensina-II, una hormona que contrae los vasos sanguíneos y hace que aumente la presión arterial.

En julio de 2018, la US FDA emitió un aviso de retiro del mercado para una gran cantidad de medicamento genérico usado para el bloqueo del receptor de Angiotensina-II, Valsartán, fabricado en instalaciones de China, debido a los niveles inaceptables de contaminación por el compuesto genotóxico n-nitrosodimetilamina (NDMA). En los siguientes años, se han emitido cientos de retiros



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## Drug Discovery and Development



### Analysis of Genotoxic Nitrosamines in Losartan and Ranitidine Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

On the SCIEX QTRAP® 4500 LC-MS/MS System with ExionLC™ AD System

Sandeep Choudhary, Aman Sharma, M Chandrasekar, Manoj Pillai  
SCIEX, India

In recent years, there have been several high profile drug recalls of angiotensin II receptor blocking sartan class drug (valsartan, losartan, irbesartan), due to contamination of the final drug products with potentially genotoxic nitrosamine compounds, including n-nitrosodimetilamina (NDMA). More recently in September of 2019, the US FDA announced the discovery of low levels of NDMA in the H2 blocker ranitidine, generic for Zantac, which is sold as an over-the-counter medication used to treat heartburn and GERD. This resulted in the recall by some manufacturers of this product, and the recommendation of some regulating agencies (Health Canada) that all products containing this medication be recalled. Drug product contamination and subsequent recalls pose obvious health risks to consumers, and



26.5 ng/day for n-nitrosodietilamina (NDEA) to 96 ng/day for NDMA. Because the daily dosage of a drug can vary, an



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## Drug Discovery and Development



### Analysis of nitrosamine impurities in a metformin drug substance and drug product

Using the SCIEX X500 QTOF System

Sandeep Choudhary<sup>1</sup>, Rajendra Prasad Thatipamula<sup>1</sup>, Jack Steed<sup>2</sup>, Pankaj Partani<sup>1</sup>, Jianru Stahl-Zeng<sup>3</sup>, Manoj Pillai<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>SCIEX CoE, India; <sup>2</sup>SCIEX, UK; <sup>3</sup>SCIEX, Germany

Metformin, a biguanide derived from galegine, is an oral antihyperglycemic agent most widely used in the treatment of type 2 diabetes. Chemically, it is a hydrophilic base which exists at physiological pH as the cationic species (>99.9%). It is freely soluble in water and is practically insoluble in acetone, ether, and chloroform. The pKa of metformin is 12.4, with the pH of a 1% aqueous solution of metformin hydrochloride is 6.68. The tablets are available under various brand names for oral administration containing 500 mg, 750 mg or 1000 mg of metformin hydrochloride.<sup>1</sup>

Nitrosamines, the chemical compounds containing nitroso functional group, are classified by the ICH M7(R1) Guideline as class one impurities, "known mutagenic carcinogens", based on both rodent carcinogenicity and mutagenicity data. They are categorized by the International Agency for Cancer Research as



Additionally, the FDA has provided "guidance for industry" regarding "control of nitrosamine impurities in human drugs".<sup>4</sup>





The Power of Precision

Thank you!

Questions?





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