

Review Article

**Spectroscopic, Chromatographic and Electrochemical Determination of Indomethacin in Different Matrices**

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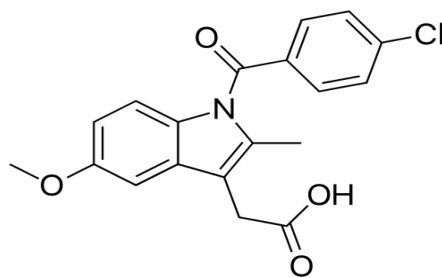
**Abstract.** In this literature review, we will introduce most of up-to-date reported methods that have been developed for determination of an important Nonsteroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug (NSAID) which is indomethacin in its pure form, combined form with other drugs, combined form with degradation products, and in biological samples.

**Keywords:** literature review; NSAID; indomethacin, degradation products, biological samples

**Introduction**

Indomethacin (IDM) [1-(4-chloro benzoyl)-5-methoxy-2-methyl-indol-3-ylacetic acid] is an indole derivative as seen in Figure 1. It has analgesic, anti-inflammatory and antipyretic action and also used in case of rheumatoid arthritis. The common side effects are GIT ulceration and bleeding, headache, depression, drowsiness, tinnitus, confusion, lightheadedness, insomnia, dizziness, convulsions, coma, hypertension and blood disorders (Sastry, Mangala, & Rao, 1986).

Many analytical techniques have been used for the determination of IDM in different forms. As such, in this review article, IDM has been studied in respect of chemical characters, mode of action and most reported analytical methods that have been developed for determination of this drug in different matrices.



**Figure 1: Chemical structure of IDM**

**Pharmacological Action**

IDM has potent inhibitory effect on the synthesis of prostaglandins. The production of prostaglandins is inhibited through the inhibition of (COX) 1 and 2 and is essential for most of the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). The indications for NSAIDs, and in particular IDM, include arthritis, fever, various headache syndromes, and dysmenorrheal (Summ & Evers, 2013).

**Review of Analytical Methods**

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Various techniques were used for the analysis of IDM in its pure forms, in pharmaceutical formulations and in biological fluids. The available reported methods in the literature can be summarized as follows:

### Spectroscopic Methods

#### *Spectrophotometric Methods*

Drugs	Matrix	Method or reagent	$\lambda_{max}$ (nm)	Linearity range	LOD	Ref.
IDM	Capsules	Coloremetric spectrophotometry by using mAP - CAT reagent	490	4-16 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	-----	Sastry, Mangala, and Rao(1986)
IDM	Capsules	Partial least square method	578	0.05-4.0 $\text{mg}/10\text{ mL}$	0.05 $\text{mg}/10\text{ mL}$	Noreen et al. (2007)
IDM	Capsules	N –bromosuccinimide reagent	227	0.02-0.16 $\text{mg}/10\text{ ml}$	-----	Hassib, Safwat, and El-Bagry (1986)
IDM	Capsules	4-carboxyl-2,6-dinitrobenzene diazonium ion reagent	470	3–11 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	0.90 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	Adegoke, Idowu, and Olaniyi (2006)
IDM	Capsules	UV spectroscopy	228	1-10 $\text{mg/L}$	0.602-0.129 $\text{mg/L}$	Ali, Albakaa, and Ali (2015)
IDM and ketoprofen	Capsules	Diphenylamine sulfonate (DPAS) redox indicator	250	0.72-14.31 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	0.27 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	Zayed and Farouk (2017)
IDM	Capsules	UV Spectroscopic method	266	1-6 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	0.17273 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	Thejomoorthy et al. (2019)
IDM	Biological fluids	Surfactant coated magnetic nanoparticle-based solid-phase-extraction-coupled-withspectrophotometric detection	310	25-450 $\text{ng/mL}$	8.6 $\text{ng/mL}$	Amoli-Diva, Pourghazi, and Pourasadollah-Karani (2015)
IDM	Capsules	Diazotized p-phenylenediamine dihydrochloride (PPDD) in sulphuric acid medium	510	0.2-10 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	0.16 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	Nagaraja, Vasantha, and Yathirajan (2003)
IDM	Capsule, tablets and suppositories	2-Nitrophenylhydrazine hydrochloride	552	0.4-2 $\mu\text{mole}/10\text{ mL}$	-----	Abdel-hay et al. (1990)
IDM, Alfuzocin, esomprazole, andketorolac	Capsules and tablets	Oxidation by using alkaline $\text{KMnO}_4$	610	2.5-15 $\mu\text{gm/L}$	0.21 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	Reddy, Sayanna, and Venkateshwarlu (2014)
IDM,diclofenac sodium, ibuprofen, ketoprofen, ketorolac tromethamine, mefenamic acid, and naproxen	Capsules	Extractive-spectrophotometric determination using methylene blue	654	0.04–8.5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	0.01 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	El-Kommos, Mohamed, and Abdel Hakiem (2013)

#### *SpectrofluorometricMethods*

Drugs	Matrix	Fluorogenic reagent (method)	$\lambda_{ex}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{em}$ (nm)	Linearity range	LOD	Ref.
IDM	Capsules	mAP - CAT reagent	465	490	0.2-3 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	-----	Sastry, Mangala, & Rao (1986)
IDM	Capsules	alkaline hydrolysis in micellar medium	278	358	up to $10^{-5}\text{mol/L}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-8}\text{mol/L}$	Pinto et al. (2005)
IDM	Capsules	Potassium hexacyanoferrate (III)	226	-----	0.01- 5 $\text{mmol/L}$	320.222 $\text{ng/sample}$	Turkie, &Abd-Alrazack (2009)

### Chromatographic Methods

**HPLC Methods**

Drugs	Matrix	Column	Mobile phase	Detector	Linearity range	LOD	Ref
IDM	Plasma	Hypersil ODS C <sub>18</sub> column (5 µm, 125 mm × 4 mm)	Methanol, water and orthophosphoric acid (70:29.5:0.5, v/v/v)	UV at 270 nm	25-2500 µg/L	5 µg/L	Al Za'abi et al. (2006)
IDM	Plasma	Phenomenex C <sub>18</sub> (5 µm, 150 mm × 4.6 mm)	63% acetonitrile and 37% water (pH2.0, adjusted with 0.2% ortho phosphoric acid)	UV at 270 nm	10-200 ng/mL	3 ng/mL	Dawidowicz, Kondziola, and Kobielski (2009)
IDM and mefenamic acid	Plasma	Vydac C <sub>18</sub> (5 µm, 250 mm × 4.6 mm)	10 mM phosphoric acid-acetonitrile (40:60, v/v)	UV at 280 nm	0.1-10 µg/mL	0.06 µg/mL	Niopas and Mamzoridi (1994)
IDM and its two degradant impurities 4-chlorobenzoic acid, 5-methoxy-2-methyl-indoleacetic acid	Capsules	Zorbax Eclipse Plus C <sub>18</sub> (3.5 µm, 100 mm × 4.6 mm)	Methanol: acetonitrile: 10 mM sodium acetate buffer pH 3, 10:50:40% v/v	UV at 254 nm	25-70 µg/mL	1.036 µg/mL	Pai and Sawant (2017)
IDM	Plasma	LiChrosorb-RP <sub>18</sub> (7 µm, 250 mm × 4 mm)	6 mM Phosphoric acid-acetonitrile (50:50)	UV at 205 nm	0.1-2.0 µg/mL	0.05 µg/mL	Sato et al. (1997)
IDM and acemetacin	Urine	Promosil C <sub>18</sub> (5 µm, 250 mm × 4.6 mm)	Water : acetonitrile (43:57, v/v, containing 0.5% trifluoroacetic acid)	UV at 254 nm	0.1-50 µg/mL	0.027 µg/mL	Yuan et al. (2016)
IDM desmethylindomethacin, deschlorobenzoylindomethacin and desmethyl deschlorobenzoylindomethacin	Plasma	Whatman C <sub>18</sub> (10 µm, 250 mm × 4.6 mm)	22.5% or 26% acetonitrile in 25% acetic acid.	Fluorometric detection at 390 nm	25-200 ng/mL	25 ng/mL	Bernstein and Evans (1982)
IDM	Rat plasma	Zorbax Eclipse XDB C <sub>18</sub>	Methanol:0.1% phosphoric acid (70:30, v/v)	UV at 254 nm	50-10000 ng/mL	10 ng/mL	Liu et al. (2002)
IDM	Serum	Stainless-steel column (150 mm x 4.6 mm I.D.) packed with Unisil Q C <sub>18</sub> (5 µm)	0.07 M phosphate buffer (pH 6.6)-acetonitrile (65 : 35 v/v) containing 180 mM hydrogen peroxide	Fluorometric detection at 462 nm	0.05-30 µg/mL	10 ng/mL	Mawatari, Iinuma, and Watanabe (1989)
IDM	Urine	Nucleosil RP-C <sub>18</sub> (5 µm, 250 mm × 4.6 mm)	Methanol:water:acetic acid = 67:33:0.1	Flow injection chemiluminescence (CL) detection	0.01-10 µg/mL	8 ng/mL	Zhang et al. (2007)
IDM	Porcine plasma	Res Elut RP C <sub>18</sub> (5 µm, 150 mm × 4.6 mm)	60% acetonitrile in 0.02M sodium acetate buffer adjusted to pH 3.6 using orthophosphoric acid	UV at 320 nm	50-3000 ng/mL	10 ng/mL	Boon, Glass, and Nimmo (2006)
IDM	Serum	C <sub>18</sub> -bonded vinyl alcohol copolymer column	pH 10.0, 35% acetonitrile in phosphate buffer	Fluorimetric detection at 375 nm	0.1-10.0 µg/mL	10 ng/mL	Kubo et al. (1992)

IDM	Serum	Inertsil ODS-2 (5 $\mu$ m, 150 mm $\times$ 4.6 mm)	pH 7.0, 35% acetonitrile in phosphate buffer containing hydrogen peroxide as a fluorogenic reagent	Fluorimetric detection at 462 nm	2.5-15.0 $\mu$ g/mL	0.5 $\mu$ g/mL	Kubo et al. (1993)
IDM	Residues in poultry	Spherisorb ODS-2 column (200 mm $\times$ 3.9 mm, 5 $\mu$ m)	Acetonitrile–acetic acid (0.5% in water) (50:50).	UV at 254 nm	20–500 ng/g	20 ng/g	Cristofol et al. (1998)
IDM, diclofenac sodium and phenylbutazone	Urine	Waters Nova-Pack C <sub>18</sub> (15 cm $\times$ 3.9 mm, 4 $\mu$ m)	10 mM acetate buffer (pH 4.0)–acetonitrile (58:42, v/v)	UV at 210 nm	0.02–1.0 $\mu$ g/mL	0.007 $\mu$ g/mL	Bakkali et al. (1999)
Methotrexate and IDM	Urine	Octylsilica	Acetate buffer (pH 4; 10 mM)–methanol (60:40, v/v)	UV at 400 nm	0.1-8 $\mu$ g/mL	0.01 $\mu$ g/mL	Michail and Moneeb (2011)
IDM	Suppositories	C <sub>18</sub>	0.05 mol·L <sup>-1</sup> acetic acid-acetonitrile (50:50)	UV at 260 nm	25.59-307.13 mg/L	----	Zheng and Chen (2012)
Diclophenac sodium, flufenamic acid, IDM, ketoprofen	Capsules	Shim-pack GLC-CN, 5 $\mu$ m, (150 $\times$ 4 mm)	Acetonitrile and 20 mM ammonium acetate solution (5:1 v/v)	APCI-MS, m/z 355.8	100-500 ng/mL	4.0 ng/mL	Abdel-Hamid, Novotny, and Hamza (2001)
IDM	Maternal plasma and urine	Waters Symmetry C <sub>18</sub> column (150 mm $\times$ 4.6 mm, 5 $\mu$ m)	0.05% (v/v) formic acid aqueous solution and acetonitrile (47:53, v/v)	MS/MS, m/z 139	14.8-2.97 $\times 10^3$ ng/mL for plasma & 10.5-4.21 $\times 10^3$ ng/mL for urine	3.71 ng/mL & 2.63 ng/mL	Wang et al. (2013)
IDM	Aqueous media	Gemini C <sub>18</sub> (5 m, 250 mm $\times$ 4.6 mm)	Water with 1% formic acid (A) and acetonitrile	MS	1 $\times 10^{-4}$ - 1 $\times 10^{-6}$ M	-----	Temussi et al. (2011)
IDM	Plasma & uterine tissue	Diamonsil C <sub>18</sub> (150 $\times$ 4.6 mm, 5 $\mu$ m)	Methanol, acetonitrile, water and formic acid (45:45:10:0.5, v/v/v/v)	MS/MS, m/z 358 $\rightarrow$ 111	2.0–400 ng/mL for plasma & 4.0–800 ng/mL for uterine tissue	0.6 ng/mL	Liu et al. (2012)
IDM	Aliquots of vitreous humor, aqueous humor	Gemini-NX C <sub>18</sub> (2.0 x 50 mm, 3 mm)	Water/acetonitrile (50:50, vol/vol).	MS/MS	1-1000 ng/mL	0.33 ng/mL	Bucolo et al. (2011)
IDM	blood and buccal smear samples	Waters Symmetry C <sub>18</sub> (2.1 mm $\times$ 100 mm, 3.5 $\mu$ m)	Acetonitrile with 0.05% formic acid (v/v) and (B) 0.05% formic acid aqueous solution (v/v);	MS/MS	6.22 - 1.59 $\times 10^3$ ng/mL	2.073 ng/mL	Shah et al. (2019)
IDM	Human liver	InertsilPh C <sub>18</sub> (4.6 $\times$ 150 mm)	1% formic acid-acetonitrile (6:4, v/v)	MS	0.2–20 $\mu$ M	-----	Mano, Usui, and Kamimura (2007)
IDM, paracetamol and 1-naphthol	Human intestinal cell line	Waters XBridge Shield RP <sub>18</sub> (2.1 mm $\times$ 50 mm, 3.5 $\mu$ m)	2 mM ammonium acetate (A, pH 7.0) and acetonitrile	MS/MS	5-500 $\mu$ M	-----	Siissalo et al. (2010)
IDM	Cunninghamella blakeleana	Diamonsil C <sub>18</sub> (200 $\times$ 4.0 mm, 5 $\mu$ m)	Acetonitrile-water-formic acid (70:30:0.5, v:v:v)	UV at 230 nm	-----	16.6 ng/mL	Zhang et al. (2006)
IDM	Topical gel	Zorbax SB-CN (150 mm $\times$ 4.6 mm, 5 $\mu$ m)	Acetonitrile and 0.2% phosphoric acid (50:50, v/v)	UV at 237 nm	100–500 mg/L	10 ng/L	Nováková et al. (2005)

## Electrochemical Methods

Drug	Matrix	Electrode	Linearity range	L.O.D	REF
IDM	Tablets and capsules	GNRs–GO–CNTP/GCE	0.2–0.9 and 2.5–91.5 $\mu\text{M}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-2} \mu\text{M}$	Arvand and Gholizadeh (2013)
Diclofenac and IDM	Tablets	MWCNT–IL/CCE	1–50 mol/L	0.26 mol/L	Sarhangzadeh et al. (2013)
Mefenamic acid and IND	Tablets	MWCNTs-Fe (III)-schiff base	0.08–435 mol/L	0.08 mol/L	Hasanzadeh et al. (2012)
IDM and mefenamic acid	Tablets	(P(CS)-CuNP-CuE)	0.001 -5000 $\mu\text{M}$	1 nM	Farshchi et al. (2020)
IDM	Tablets	Carbon paste electrodes	$8.5 \times 10^{-8}$ - $1.5 \times 10^{-7}$ M	$2.5 \times 10^{-8}$ M	Radi (1998)
IDM	Tablets	Ion-selective electrodes (ISE)	$1 \times 10^{-4}$ - $5 \times 10^{-2}$ mol/L	$3 \times 10^{-5}$ mol/L	Kormosh, Hunka, and Bazel (2009)
IDM	Tablets	MWCNT-modified glassy carbon electrode	0.2 - 6.0 $\mu\text{M}$	13.2 nM	Asiabi et al. (2016)
IDM and acemethacin	Tablets	Mercury electrode	0.0–6.88 $\times 10^{-8}$ mM	5.29 mM	Reguera, Arcos, and Ortiz (1998)
Mefenamic acid and IDM	Tablets	Boron-doped diamond electrode	0.3–100 $\mu\text{M}$	0.4 $\mu\text{M}$	Petković et al. (2020)
Metoclopramide and IDM	Tablet	ZnFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /MWCNTs-CPE	5.0 -200.0 $\mu\text{M}$	0.5 $\mu\text{M}$	Hassannezhad et al. (2019)
IDM	Tablets	Boron-doped diamond electrode (BDDE)	5 – 0.05 mM	0.008 mM	Radovan et al. (2005)
IDM	Tablets	Gr-NiO/GCE	$2.0 \times 10^{-7}$ - $7.0 \times 10^{-5}$ mol/L	$5.4 \times 10^{-8}$ mol/L	Liu et al. (2018)
IDM	Tablets	Metrohm EA 290 hanging mercury drop electrode.	1.0--2.0 mM	0.018 mM	Arcos, López-Palacios, and Sánchez-Batanero (1989)
IDM	Tablets	A dropping mercury electrode	$5 \times 10^{-9}$ - $5 \times 10^{-8}$ mol/L	$8.1 \times 10^{-10}$ mol/L	El-Hefnawy et al. (2003)
Dopamine, acetaminophen and IDM	Tablets and ampules	MWCNTs–NHNP–MCM-41/GCE	0.8-40 $\mu\text{M}$	0.11 $\mu\text{M}$	Babaei et al. (2015)
IDM	Tablets	MnO <sub>2</sub> -Gr/GCE	$1.0 \times 10^{-7}$ - $2.5 \times 10^{-5}$ mol/L	$3.2 \times 10^{-8}$ mol/L	Liu et al. (2016)
IDM	Tablets and vials	Glassy carbon working electrode (WE)	5 - 50 pg	2 pg	Baudrit and Fabre (1995)
IDM	Tablets	TiO <sub>2</sub> Nanoparticle Modified Carbon Ionic Liquid Electrode	$1.0 \times 10^{-7}$ - $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$ M	$2.1 \times 10^{-8}$ M	Baezzat, Banavand, and Kamran Hakkani (2020)
Dantrolene and IDM	Tablets	Hanging mercury drop electrode	0.2–1.2 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	-----	Ragab et al. (2019)
Acemetacin and IDM	Tablets	Mercury thin film modified carbon microelectrode	0.005 - 0.5 mM	$1.34 \times 10^{-7}$ mM	Calado et al. (2013)

### Conclusion

This literature review represents an up to date survey about all reported methods that have been developed for determination of indomethacin in its pure form, combined form with other drugs, combined form with degradation products, and in biological samples such as liquid chromatography, spectrophotometry, spectrofluorimetry, electrochemistry, etc.

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