

Name of Procedure:

Extractions and Separations
Separation of Dextropropoxyphene Napsylate and Acetaminophen

Suggested Uses:

This procedure is used to separate dextropropoxyphene napsylate from acetaminophen for further analysis.

Apparatus Needed to Perform Procedure Including Preparation of Reagent:

Fume hood
Gloves
Eye protection
Laboratory coat
Concentrated Sodium Hydroxide Solution (cold/refrigerated)
Ethyl Ether
Sodium Sulfate, anhydrous
Filter paper
Small beaker
Glass stirring rod
Clean glass vial with cap
Nitrogen source

Application of Procedure on Evidence:

1. Remove film coating from tablet if one is present.
2. Crush tablet and place in small beaker.
3. Add 2-3 drops of cold, concentrated sodium hydroxide solution and stir until all powder is wet and a paste is formed.
5. Wash with ethyl ether and dry through sodium sulfate in filter paper.
6. Evaporate ethyl ether under nitrogen.

Safety Concerns:

Sodium hydroxide is caustic and ethyl ether is extremely flammable. This procedure should be performed in a well-ventilated area or in a fume hood.

Literature References:

Stall, W., "Separation of Darvon and APC", **MICROGRAM**, Vol. XI, NO. 11, Nov. 1978, pp. 204-206.