

# Development and Validation of RP-HPLC for Estimation of Brexpiprazole in Bulk Drugs

Komal Kashinath Andhale\*, S. U. Puri, K. S. Belsare, P. A. Nitnaware

## ABSTRACT

A simple, rapid, accurate, and sensitive method was developed for quantitative analysis of Brexpiprazole in bulk dosage form using reverse phase high-performance liquid chromatography with UV detection. The chromatography separation was achieved on Kromasil-C18, (250 mm × 4.6 mm i.d., 5 µm particle size), at column temperature 25°C ± 2, in the isocratic mobile phase mode using acetonitrile 5% ortho-phosphoric acid: water (60:40 v/v) at a flow rate of 1.0 mL/min. The determination was performed using waters HPLC with UV detector set at 216 nm. Samples were prepared with diluent methanol, and the volume injected was 20 µL. The retention time for brexpiprazole was 3.89 min. The analytical curve was linear ( $r^2=0.99994$ ) over a wide concentration range (0.51–7.50 µg/mL). The presence of components of the bulk did not interfere in the results of the analysis. The method showed adequate precision with a relative standard deviation <2%.

**Keywords:** Brexpiprazole, Reverse-phase high-performance liquid chromatography, Validation

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## INTRODUCTION

Brexpiprazole (Rexulti®, Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co, Ltd, Tokyo, Japan) is an atypical antipsychotic that was approved by the US Food and Drug Administration in July 2015 for treatment of schizophrenia and as an adjunctive therapy to antidepressant medications for the treatment of major depressive disorder.<sup>[1-3]</sup> Brexpiprazole is a new serotonin–dopamine receptor modulator that acts as a partial agonist at the 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> receptors with less intrinsic activity than aripiprazole and as an antagonist at the 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> and alpha-1A receptors, all with subnanomolar potency.<sup>[5,6]</sup>

It is a white-to-off white freely soluble powder in methanol and practically insoluble in water is chemically designated as 7-[4-[4-(1-benzothiophen-4-yl) piperazin-1-yl] Butoxy]-1,2-dihydroquinolin-2-one with molecular formula C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S, and molecular weight 433.57 [Tables 6-8].<sup>[2,8-14]</sup>

While the precise mechanism of action of brexpiprazole in treating schizophrenia is not fully understood, the pharmacology of brexpiprazole is believed to be mediated by a combination of high binding affinity and functional activities at multiple monoaminergic receptors.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Brexpiprazole is obtained from Alkem Laboratories Ltd. and reagents, namely, methanol high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC grade), ethanol (Analytical grade), acetonitrile (HPLC grade), orthophosphoric acid (OPA) (HPLC grade), dimethyl formamide (DMF) (Analytical grade), dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) (Analytical grade), and hydrochloric acid (Analytical grade) was obtained from Merck, whereas water (HPLC grade) was obtained from Siddhi Lab.

Instruments like (1) double-beam UV-visible spectrophotometer with model no. UV 550, Make-Jasco, (2) HPLC binary gradient system with model no. 1260 Infinity II, Make- Agilent, Pump- DEAX02386, Detector-DEACX16446, Column-Water spherisorb 100 mm \* 4.6 mm, C18, 5 µ, Software-Openlab EZ Chrome, (3) Azcet high precision balance with Model- CY 224C, Maximum-220 g, Minimum-0.001 g, (4) digital pH

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meter Make- LabMan, (5) bio-technic ultra sonicator with capacity of 13.5 L, and (6) filters with membranes of Nylon 0.45 µm and PVDF 0.45 µm were used, whereas the glasswares and apparatus such as volumetric flask, funnel, UV-cuvettes, beakers, pipettes, glass rod, test tubes, test tube stands, GC vials, rubber bulb, and tissue papers were used.

Chromatographic separation was achieved on a Kromasil, C18, 250 mm\*4.6 mm, 5µ. The mobile phase used for the separation of Brexpiprazole was Acetonitrile: 0.05%OPA in water in the ratio of 60:40. Flow rate was set at a 1ml/min at ambient temperature 30°C, an injection volume of 20 µL using UV-visible detector (UV3000-v) at wavelength of 216nm. The mobile phase was ultrasonicated for degassing and filtered through 0.45µm membrane nylon filter using vacuum pump before pumping into HPLC system [Table 9].

Brexpiprazole is evaluated for various preliminary parameters such as color, odor, and appearance and confirmed that they complied with official standards. The melting point for brexpiprazole is determined by an open capillary method and compared with standard literature values. The solubility was determined in solvents under consideration, that is, methanol, water, acetonitrile, ethanol, DMF, and DMSO and are shown in the result. Stock solution was prepared by weighing and dissolving 10 mg brexpiprazole with 50 mL of methanol and to this dilution was done with methanol (100 µg/mL) which was further diluted

with 1–10 mL with methanol. Sonication was done to dissolve it completely.

The solution of brexpiprazole was scanned between 200 and 400 nm and the wavelength of maximum absorption was determined. Brexpiprazole showed maximum absorbance at 216 nm shown in results.

Aliquots of standard stock solution of brexpiprazole have diluted appropriately with diluents to get a concentration in the range of 0.8 µg/mL–8.0 µg/mL and absorbance of each of the resulting solutions was measured at 216 nm in 1.0 cm cell using solvent blank. Standard stock solution (100 µg/mL) was appropriately diluted to get 0.8 µg/mL, 2.0 µg/mL, 4.0 µg/mL, 6.0 µg/mL, and 8.0 µg/mL for brexpiprazole. These solutions were analyzed at absorption maxima obtained in the UV spectrum and their Beer Lamberts plot was generated.

Fourier transformation infrared (FTIR) analysis was done [Figure 1 and Table 12].

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Analysis of Brexpiprazole by HPLC Method was done as by Preparing

#### Standard stock solution

The standard solution was prepared by dissolving 10 mg of brexpiprazole into a 100 mL clean and dry volumetric flask, added about 70 mL of methanol to dissolve it completely, and made volume up to the mark with methanol (100 µg/mL).

#### Diluted OPA

Pipette out 5 mL of OPA and transferred it into a 50 mL volumetric flask and made volume up to the mark with water. Mixed well and sonicated for 5 min.

#### 1.0% OPA in water

Pipette out 1 mL of OPA and transferred it into a 100 mL volumetric flask and made volume up to the mark with water. Mixed well and sonicated for 5 min.

#### 10.00 mM phosphate buffer in water

Weighed about 1.36 g of potassium dihydrogen orthophosphate and dissolved in 1000 mL of water, adjusted its pH to  $2.0 \pm 0.05$  by diluted OPA solution.

### Optimization of HPLC Method was Done for Estimation of Brexpiprazole as per Following Trials

Observation: Brexpiprazole eluted but chromatography not acceptable.

Conclusion: Method rejected [Table 1 and Figure 2].

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Conclusion: Method rejected [Table 2 and Figure 3].

Observation: Brexpiprazole eluted at R.T. but chromatography not acceptable.

Conclusion: Method rejected [Table 3 and Figure 4].

Observation: Brexpiprazole eluted and good chromatography observed. R.T. will try to reduce.

**Table 1:** Trial 1

| S. No. | Parameter/condition | Description               |
|--------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1.     | Standard solution   | Brexpiprazole 100 µg/mL   |
| 2.     | Column              | Kromasil C18              |
| 3.     | Column dimension    | (250 mm×4.6 mm i.d.) 5 µm |
| 4.     | Detector            | U.V. Detector             |
| 5.     | Wavelength          | 216 nm                    |
| 6.     | Flow rate           | 1.0 mL/min                |
| 7.     | Mobile phase        | Methanol: water (70:30)   |
| 8.     | Injection volume    | 20 µL                     |
| 9.     | Run time            | 15 min                    |

**Table 2:** Trial 2

| S. No. | Parameter/condition | Description               |
|--------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1.     | Standard solution   | Brexpiprazole 100 µg/mL   |
| 2.     | Column              | Kromasil C18              |
| 3.     | Column dimension    | (250 mm×4.6 mm i.d.) 5 µm |
| 4.     | Detector            | U.V. Detector             |
| 5.     | Wavelength          | 216 nm                    |
| 6.     | Flow rate           | 1.0 mL/min                |
| 7.     | Mobile phase        | Methanol: Water (50:50)   |
| 8.     | Injection volume    | 20 µL                     |
| 9.     | Run time            | 15 min                    |

**Table 3:** Trial 3

| S. No. | Parameter/condition | Description                 |
|--------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.     | Standard solution   | Brexpiprazole 100 µg/mL     |
| 2.     | Column              | Kromasil C18                |
| 3.     | Column dimension    | (250 mm×4.6 mm i.d.) 5 µm   |
| 4.     | Detector            | U.V. Detector               |
| 5.     | Wavelength          | 216 nm                      |
| 6.     | Flow rate           | 1.0 mL/min                  |
| 7.     | Mobile phase        | Acetonitrile: Water (20:80) |
| 8.     | Injection volume    | 20 µL                       |
| 9.     | Run time            | 7 min                       |

**Table 4:** Trial 4

| S. No. | Parameter/condition | Description                              |
|--------|---------------------|--|
| 1.     | Standard solution   | Brexpiprazole 100 µg/mL                  |
| 2.     | Column              | Kromasil C18                             |
| 3.     | Column dimension    | (250 mm×4.6 mm i.d.) 5 µm                |
| 4.     | Detector            | U.V. Detector                            |
| 5.     | Wavelength          | 216 nm                                   |
| 6.     | Flow rate           | 1.0 mL/min                               |
| 7.     | Mobile phase        | Acetonitrile: 0.05% OPA in water (50:50) |
| 8.     | Injection volume    | 20 µL                                    |
| 9.     | Run time            | 7 min                                    |

**Table 5:** Trial 5

| S. No. | Parameter/condition | Description                              |
|--------|---------------------|--|
| 1.     | Standard solution   | Brexpiprazole 100 µg/mL                  |
| 2.     | Column              | Kromasil C18                             |
| 3.     | Column dimension    | (250 mm×4.6 mm i.d.) 5 µm                |
| 4.     | Detector            | U.V. Detector                            |
| 5.     | Wavelength          | 216 nm                                   |
| 6.     | Flow rate           | 1.0 mL/min                               |
| 7.     | Mobile phase        | Acetonitrile: 0.05% OPA in water (60:40) |
| 8.     | Injection volume    | 20 µL                                    |
| 9.     | Run time            | 7 min                                    |

Conclusion: Method accepted [Table 4 and Figure 5].

Observation: Brexpiprazole is eluted and good chromatography observed. The following chromatographic conditions were established by trial and error and were kept constant throughout the method.

Conclusion: Method accepted [Table 5 and Figure 6].

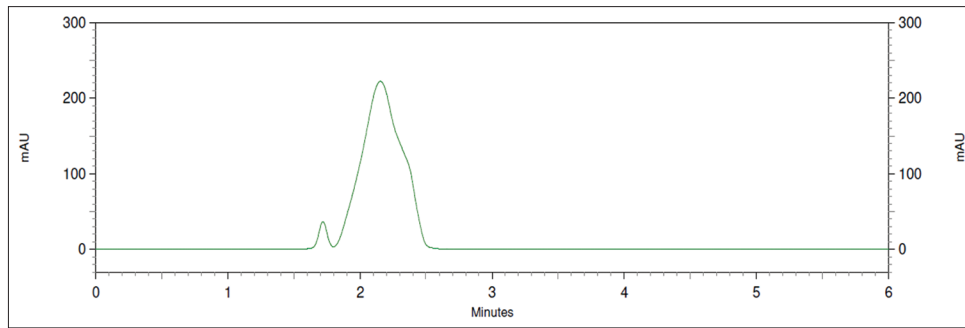


Figure 1: Typical chromatogram of Trial 1

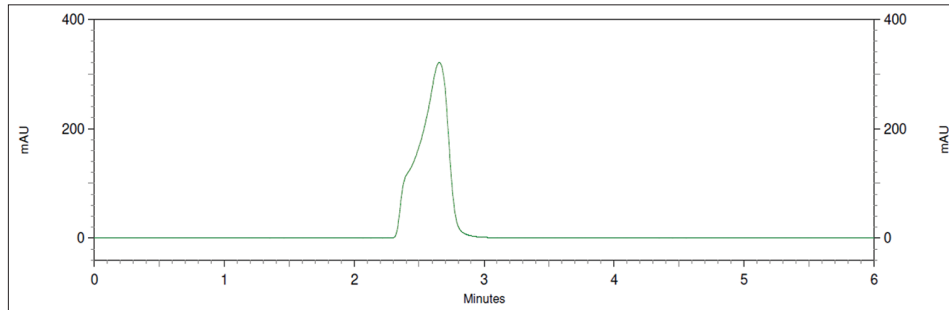


Figure 2: Typical chromatogram of Trial 2

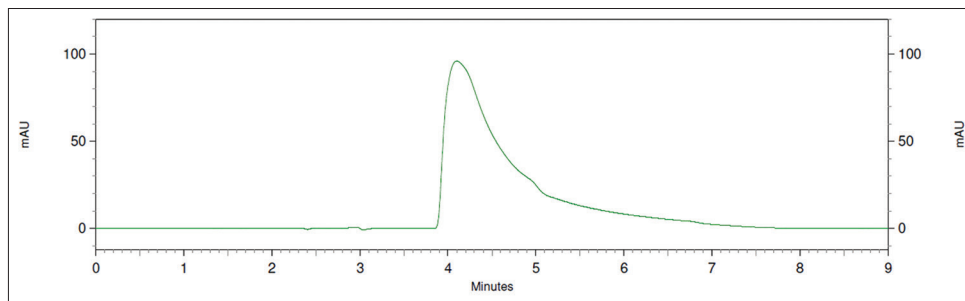


Figure 3: Typical chromatogram of Trial 3

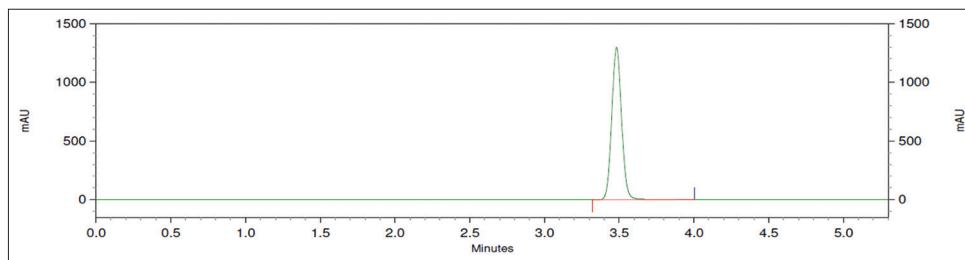


Figure 4: Typical chromatogram of Trial 4

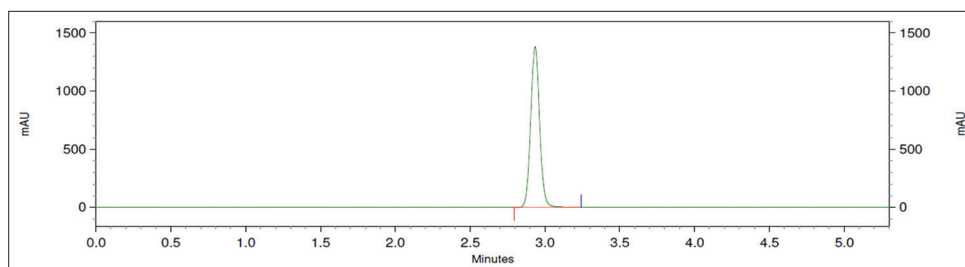


Figure 5: Typical chromatogram Trial 5

## Determination of Wavelength Maxima and Beers Lambert's Law Study Using UV- Spectroscopy

### Determination of wavelength maxima for brexpiprazole

Observation: The standard solution was scanned between 200 and 400 nm. The wavelength of maximum absorption was determined for drugs. Brexpiprazole showed maximum absorbance at 216 nm. It is shown in Figure 7. Therefore, 216 nm considered as an analytical wavelength for further determination.

**Table 6:** Color, odor, and appearance of drug

| Parameters | Observation      |
|------------|------------------|
| Color      | OffWhite         |
| Odor       | Odorless         |
| Appearance | Amorphous powder |

**Table 7:** Melting point (°C) of brexpiprazole

| S. No. | Observed MP (°C) | Standard. M.P(°C) |
|--------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1      | 271–273          | 272–274           |
| 2      | 273–275          |                   |
| 3      | 271–272          |                   |

**Table 8:** Solubility study of brexpiprazole

| S. No. | Name of solvent  | Solubility       |
|--------|------------------|------------------|
| 1      | Water            | Insoluble        |
| 2      | Methanol         | Slightly soluble |
| 3      | Acetonitrile     | Slightly soluble |
| 4      | Phosphate buffer | Soluble          |
| 5      | 0.1 N HCl        | Insoluble        |
| 6      | Ethanol          | Soluble          |
| 7      | DMF              | Soluble          |
| 8      | DMSO             | Soluble          |

**Table 9:** Optimized chromatographic conditions

| Parameter/condition | Description  |
|---------------------|--|
| Column name         | Kromasil , C18 ,250 mm*4.6 mm, 5µ                        |
| Detector            | UV3000M  |
| Injection volume    | 20 µL  |
| Wavelength          | 216 nm   |
| Mobile phase        | Acetonitrile: 0.05%OPA in water (60: 40% V/V)            |
| Program             | Isocratic  |
| Flow rate           | 1.0 mL/min   |
| Column oven temp    | 30°C   |
| Run time            | 6 min  |
| Buffer              | 0.5 mL Ortho Phosphoric Acid in 1000 ml water.(0.05%OPA) |

**Table 10 wavelength**

| λ max | 216 nm |
|-------|--------|
|-------|--------|

**Table 11:** Absorbance values for different concentration of brexpiprazole in methanol (λmax=216 nm)

| X (Conc.µg/mL) | Y (Absorbance) |
|----------------|----------------|
| 0.8            | 0.0858         |
| 2.0            | 0.2143         |
| 4.0            | 0.4294         |
| 6.0            | 0.6486         |
| 8.0            | 0.8611         |

### Study of Beers-Lambert's law [Tables 10 and 11, Figure 8]

Aliquots of standard stock solution of Brexpiprazole have diluted appropriately with diluents to get a concentration in the range of 0.8 µg/mL -8.0 µg/mL and Absorbance of each of the resulting solutions was measured at 216 nm in 1.0 cm cell using solvent blank. Standard stock solution (100µg/mL) was appropriately diluted to get 0.8µg/mL, 2.0µg/mL, 4.0 µg/mL, 6.0µg/mL, 8.0µg/mL for Brexpiprazole. These solutions were analysed at absorption maxima obtained in the UV spectrum and their Beer Lambert's plot was generated.

### Fourier transformation infrared attenuated total reflectance analysis [Table 12 and Figure 1]

- Selection of solvent: Methanol was selected as the solvent for dissolving Brexpiprazole.
- Preparation of standard stock solutions: To prepare a stock solution, weigh accurately 10 mg Brexpiprazole and transferred into 100 mL volumetric flask, dissolve with 50 mL of methanol and sonicated to dissolve it completely further diluted up to the mark with methanol (100µg/mL). Further diluted 1 mL to 10 mL with methanol.
- Selection of analytical wavelength: The standard solution was scanned between 200-400 nm. The wavelength of maximum absorption was determined for the drug. Brexpiprazole showed maximum absorbance at 216 nm shown in results.

## Control Strategy

### System suitability test (SST) [Table 13]

Acceptance criteria:

- % relative standard deviation (RSD) of the five replicate injections is NMT 2.0%.

**Table 12:** ATR interpretation of brexpiprazole

| S. No. | Peak observed (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Peak reported (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Interpretation              |
|--------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.     | 3148                              | 3500–3100                         | N-H- stretching for amide   |
| 2.     | 3067                              | 3150–3050                         | C-H- (aromatic) stretching  |
| 3.     | 2940,2815                         | 3000–2850                         | C-H- (aliphatic) stretching |
| 4.     | 1650                              | 1700–1640                         | -C=O- (amide) stretching    |
| 5.     | 1327                              | 1300–1000                         | C-N stretch                 |
| 6      | 1219,1140                         | 1300–1000                         | -C-O- (ether) stretching    |
| 7.     | 1052                              | 1050                              | C-S stretch                 |

**Table 13:** Analytical data of System suitability test

| S. No. | Standard solution | Area       | Asymmetry | Theoretical plates |
|--------|-------------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|
| 1      | Standard_1        | 4546743    | 1.09      | 12671              |
| 2      | Standard_2        | 4538416    | 1.09      | 12684              |
| 3      | Standard_3        | 4554857    | 1.09      | 12666              |
| 4      | Standard_4        | 4536986    | 1.09      | 12656              |
| 5      | Standard_5        | 4548651    | 1.09      | 12676              |
|        | Mean              | 4545131    | 1.09      | 12671              |
|        | STD Dev           | 7433.30796 |           |                    |
|        | % RSD             | 0.16       |           |                    |

**Table 14:** Analytical data of filter test

| Sample              | Area     | % Absolute difference |
|---------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Unfiltered          | 16256478 | NA                    |
| 0.45 µ PVDF filter  | 16178521 | 0.48                  |
| 0.45 µ Nylon filter | 16152546 | 0.64                  |

2. Theoretical plates should be more than 2000.
  3. Tailing factor should be NMT 2.
- Data interpretation: It was observed from the data tabulated above; the method complies with system suitability parameters.

Hence, it can be concluded that the system suitability parameter meets the requirement of method validation.  
Chromatograms for SST [Figures 9-14].

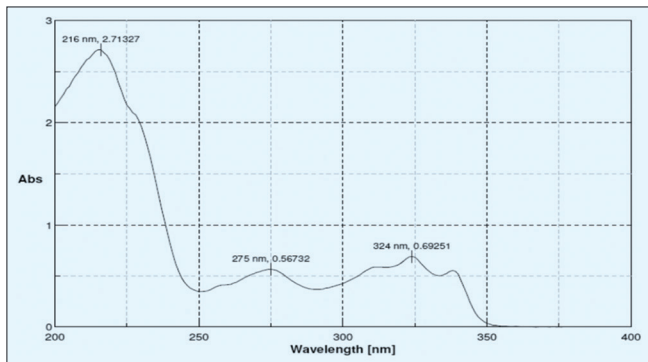


Figure 6: UV spectrum of in brexpiprazole methanol

**Filter test [Table 14]**

Acceptance Criteria: % Absolute difference NMT 2.0.  
Conclusion: Both filters PVDF and Nylon pass the criteria for filter study; hence, both filters can be used.  
Chromatograms of Filter Test [Figures 15-17].  
Acceptance criteria: % Absolute difference of filtered samples NMT 2.0 w.r.t. Unfiltered sample.  
Data interpretation: Both filters PVDF and Nylon pass the criteria for filter study; hence, both filters can be used.

**Solution stability**

Stability study was conducted for standard solution and test solution. Test solution stability was performed using test sample

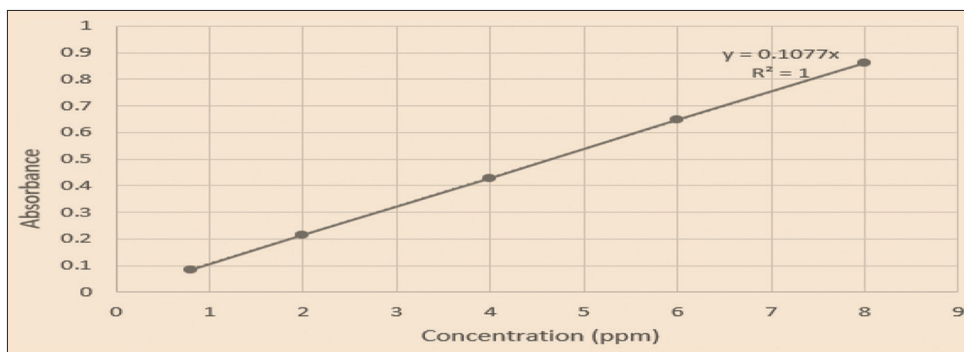


Figure 7: Beer-Lambert's plot for brexpiprazole in methanol

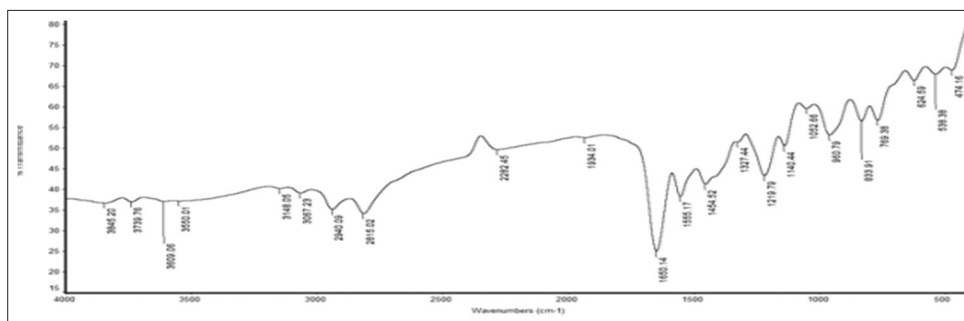


Figure 8: ATR spectra of brexpiprazole

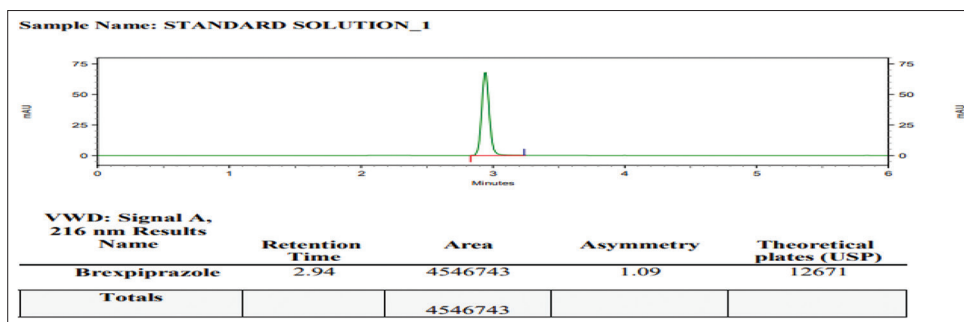


Figure 9: Chromatogram of Standard 1 for SST

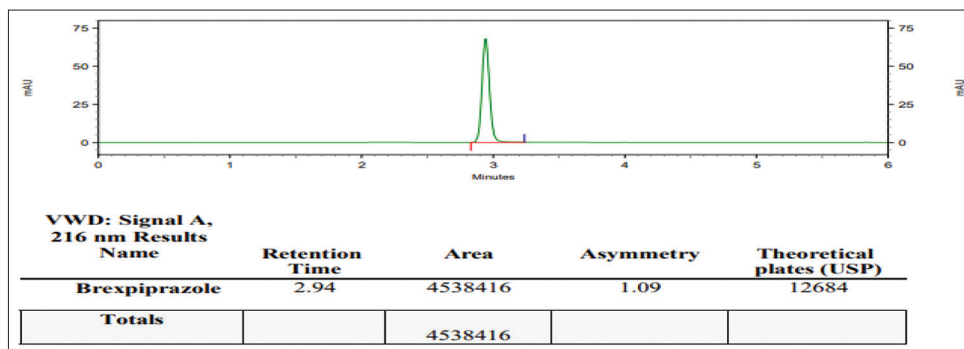


Figure 10: Chromatogram of Standard 2 for SST

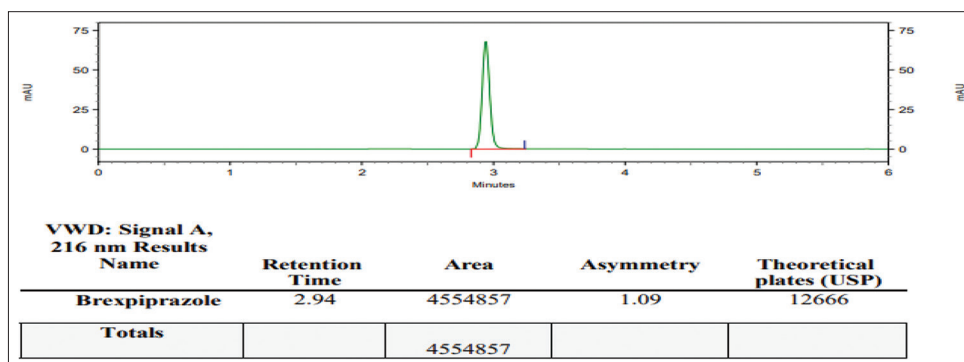


Figure 11: Chromatogram of Standard 3 for SST

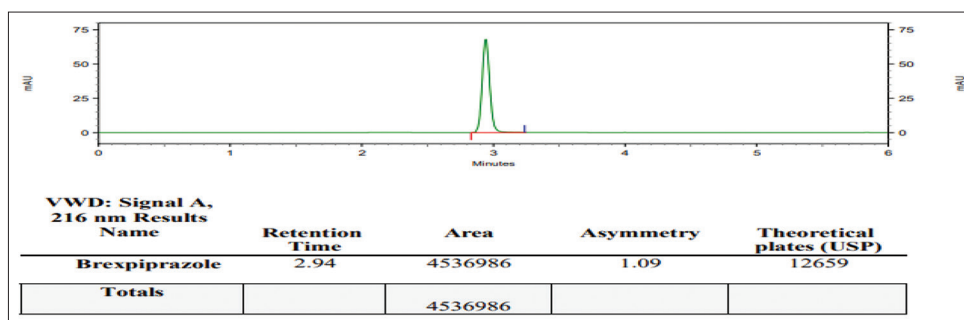


Figure 12: Chromatogram of Standard 4 for SST

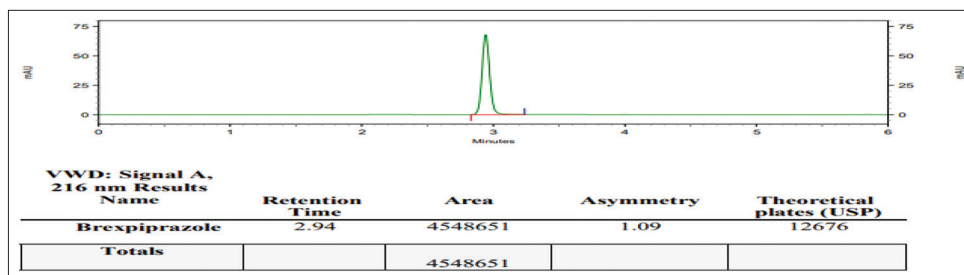


Figure 13: Chromatogram of Standard 5 for SST

Table 15: Analytical data of brexpiprazole for solution stability

| Sample solution |         |                       | Standard solution |         |                       |
|-----------------|---------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| time point      | Area    | % Absolute difference | time point        | Area    | % Absolute difference |
| Initial         | 4467152 | NA                    | Initial           | 4571699 | NA                    |
| 12 h            | 4453846 | 0.30                  | 12 h              | 4559748 | 0.26                  |
| 24 h            | 4434865 | 0.72                  | 24 h              | 4539484 | 0.70                  |

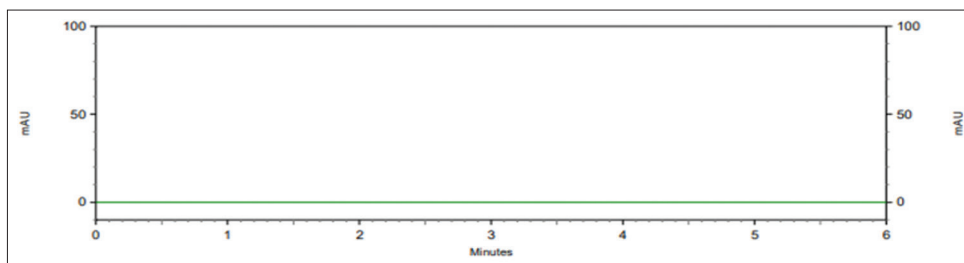


Figure 14: Chromatogram of blank mobile phase for SST

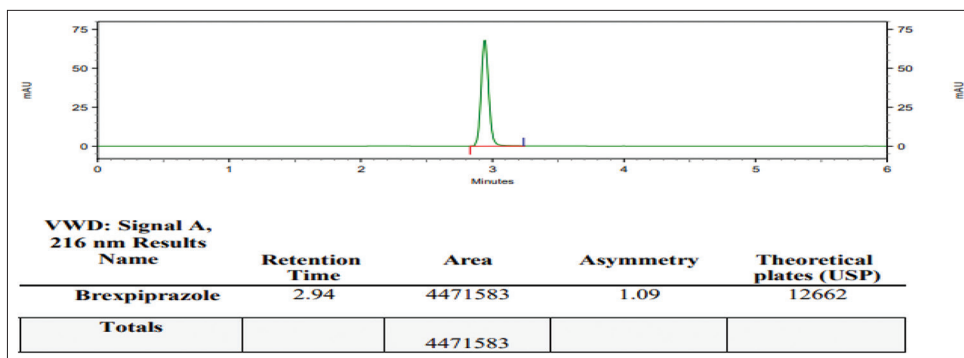


Figure 15: Typical chromatogram of unfiltered sample

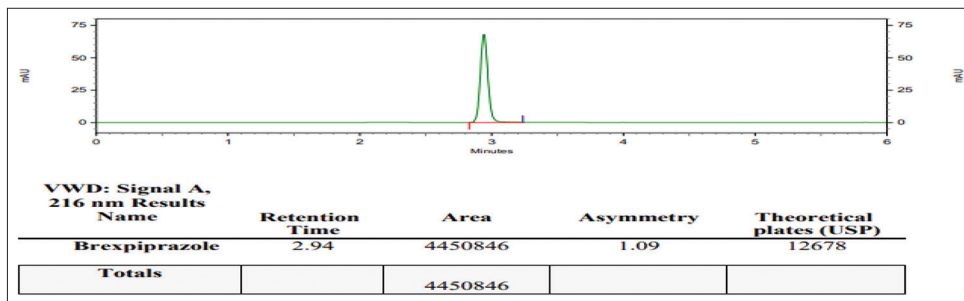


Figure 16: Typical chromatogram of sample filtered through 0.45 µm PVDF filter

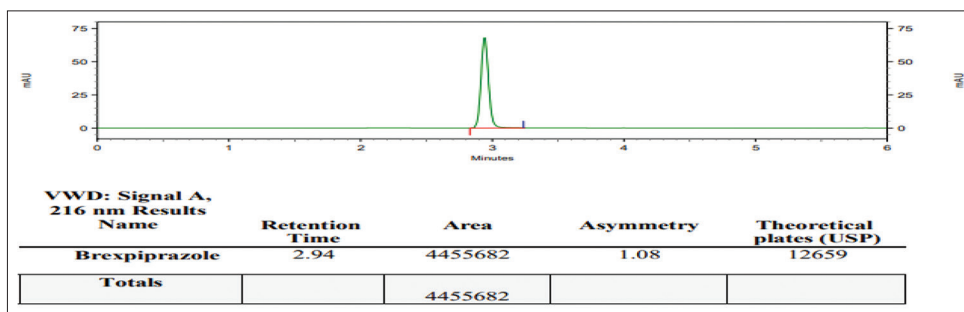


Figure 17: Typical chromatogram of sample filtered through 0.45 µm Nylon filter

of 1 mg of Rexulti tablet. Stability study was performed at normal laboratory conditions. The solution was stored at normal illuminated laboratory conditions and analyzed after 12 h and 24 h [Table 15].

Acceptance Criteria: % Absolute difference NMT 2.0.

Conclusion: Both standard solution and sample solution were found stable for 24 h; hence, prepared solution can be used up to 24 h (User can check solution stability even after 24 h if he/she wants to inject solution after 24 h).

Chromatograms of solution stability: [Figures 18-23].

**Specificity**

Specificity is the ability to access unequivocally the analyte in the presence of components which may be expected to be present.

Blank, standard solution, and test sample prepared and injected to check peak purity [Table 16].

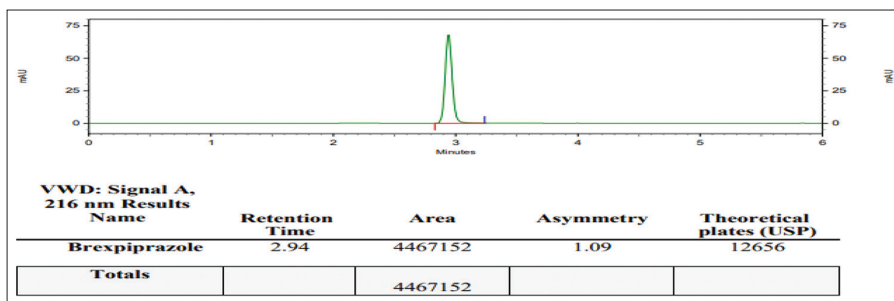


Figure 18: Typical chromatogram of test solution initial

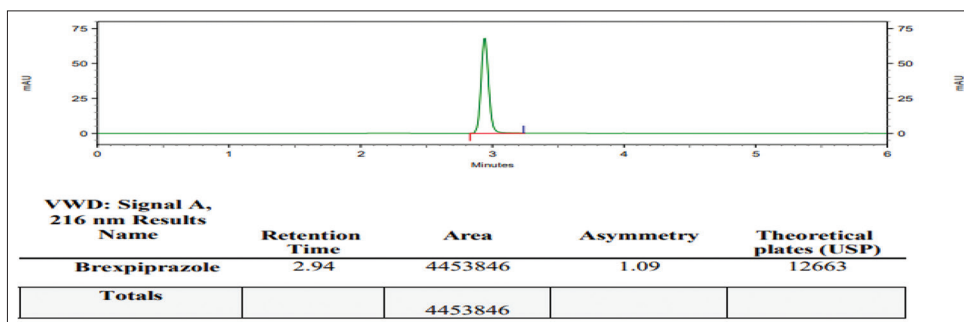


Figure 19: Typical chromatogram of test solution after 12 h

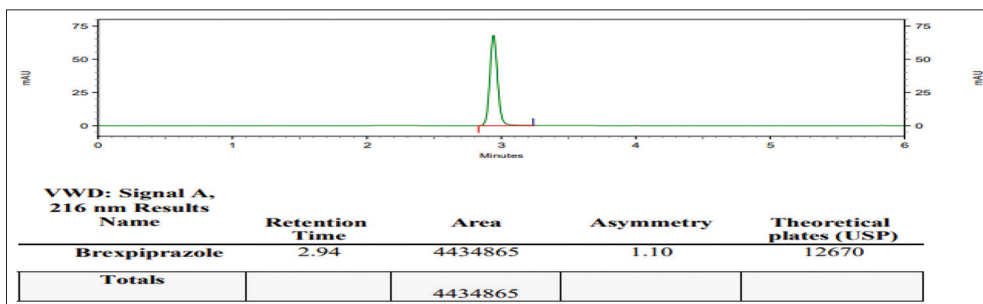


Figure 20: Typical chromatogram of test solution after 24 h

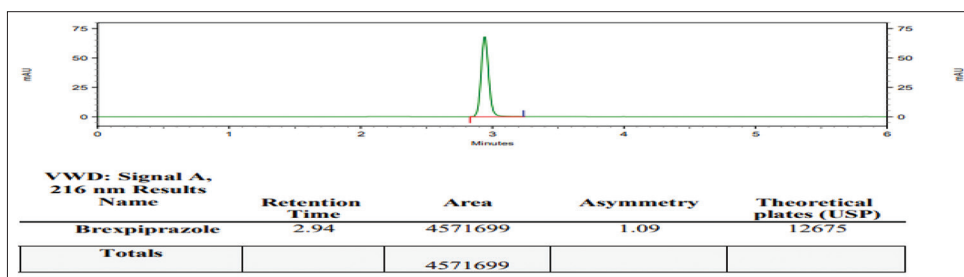


Figure 21: Typical chromatogram of standard solution initial

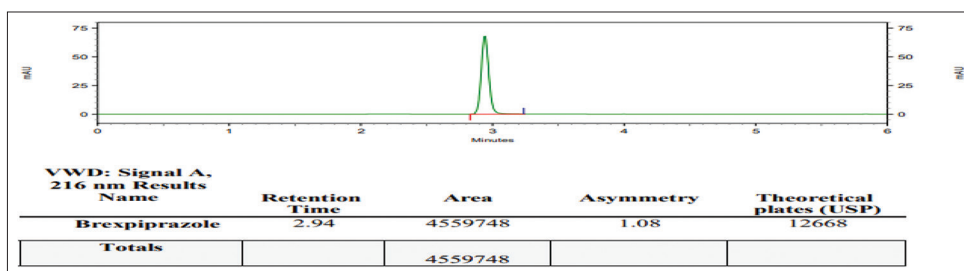


Figure 22: Typical chromatogram of standard solution after 12 h



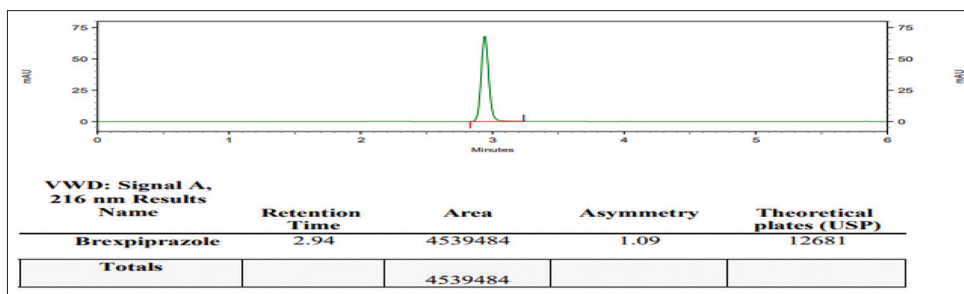


Figure 23: Typical chromatogram of standard solution after 24 h

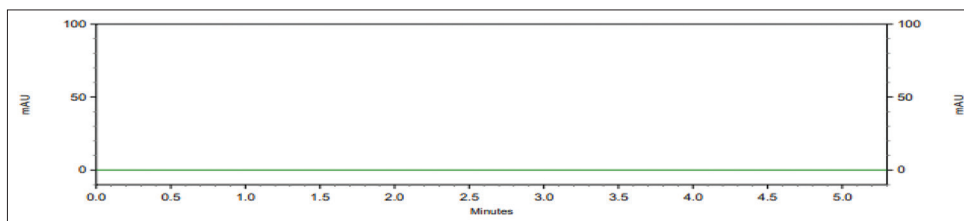


Figure 24: Typical chromatogram of blank solution

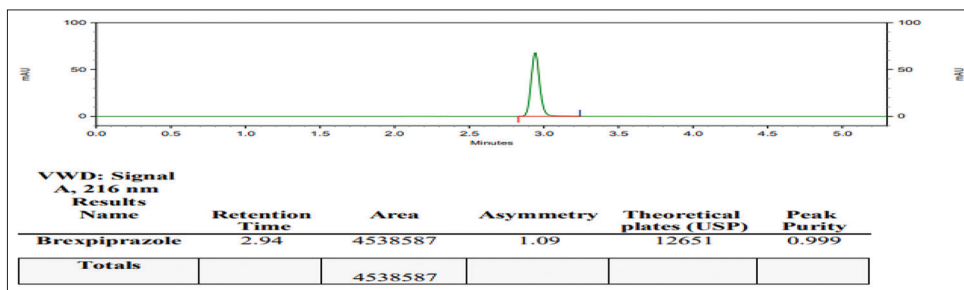


Figure 25: Typical chromatogram of standard solution

Table 16: Results of specificity

| Description       | Observation   |
|-------------------|---|
| Blank             | No interference at R.T. of brexpiprazole in blank   |
| Standard solution | Peak purity was 0.999                               |
| Sample solution   | Peak purity was 0.998                               |
| Placebo           | No interference at R.T. of brexpiprazole in placebo |

Acceptance criteria: Blank and placebo solution: There should be no Interference at R.T. of Brexpiprazole.

Standard and sample solution: Peak purity: NLT 0.95.

Sample solution: Sample solution should exhibit at same R.T. as that of standard solution.

Conclusion: Blank and placebo solution is not having interference at R.T. of brexpiprazole. Peak purity for both standard as well as sample was within limits. Sample solution exhibits same R.T. as that of standard solution. Hence, developed chromatographic method passed the criteria for specificity.

Chromatograms for specificity: [Figures 24 and 25].

Acceptance Criteria: Blank and placebo solution: There should be no interference at R.T. of brexpiprazole standard and sample solution: Peak purity: NLT 0.95.

Test sample solution: Sample solution should exhibit at same R.T. as that of standard solution.

Data interpretation: Blank and placebo solution is not having interference at R.T. of brexpiprazole. Peak purity for both standard as well as sample was within limits. Sample

Table 17: Result and statistical data of accuracy

| Level (%) | Area    | Added concentration | Recovered concentration | % Recovery |
|-----------|---------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 50        | 2281527 | 2.55                | 2.53                    | 99.22      |
|           | 2235175 | 2.50                | 2.48                    | 99.20      |
|           | 2311405 | 2.55                | 2.57                    | 100.78     |
| 100       | 4518476 | 5.05                | 5.02                    | 99.41      |
|           | 4602876 | 5.10                | 5.11                    | 100.20     |
|           | 4568571 | 5.05                | 5.08                    | 100.59     |
| 150       | 6859143 | 7.55                | 7.62                    | 100.93     |
|           | 6789245 | 7.50                | 7.54                    | 100.53     |
|           | 6741486 | 7.55                | 7.49                    | 99.21      |

Table 18: Analytical data intraday precision of brexpiprazole

| Sample   | Area    | % Assay  |
|----------|---------|----------|
| Sample 1 | 4498638 | 98.98    |
| Sample 2 | 4527566 | 98.64    |
| Sample 3 | 4625817 | 100.78   |
| Sample 4 | 4605841 | 101.34   |
| Sample 5 | 4667964 | 100.71   |
| Sample 6 | 4598961 | 100.19   |
| Mean     |         | 100.11   |
| SD       |         | 1.073865 |
| % RSD    |         | 1.073    |

solution exhibits same R.T. as that of standard solution. Hence, developed chromatographic method passed the criteria for specificity.

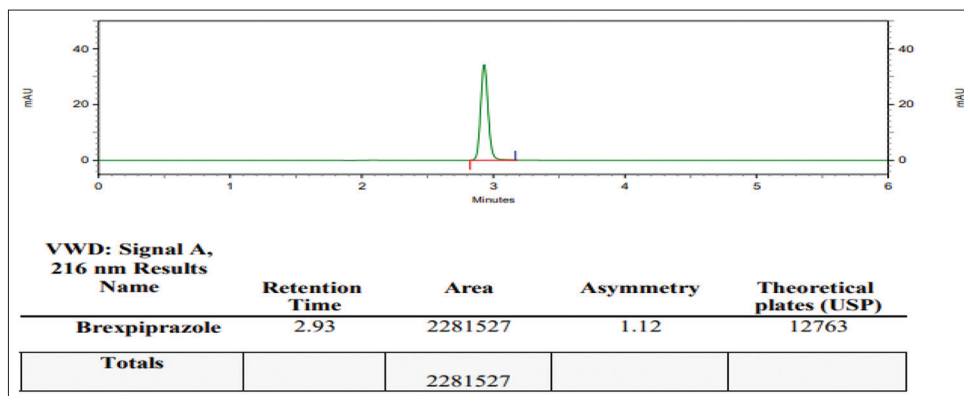


Figure 26: Chromatograms of accuracy for brexpiprazole at level of 50% -I

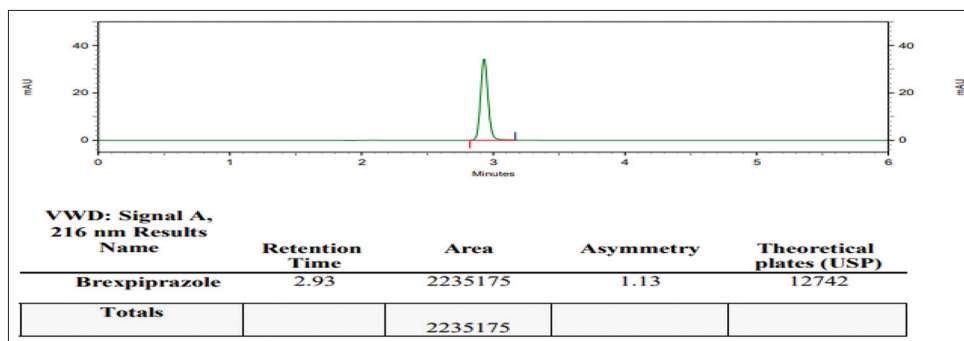


Figure 27: Chromatograms of accuracy for brexpiprazole at level of 50% -II

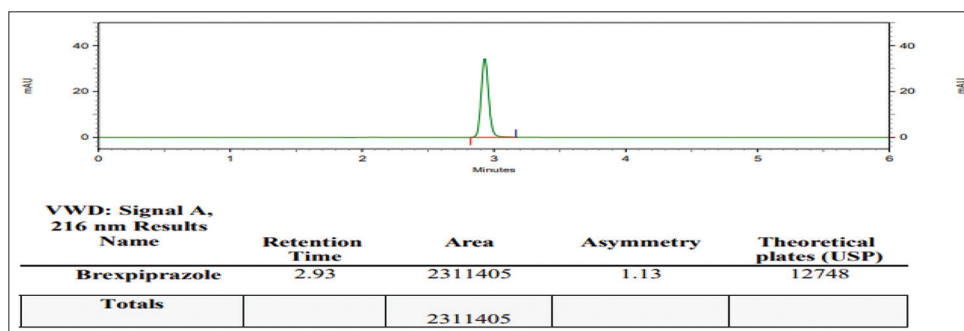


Figure 28: Chromatograms of accuracy for brexpiprazole at level of 50% -III

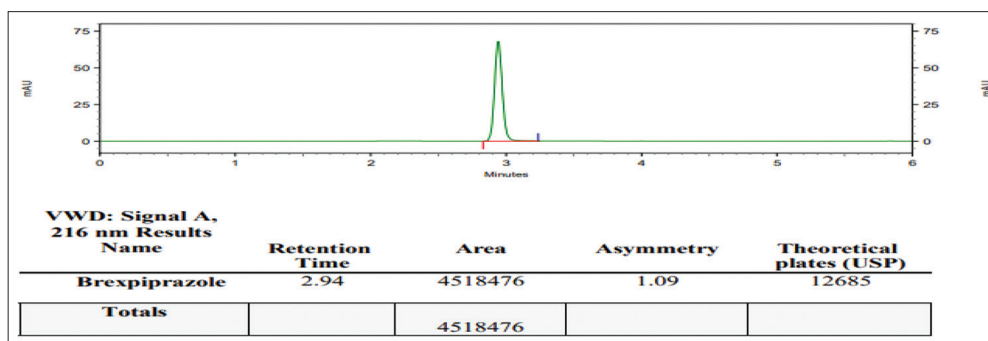


Figure 29: Chromatograms of accuracy for brexpiprazole at level of 100% -I

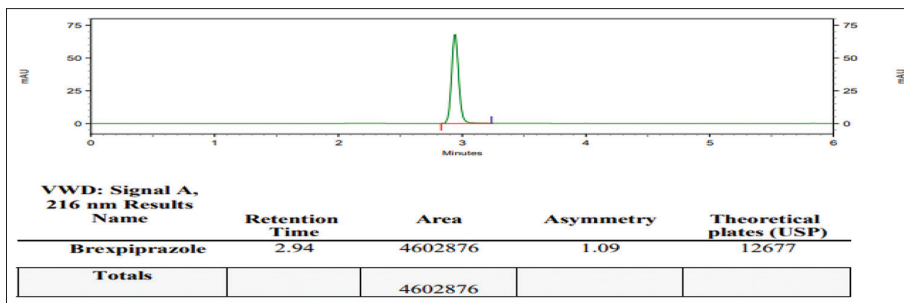


Figure 30: Chromatograms of accuracy for brexpiprazole at level of 100% -II

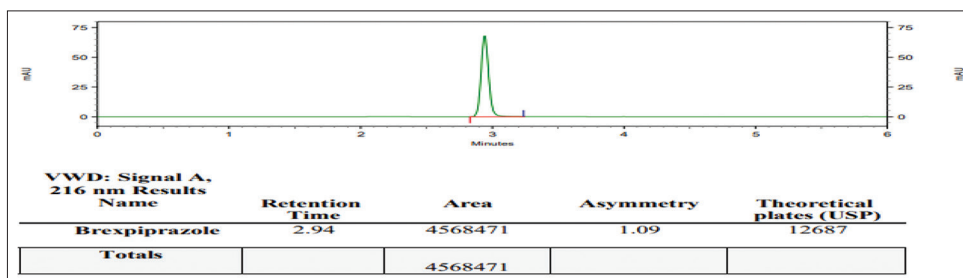


Figure 31: Chromatograms of accuracy for brexpiprazole at level of 100% -III

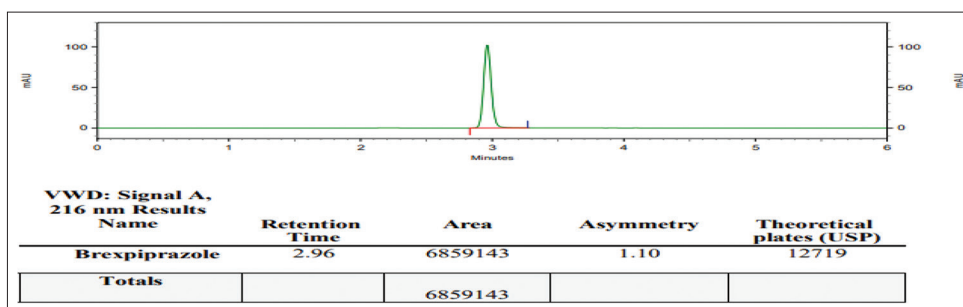


Figure 32: Chromatograms of accuracy for brexpiprazole at level of 150% -I

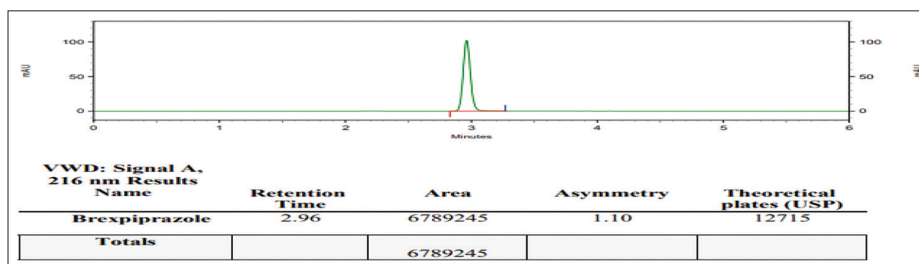


Figure 33: Chromatograms of accuracy for brexpiprazole at a level of 150% -II

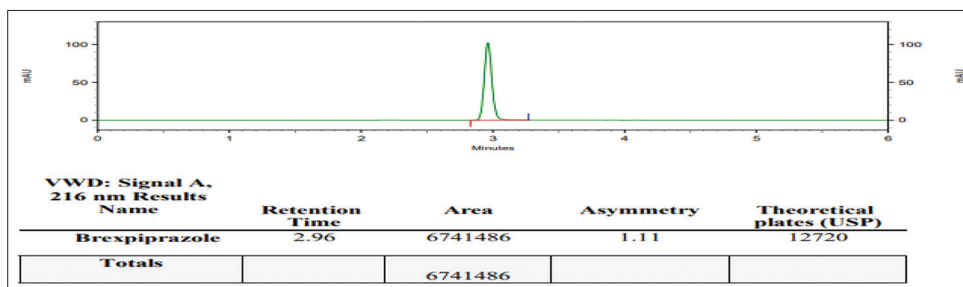


Figure 34: Chromatograms of accuracy for brexpiprazole at the level of 150% -III

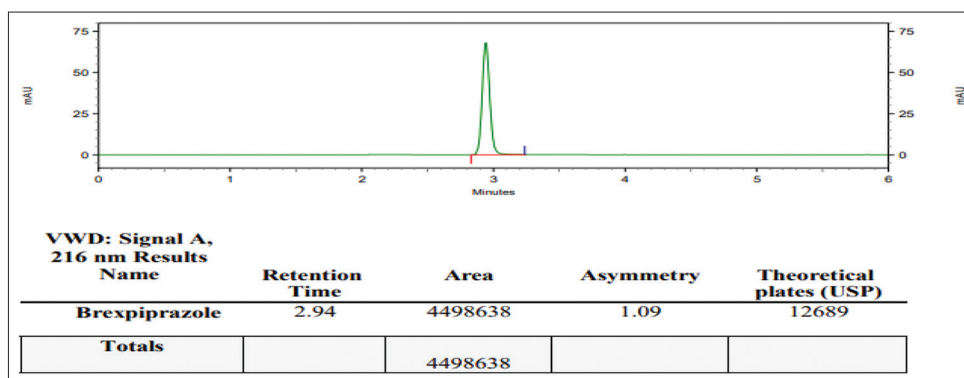


Figure 35: Chromatogram of intraday precision of brexpiprazole sample 1

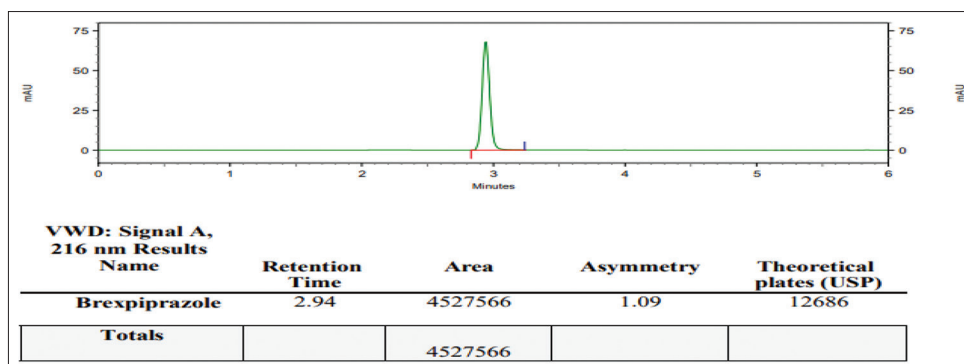


Figure 36: Chromatogram of intraday precision of brexpiprazole sample 2

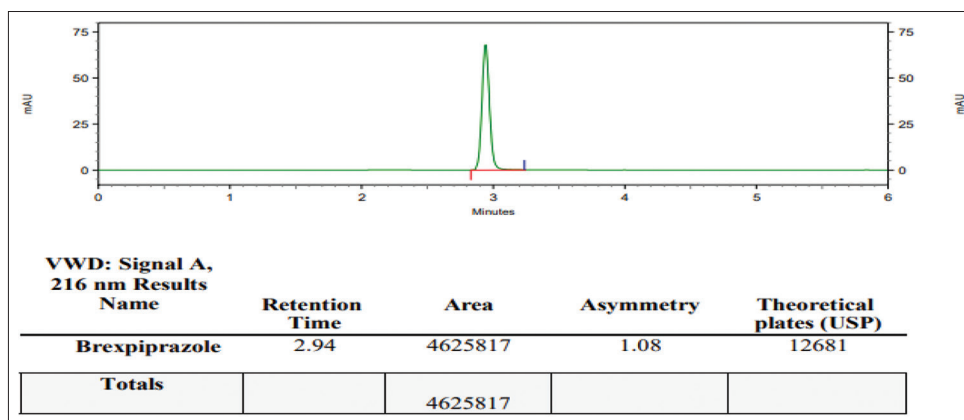


Figure 37: Chromatogram of intraday precision of brexpiprazole sample 3

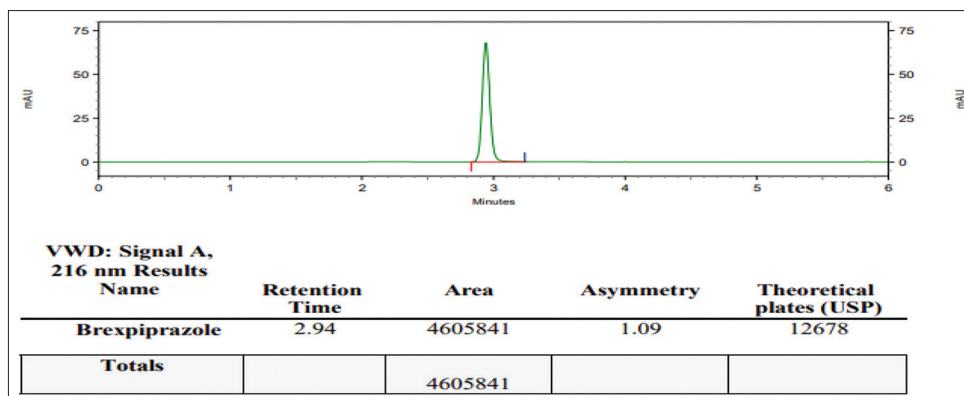


Figure 38: Chromatogram of intraday precision of brexpiprazole sample 4

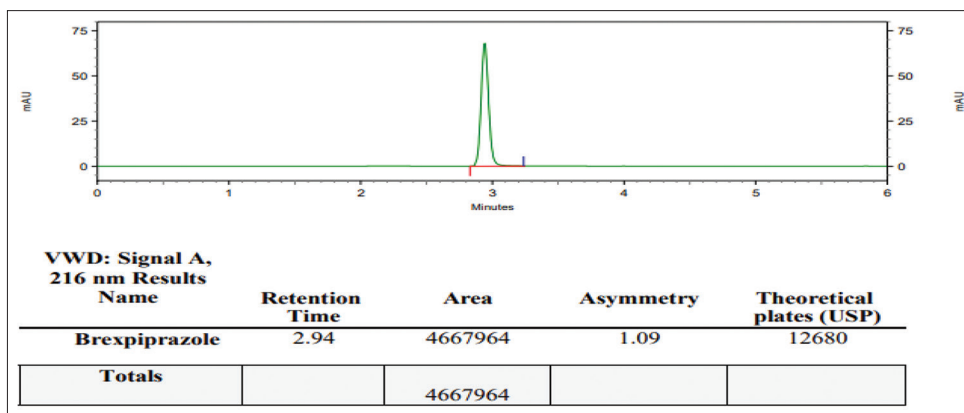


Figure 39: Chromatogram of intraday precision of brexpiprazole sample 5

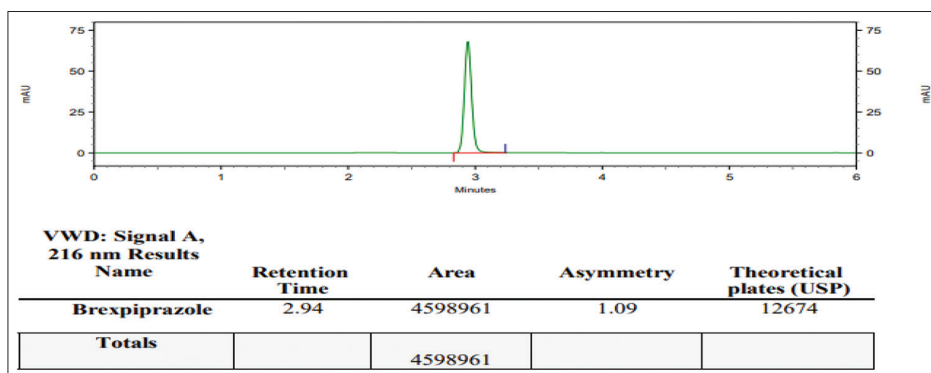


Figure 40: Chromatogram of intraday precision of brexpiprazole sample 6

Table 19: Analytical data interday precision of brexpiprazole

| Sample                           | Area    | % Assay  |
|----------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Sample 1                         | 4571854 | 100.43   |
| Sample 2                         | 4520589 | 99.31    |
| Sample 3                         | 4581244 | 99.64    |
| Sample 4                         | 4628147 | 99.68    |
| Sample 5                         | 4658676 | 99.36    |
| Sample 6                         | 4541874 | 98.79    |
| Mean                             |         | 99.54    |
| SD                               |         | 0.542098 |
| % RSD                            |         | 0.545    |
| Intraday plus interday precision | Mean    | 99.821   |
|                                  | SD      | 0.86422  |
|                                  | % RSD   | 0.866    |

Table 20: Result and statistical data of linearity of brexpiprazole

| Level (%) | Conc (µg/mL) | Area    | Mean    | % RSD |
|-----------|--------------|---------|---------|-------|
| 10        | 0.51         | 448510  | 446980  | 0.363 |
|           |              | 447152  |         |       |
|           |              | 445279  |         |       |
| 50        | 2.53         | 2273328 | 2264762 | 0.331 |
|           |              | 2261483 |         |       |
|           |              | 2259476 |         |       |
| 100       | 5.05         | 4553284 | 4554584 | 0.147 |
|           |              | 4561847 |         |       |
|           |              | 4548621 |         |       |
| 125       | 6.26         | 5706606 | 5707982 | 0.477 |
|           |              | 5735842 |         |       |
|           |              | 5681497 |         |       |
| 150       | 7.58         | 6874760 | 6866853 | 0.110 |
|           |              | 6859751 |         |       |
|           |              | 6866048 |         |       |

**Validation**

**Accuracy (%recovery):** [Table 17]

Acceptance Criteria: % Recovery: 98.00–102.0%

Conclusion: % Recovery was found well within acceptance range at all three levels.

Chromatograms of accuracy for brexpiprazole [Figures 26-34].

**Precision**

i. Intraday precision: [Table 18]

Acceptance Criteria: The % RSD for six samples NMT 2.0

Conclusion: Precision: Precision pass the criteria, no variation found by preparing six different samples. Results are good reproducible.

Table 21: Data for calibration curve of brexpiprazole

| Parameters                   | Result           |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Detection Wavelength         | 216 nm           |
| Beer's law limit             | 5.05–75.75 µg/mL |
| Slope                        | 1620101.119      |
| Intercept                    | -279840.1481     |
| Correlation coefficient (R2) | 0.9999           |

Chromatogram of intraday precision of brexpiprazole: [Figures 35-40].

ii. Interday precision of brexpiprazole: [Table 19]

Acceptance criteria: The % RSD for the six samples NMT 2.0.

For both: % RSD for 12 sample (Precision and Intermediate

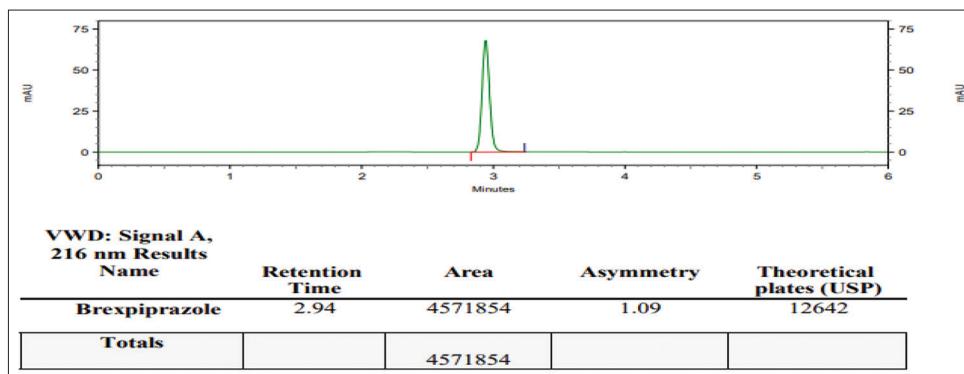


Figure 41: Chromatogram of interday precision for brexpiprazole sample 1

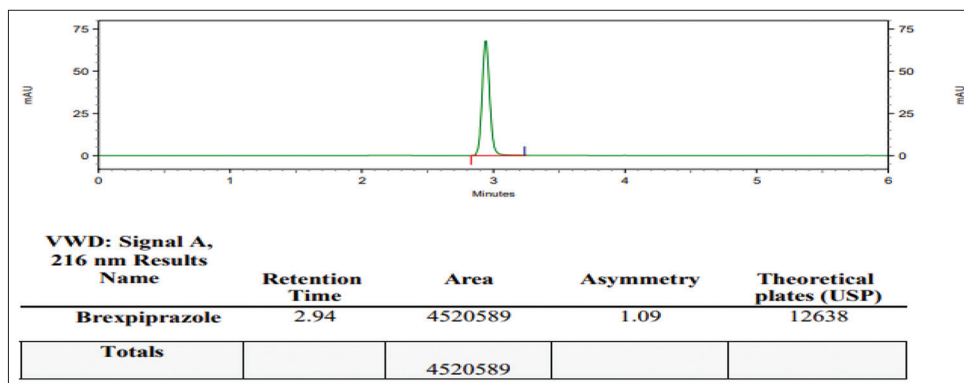


Figure 42: Chromatogram of interday precision for brexpiprazole sample 2

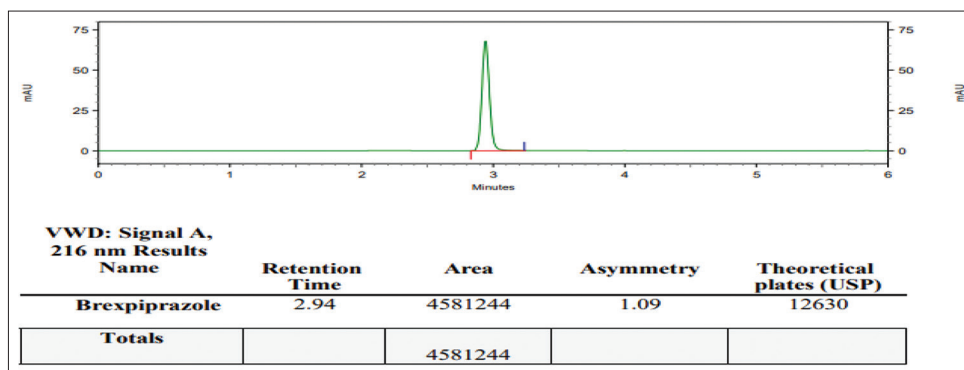


Figure 43: Chromatogram of interday precision for brexpiprazole sample 3

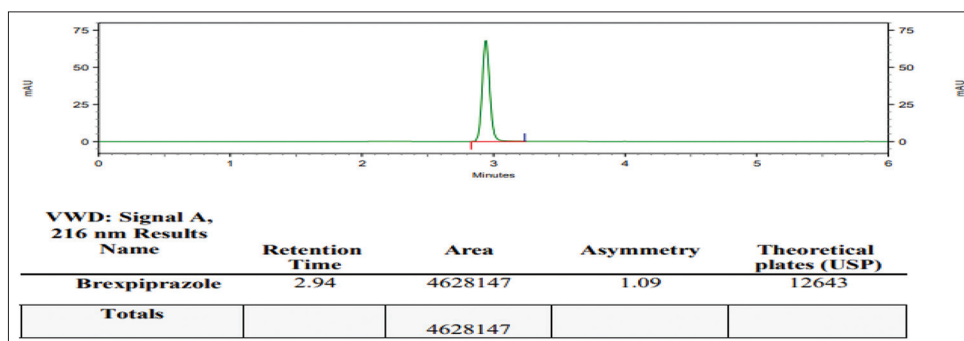


Figure 44: Chromatogram of interday precision for brexpiprazole sample 4

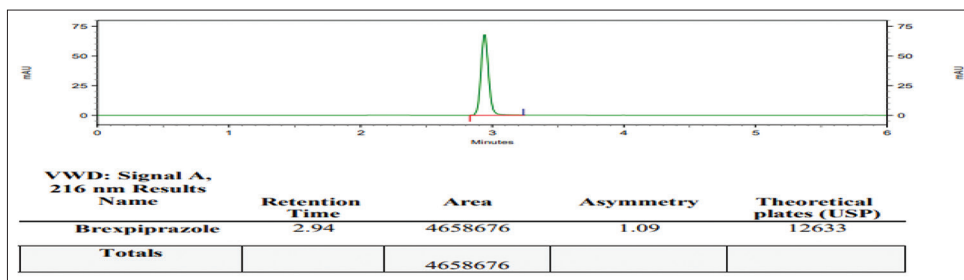


Figure 45: Chromatogram of interday precision for brexpiprazole sample 5

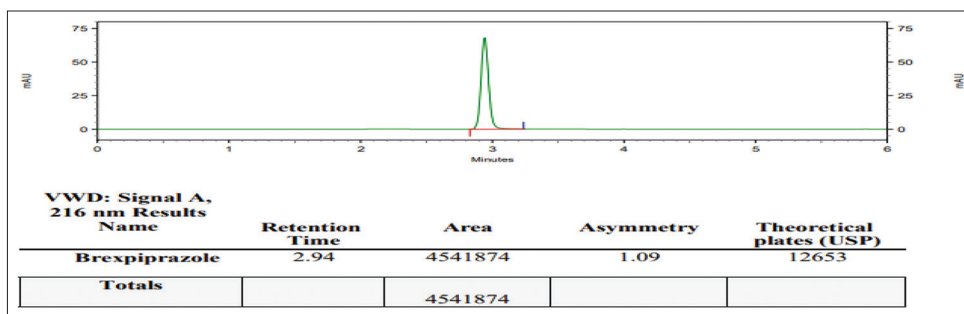


Figure 46: Chromatogram of interday precision for brexpiprazole sample 6

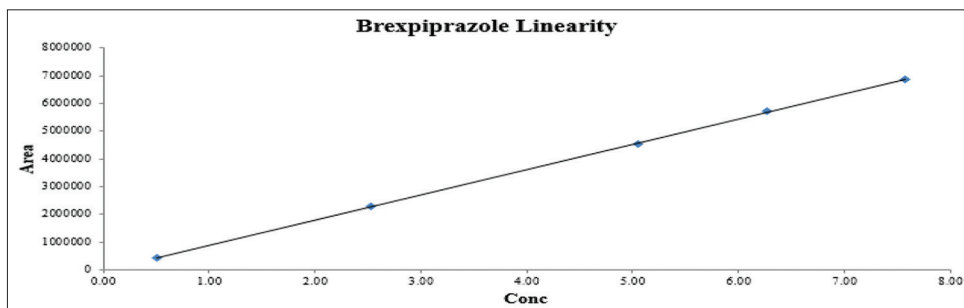


Figure 47: Linearity graph of brexpiprazole

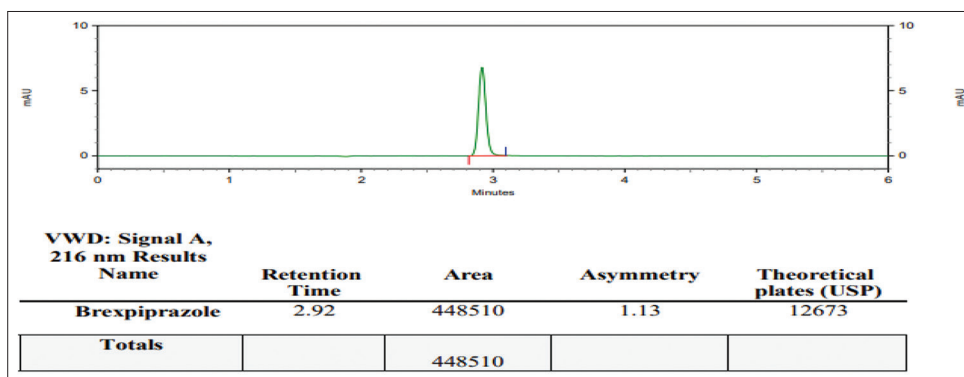


Figure 48: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 10% level-I

Table 22: Data for change in flow rate [+10%] for robustness

| S. No. | Standard deviation | Retention time | Area    | Asymmetry | Theoretical plates |
|--------|--------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|
| 1.     | Standard           | 2.68           | 4149428 | 1.08      | 11654              |
| 2.     | Sample             | 2.68           | 4115739 | 1.08      | 11643              |

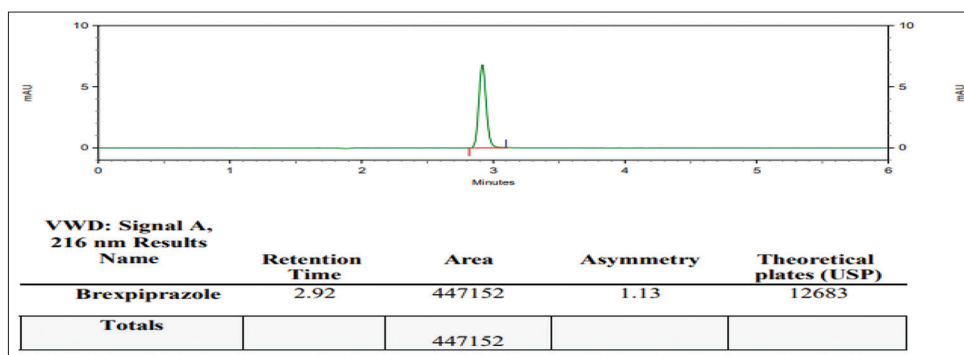


Figure 49: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 10% level-II

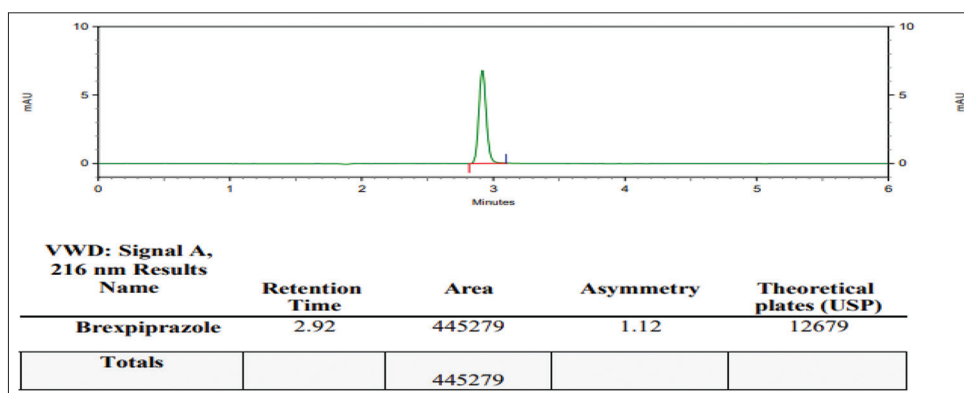


Figure 50: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 10% level-III

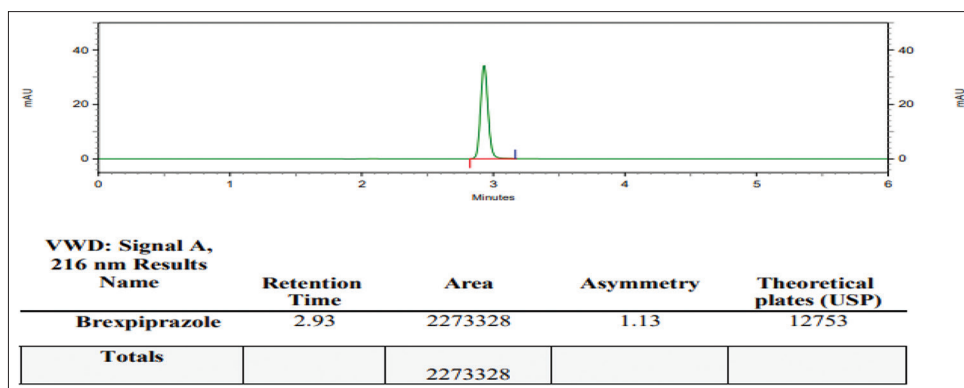


Figure 51: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 50% level-I

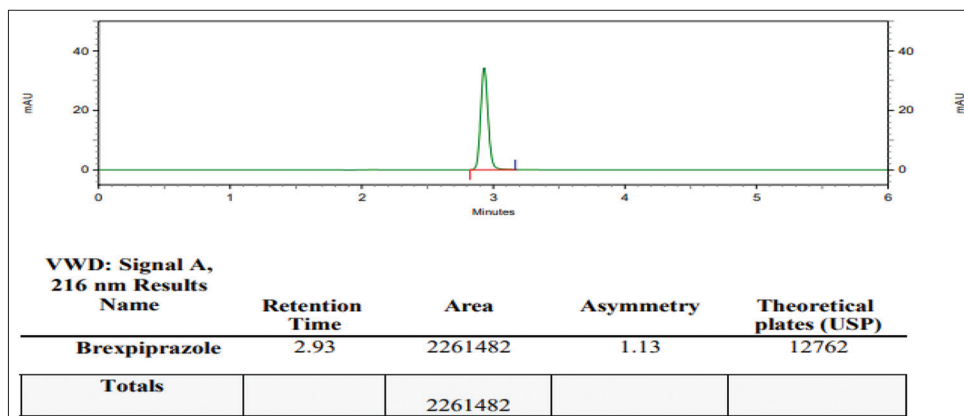


Figure 52: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 50% level-II



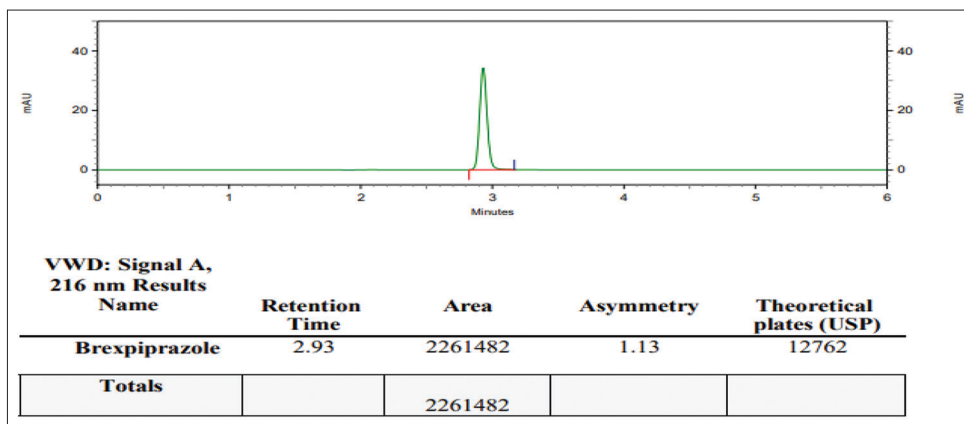


Figure 52: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 50% level-II

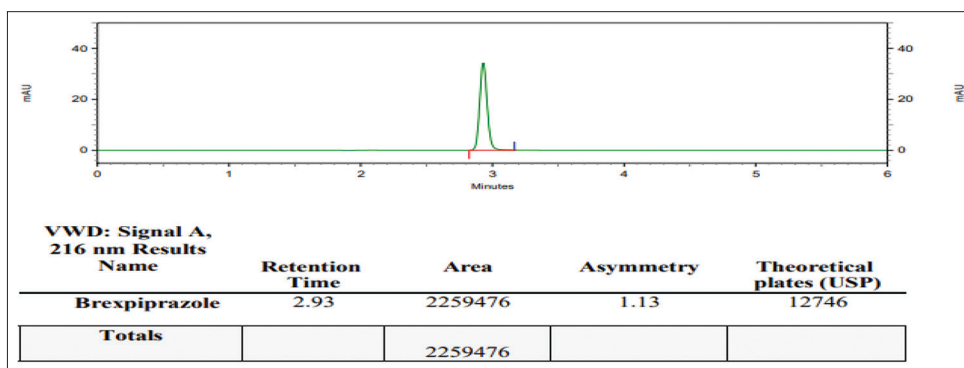


Figure 53: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 50% level-III

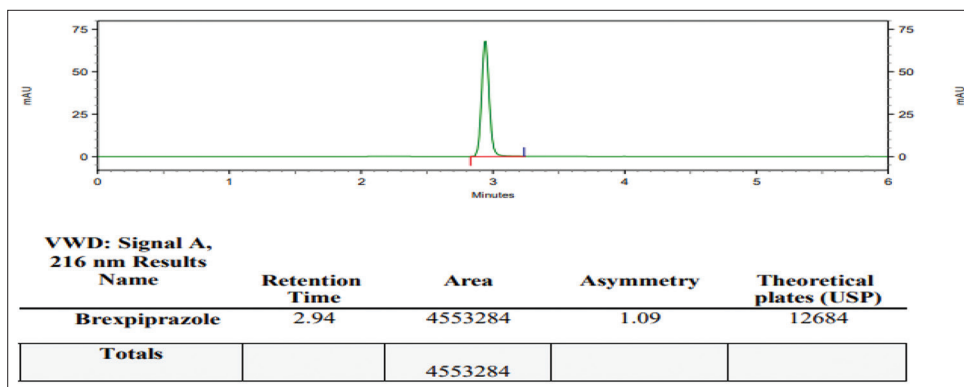


Figure 54: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 100% level-I

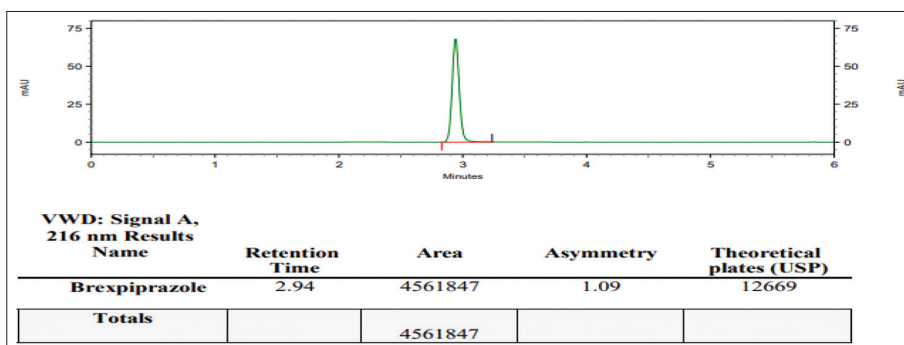


Figure 55: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 100% level-II

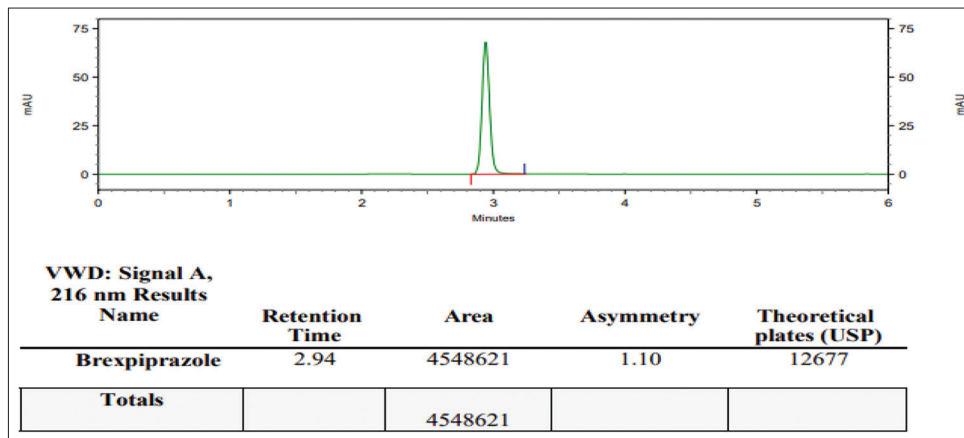


Figure 56: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 100% level-III

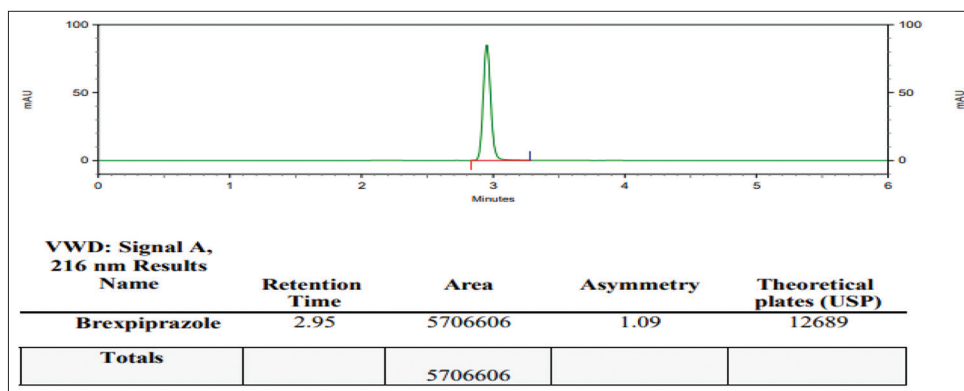


Figure 57: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 125% level-I

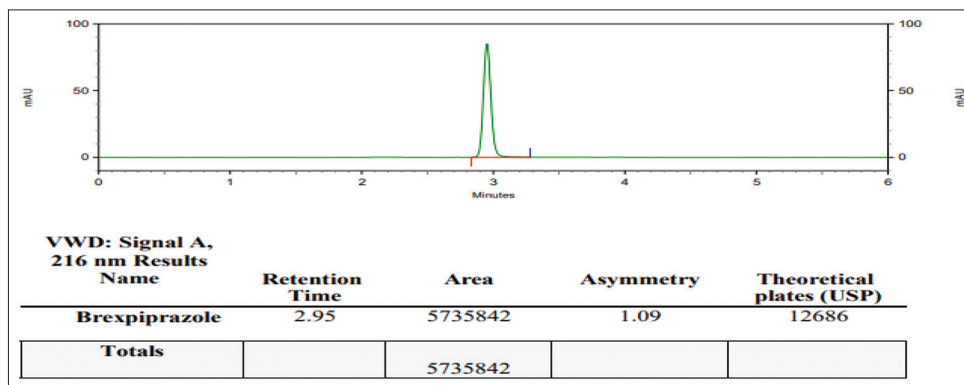


Figure 58: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 125% level-II

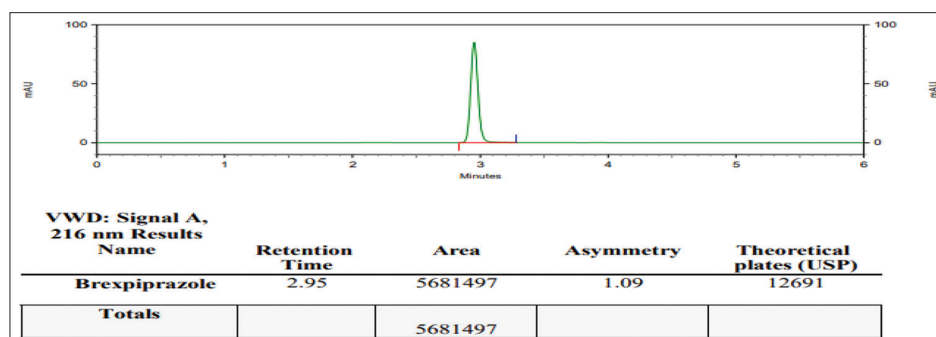


Figure 59: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 125% level-III

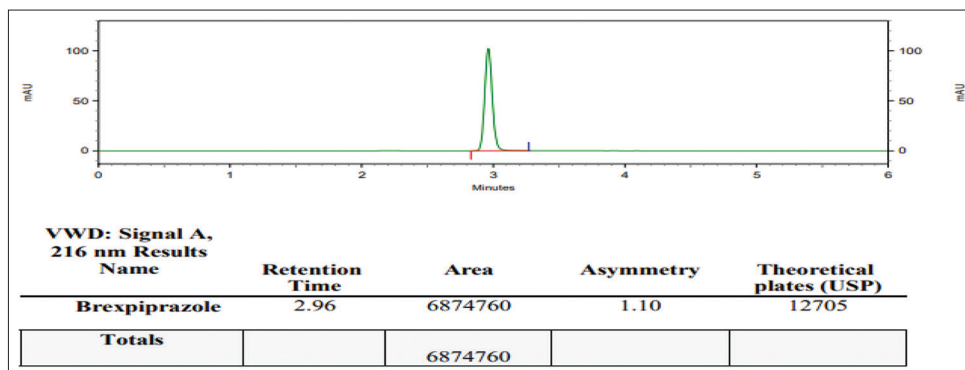


Figure 60: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 150% level-I

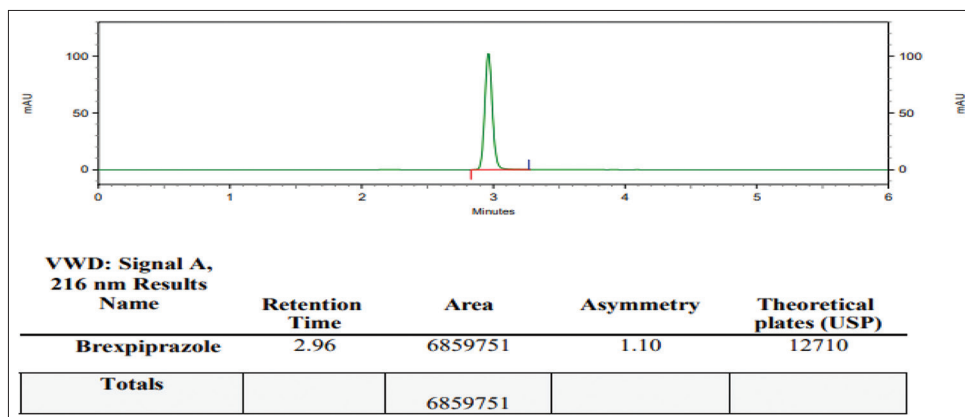


Figure 61: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 150% level-II

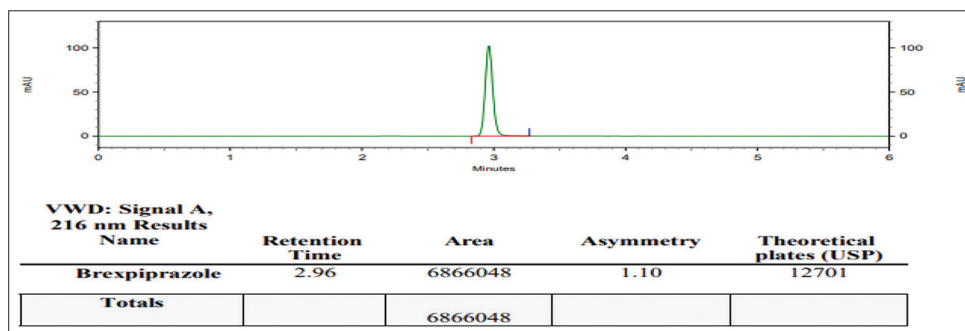


Figure 62: Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole sample of 150% level-III

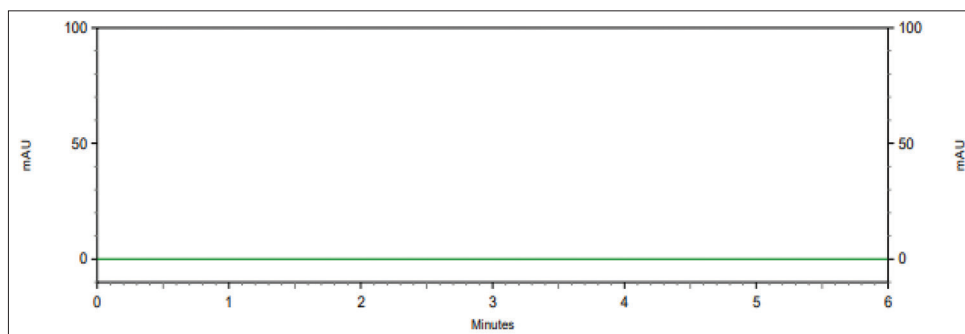


Figure 63: Chromatogram of blank for change in flow rate as such +10%

Precision samples) NMT 2.0%

Conclusion: Precision: The %RSD of method precision is 0.53 and 0.495; therefore, the HPLC method for the determination of brexpiprazole is precise.

Chromatogram of interday precision of brexpiprazole: [Figures 41-46].

Linearity [Table 20]

From the calibration curve, we had to conclude that the brexpiprazole shows linear response in the range of 5.05–75.75 µg/mL. The regression value was found well within the limit.

Linearity graph of brexpiprazole: [Figures 47].

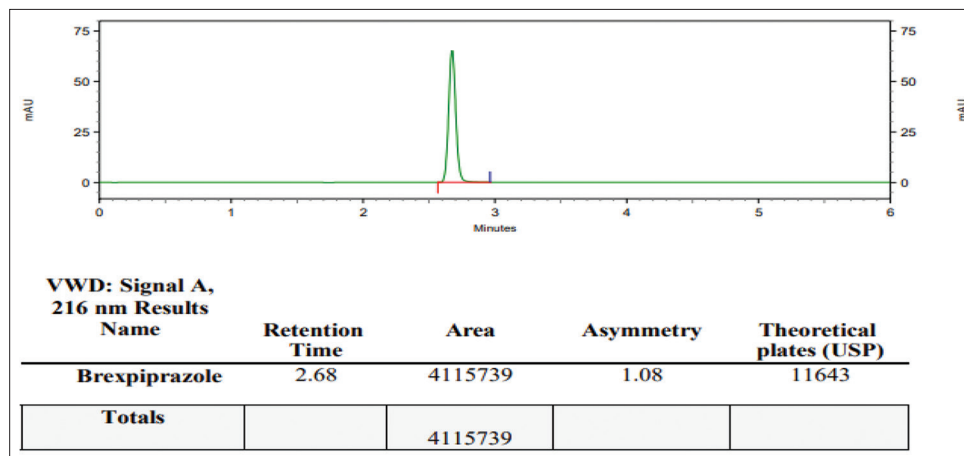


Figure 64: Chromatogram of sample for change in flow rate as such +10%

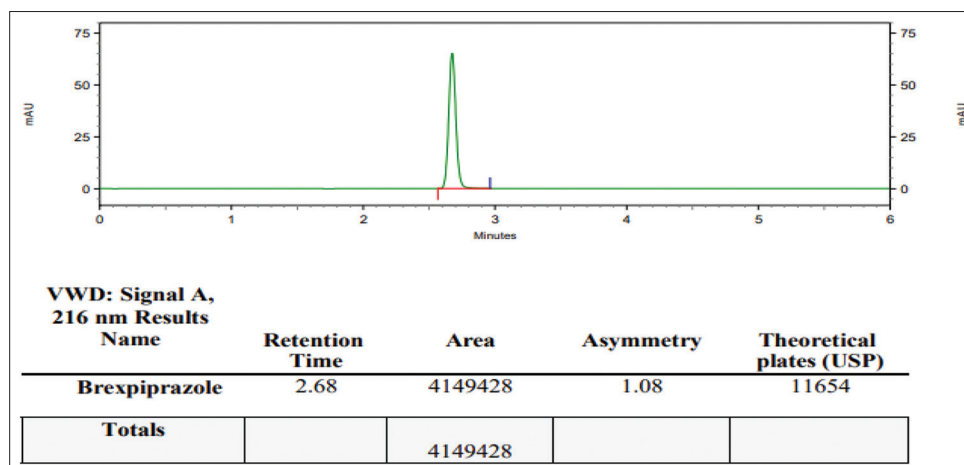


Figure 65: Chromatogram of standard for change in flow rate as such +10%

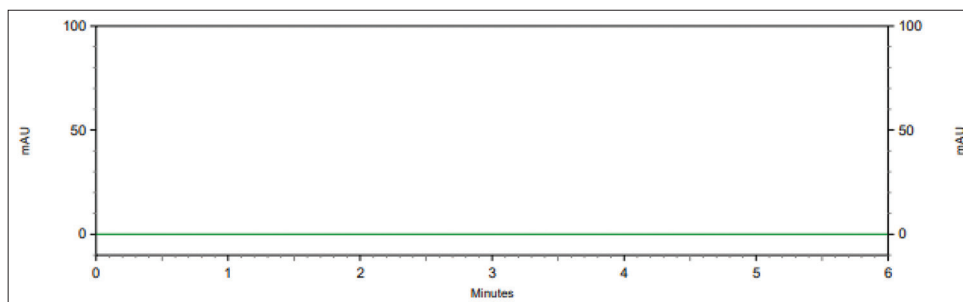


Figure 66: Chromatogram of blank for change in flow rate as such -10%

Table 23: Data for change in flow rate [-10%] for robustness

| S. No. | Standard deviation | Retention time | Area    | Asymmetry | Theoretical plates |
|--------|--------------------|----------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|
| 1.     | Standard           | 3.28           | 5072365 | 1.12      | 13773              |
| 2.     | Sample             | 3.28           | 5016748 | 1.12      | 13747              |

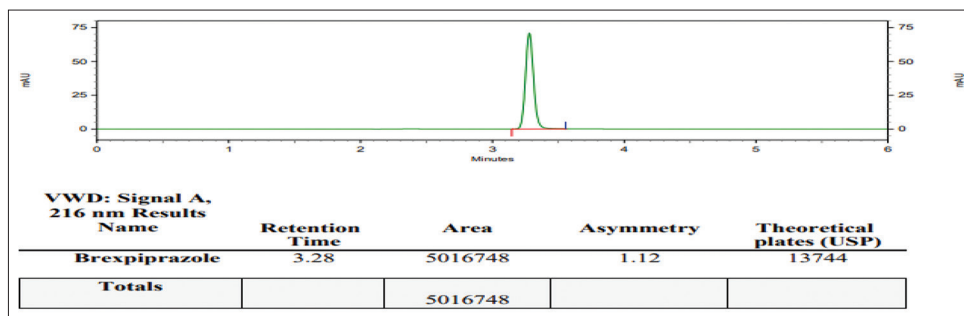


Figure 67: Chromatogram of sample for change in flow rate as such -10%

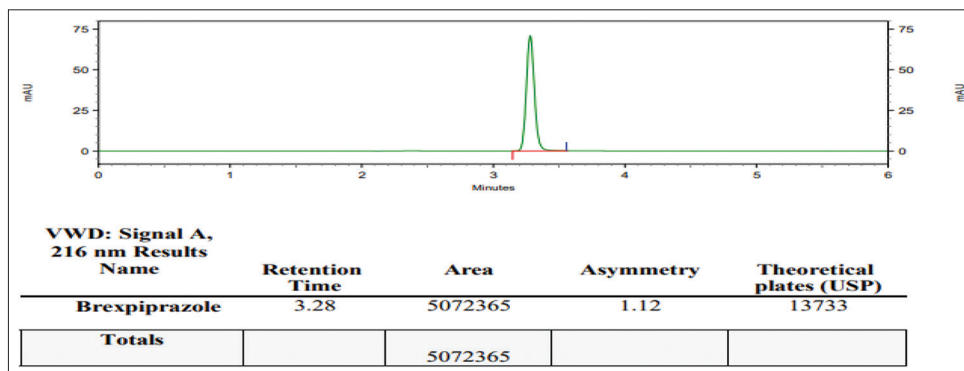


Figure 68: Chromatogram of standard for change in flow rate as such -10%

Data for calibration curve of brexpiprazole [Table 21].  
Chromatogram of linearity for brexpiprazole: [Figures 48-62].

### Robustness

Effect of variation in the flow rate of the mobile phase  
Change in flow rate:

- i. Data for change in flow rate [+10%] for robustness [Table 22]  
Chromatogram for robustness: [Figures 63-65]
- ii. Data for change in flow rate [-10%] for robustness [Table 23]  
Chromatogram for robustness: [Figures 66-68]

According to the above experimental results, this newly developed method for estimating brexpiprazole was found to be simple, precise, and accurate, with a shorter retention time that makes it more acceptable and cost effective, and it can be effectively applied for routine analysis in research institutions, quality control departments in industries, and approved testing laboratories.

According to the above experimental results, this newly developed method for estimating brexpiprazole was found to be simple, precise, and accurate, with a shorter retention time that makes it more acceptable and cost effective, and it can be effectively applied for routine analysis in research institutions, quality control departments in industries, and approved testing laboratories.

### CONCLUSION

The proposed method showed acceptable precision, accuracy, sensitivity, and wide linear concentration range. The established reverse-phase high-performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC) method was found to be reliable for the analysis of brexpiprazole and was found to be simple, consistent, cost-effective, and precise.

Therefore, this RP-HPLC method for determination of brexpiprazole can be used in quality control or routine for its quantitative determination in bulk and pharmaceutical dosage form.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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