



The most reliable LC-EC  
applications for  
Antibiotics analysis

**Aminoglycosides**

Amikacin  
Framycetin Sulphate  
Gentamicin Sulphate  
Kanamycin Sulphate  
Lincomycin  
Neomycin  
Spectinomycin  
Tobramycin

**Macrolide antibiotics**

Azithromycin  
Azaerythromycin  
Clarithromycin  
Erythromycin  
Roxithromycin

## Amikacin and Kanamycin in Bulk Drugs

- **United States Pharmacopeia USP30–NF25 used as basis for this application**
- **FlexCell with exchangeable gold electrode**
- **Analysis of main substituent and impurities**

### Summary

The United States Pharmacopeia (USP) has two monographs describing the analysis of both Kanamycin [5] and Amikacin [6] using LC-PAD. The ALEXYS Kanamycin and Amikacin Analyzer is a dedicated LC solution for the analysis of both antibiotics which matches the USP requirements for peak resolution, tailing and reproducibility. In this note typical results obtained with the Analyzer are shown to demonstrate its performance.



# Amikacin and Kanamycin in bulk drugs

## Introduction

Kanamycin and amikacin are closely related, water soluble, broad spectrum aminoglycoside antibiotics. Kanamycin is obtained from *Streptomyces kanamyceticus*. Amikacin is synthesised by acylation of an amino group of kanamycin A with L(-)-g- amino- $\alpha$ - hydroxybutyric acid (LHABA). Both antibiotics can be analysed using ionexchange chromatography in combination with pulsed amperometric detection [1-4].



Figure 1: ALEXYS Kanamycin and Amikacin Analyzer

Table 1

Conditions	
HPLC	ALEXYS Kanamycin and Amikacin Analyzer
Temperature	32 °C for separation and detection
Flow rate	0.5 mL/min
Flow cell	FlexCell™ with Au WE and Ag/AgCL REF
ADF	0.5 Hz
Range	2 $\mu$ A/V

## Results

### USP requirements

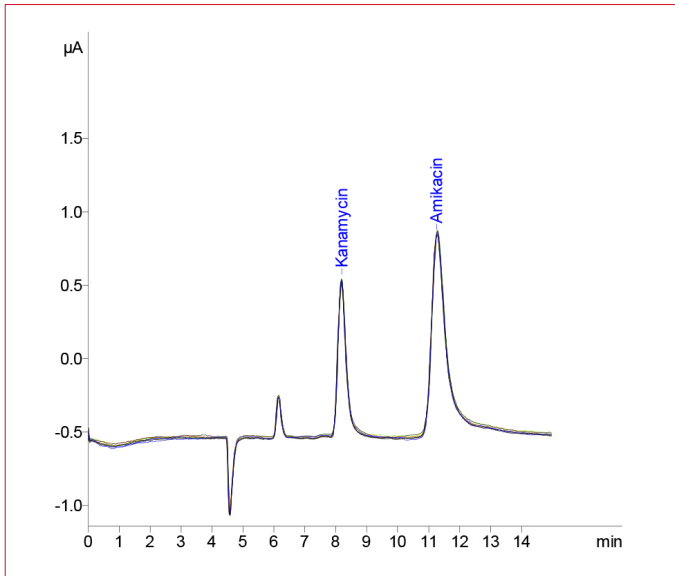
The results listed in the table below are based on an average of ten 20  $\mu$ L injections of a mixture of 8 mg/L Kanamycin and 20 mg/L Amikacin in water.

Table 2

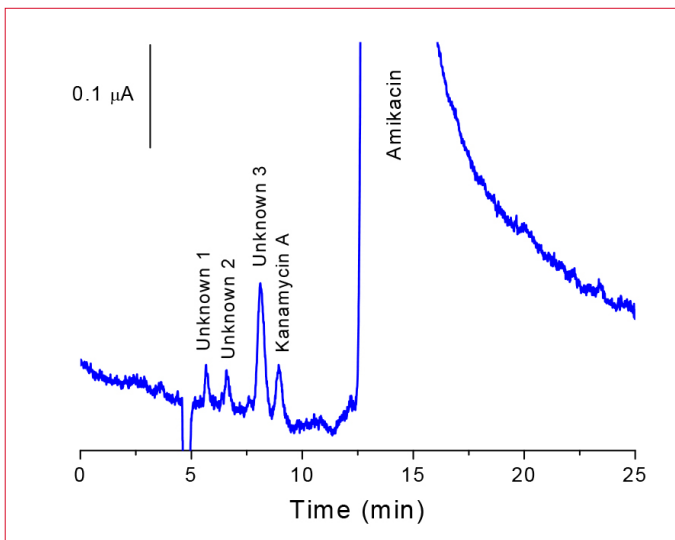
USP system suitability requirement		
Parameter	USP criteria	Result
Peak resolution	> 3	> 5
Tailing factor	< 2	< 1.6
Reproducibility, area (%RSD)	< 3	1.5% (n=10)

For both Kanamycin and Amikacin an RSD smaller then 1.5% in area was achieved for 10 replicate injections (USP requires <3%). Peak resolution between amikacin and kanamycin was >5 (better than 3 is required for USP). The peak tailing factor for both components was better then 1.6 (USP requires smaller than 2).

Linearity of kanamycin was investigated in the range of 1.6 - 8 mg/L. Linearity of amikacin was investigated in the range of 4 - 20 mg/L. In all cases correlation coefficients were better than 0.998 for peak areas and peak heights.



**Figure 2:** Overlay of 10 injections of 20 µL of 8 mg/L Kanamycin and 20 mg/L Amikacin in water.



**Figure 3:** Impurities in a solution of 200 mg/L Amikacin.

## Conclusion

The ALEXYS Kanamycin and Amikacin Analyzer provides a sensitive and reliable solution for the analysis of Kanamycin and Amikacin bulk drugs. It matches the USP requirements for peak resolution, tailing and reproducibility.



# Amikacin and Kanamycin in bulk drugs

## References

1. E. Adams, J. Dalle, E. De Bie, I. De Smedt, E. Roets, J. Hoogmartens, *Analysis of kanamycin sulfate by liquid chromatography with pulsed electrochemical detection*, J. Chromatogr. A, 766 (1997) 133-139.
2. E. Adams, G. Van Vaerenbergh, E. Roets, J. Hoogmartens, *Analysis of amikacin by liquid chromatography with pulsed electrochemical detection*, J. Chromatogr. A, 819 (1998) 93-97
3. David A. Stead, *Current methodologies for the analysis of aminoglycosides*, J. Chromatogr. B, 747 (2000) 69-93
4. W.R. LaCourse, *Pulsed Electrochemical Detection in High Performance Liquid Chromatography*, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1ed, 1997.
5. United States Pharmacopeia (USP), *Kanamycin Sulfate*, USP30-NF25 Page 2434
6. United States Pharmacopeia (USP), *Amikacin Sulfate*, USP30-NF25 Page 1372

## Ordering information

180.0058W	Aminoglycoside Analyzer including Flowcell
250.1080	ALC-525 anion exchange column, 250x4.6mm, 7um
250.1082	ALC guard column starter kit

*For research purpose only.* The information shown in this communication is solely to demonstrate the applicability of the ALEXYS system. The actual performance may be affected by factors beyond Antec's control. Specifications mentioned in this application note are subject to change without further notice.

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