



## Smart UV-Spectrophotometric methods for the simultaneous determination of amprolium-HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na in combined dosage forms

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Article history: Received 2021-02-07

Revised 2021-04-16

Accepted 2021-04-27

**Abstract** Two UV-spectrophotometric methods were adopted for simultaneous determination of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na. The two methods are a double divisor ratio derivative method and ratio dual wavelength method. The three cited drugs were determined by the suggested methods in the range of 6.0-50.0  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ , 2.0-27.0  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$  and 3.0-25.0  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ , respectively. The proposed methods were proved to be selective where the mean percentage recoveries of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na provided by the double divisor ratio derivative method were  $99.29 \pm 0.84$ ,  $100.36 \pm 1.21$  and  $100.61-101.57 \pm 0.15-1.75$ ; respectively. The ratio dual wavelength method mean recoveries were in the range of 98.93-100.45% $\pm 0.44-1.42$ , 99.47-100.67% $\pm 0.83-1.65$  and 99.97-101.71% $\pm 0.10-1.15$  for the studied drugs; respectively. Both methods were validated following ICH guidelines. Successful application of the methods for analyzing the three drugs in their veterinary dosage forms; Ampoethoquinone powder was conducted. The obtained results were statistically analyzed and found to be in accordance with those given by the reported methods.

**Keywords:** Amprolium; Ethopabate; Sulfaquinoxaline; Ratio Derivative; Ratio Dual Wavelength.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

One of the most common parasitic diseases is coccidiosis. It is caused by coccidian protozoa which infect the intestinal tract of livestock animals. Symptoms include being gaunt, pallor, unwillingness to eat, and diarrhea<sup>1</sup>. A combination of the three drugs; amprolium, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na; in a single dosage form provides a potent prevention and treatment of coccidiosis.

Amprolium; 1-[(4-amino-2-pro-pyl-5-pyrimidinyl) methyl]-2-methylpyridiniumchloride Hydrochloride salt<sup>2</sup>. It is mainly utilized to prevent and treat intestinal coccidiosis through disruption of cell metabolism<sup>3</sup>. Ethopabate; methyl 4-(acetylamino)-2-ethoxybenzoate<sup>2</sup>. The drug is a

competitor of PABA absorption by the parasite and interferes with folate synthesis. So, it has been used only in combination with amprolium to provide potent peak activity on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of parasite cycle<sup>4</sup>. Sulfaquinoxaline-Na, N-4-Amino-N-quinoxalin-2-

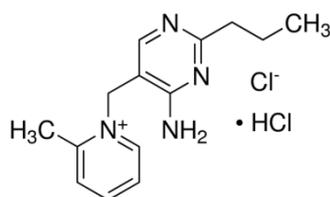
ylbenzenesulfonamide sodium salt<sup>2</sup> is a member of sulfonamide antimicrobials. It interferes with the biosynthesis of folic acid so when combined with vitamin K provides potential treatment of coccidiosis<sup>5</sup>.

Various techniques were conducted for the determination of either amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na in binary mixtures and/or with other drugs. Among the stated methods; HPLC<sup>6-12</sup>, LC/MS<sup>13-15</sup>, TLC-Densitometry<sup>16-18</sup>, Fluorimetry<sup>19</sup> UV-Spectrophotometry<sup>18, 20</sup> and potentiometry<sup>21,22</sup>. It is noteworthy to mention that there were no analytical methods had been established for the simultaneous determination of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na as ternary mixture.

The actual purpose of this study is to achieve successful analysis of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na in ternary mixture either in their pure and dosage forms by simple UV-spectrophotometric methods.

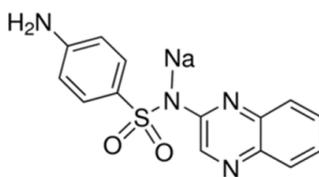
**Cite this article:** Abdelaziz, S., Abdel Razeq, S., Ahmed, N. Smart UV-Spectrophotometric methods for the simultaneous determination of amprolium-HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na in combined dosage forms. Azhar International Journal of Pharmaceutical and Medical Sciences, 2021; 1(2):63-71. doi: 10.21608/aijpm.2021.62019.1046

DOI: 10.21608/aijpm.2021.62019.1046



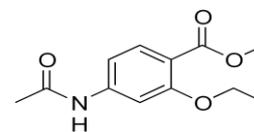
**Amprolium HCl**

*Molecular formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>, HCl*



**Sulfaquinoxaline-Na**

*Molecular formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S, Na*



**Ethopabate**

*Molecular formula: C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N O*

## 2. METHODS

### 2.1. Instruments

UV-Vis Spectrophotometer (Shimadzu 1601, Japan); Shimadzu UV- Probe version 2.32. Ultrasonic (Wised clean, China).

### 2.2. Materials and Reagent

Pure Amprolium HCl; B.N. WS/20180717, was kindly supplied by Zhejiang K-sheng., Bio-pharmgroup Co. LTD, Egypt; with purity of 99.8% purity as referred by the supplier and it was tested by TLC-densitometry.

Pure Ethopabate; B. N. 20190327, was kindly supplied by Zhejiang huangyan vet Pharma factory, china, with purity of 99.5% as referred by the supplier and it was tested by TLC-densitometry.

Pure Sulfaquinoxaline-Na; B. N. BL160725, was kindly supplied by wujiang Bolin industry co. Ltd., Egypt; with purity of 99.5% as referred by the supplier and it was tested by TLC-densitometry.

Amprothoquine powder; B.N. ATQN5097, labeled to contain amprolium HCl 200 gm, ethopabate 10 gm sulfaquinoxaline-Na 128.78 gm per 1 Kg, the product of Biovet, Cairo, Egypt.

Methanol, (Sigma Aldrich, Germany).

### 2.3. Standard solutions

Stock solutions (1.0 mg mL<sup>-1</sup>) of amprolium HCl, ethopabate or sulfaquinoxaline-Na were prepared by weighing 100.0 mg of each pure drug to be completely dissolved in 100-mL methanol. Then, working solutions (0.1 mg mL<sup>-1</sup>) were prepared by the suitable dilution using methanol as diluent.

### 2.4. Procedures

#### 2.4.1. Linearity

Aliquots from amprolium HCl, ethopabate or sulfaquinoxaline-Na standard solutions in methanol

mg or 0.03 - 0.25 mg, respectively; were dissolved in 10 mL methanol separately. The prepared solutions were scanned over the range of 200.0-400.0 nm and the zero-order spectra were saved in the computer.

#### 2.4.1.1. Double divisor ratio spectra derivative method (DDRD):

The zero-order spectra of one drug were divided by the sum of the absorption spectra of the other two drugs "double divisor". The resultant ratio spectra were derivatized using with  $\Delta\lambda = 8.0$  nm and scaling factor = 100. Amprolium HCl and ethopabate were detected at 238.6 and 233.0 nm; respectively. While sulfaquinoxaline-Na amplitudes were at 234.0, 242.0, 263.0 and 289.0 nm. The amplitudes of each drug were recorded and plotted against amprolium HCl, sulfaquinoxaline-Na and ethopabate concentration; respectively.

#### 2.4.1.2. Ratio dual wavelength method (RDW):

Employing amprolium HCl as a divisor: The zero-order spectra of each of ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na were divided by amprolium HCl spectrum (20.0  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ). Each drug would be estimated at the amplitude difference at one or more wavelengths couples where a reasonable linearity and accepted recovery was obtained. Ethopabate was determined at (214.0-229.0 nm), (244.0-262.0 nm) and (254.0-248.0 nm). While sulfaquinoxaline-Na was assessed at (224.0-247.0 nm) and (229.0-245.0 nm).

Using ethopabate as a divisor: Similarly, the spectra of each of amprolium HCl and sulfaquinoxaline-Na were divided by 20.0  $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$  ethopabate spectrum. Amprolium HCl was measured at (236.0- 247.0 nm) and (258.0-283.0 nm). Likewise, sulfaquinoxaline-Na could be determined at (228.0-246.0 nm), (233.0-241.0 nm) and (255.0-271.0 nm).

Applying sulfaquinoxaline-Na as a divisor: Upon dividing amprolium HCl or ethopabate spectra

by sulfaquinoxaline-Na spectrum ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ), the wavelengths couples were (279.0-319.0 nm), (285.0-320.0 nm) and (296.0-316.0 nm) for amprolium HCl, while (214.0-229.0 nm), (255.0-299.0 nm), (257.0-289.0 nm) and (261-294 nm) for ethopabate.

2.4.2. Assay of laboratory prepared mixtures of the two drugs

Different aliquots of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na working solutions equivalent to 0.06 - 0.50 mg, 0.02 - 0.27 mg or 0.03 - 0.25 mg, respectively; were transferred into a set of 10-mL volumetric flasks. Then, methanol is used as diluent. The spectra of the obtained solutions were scanned. The drugs concentrations were calculated using their corresponding regression equations just after following the manipulating steps for each method as described under “2.4.1. Linearity”.

2.4.3. Applications to dosage forms

Accurately weighed 0.5 gm of Amprothoquine – powder equivalent to 100.0 mg amprolium HCl, 5.0 mg ethopabate and 64.0 gm sulfaquinoxaline-Na was transferred into 100-mL volumetric flask. Volume was completed with methanol to prepare a solution claimed to contain  $1.00 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$  amprolium HCl,  $0.05 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$  ethopabate and  $0.64 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$  sulfaquinoxaline-Na. Further dilutions within the linearity range were prepared and analyzed following the procedures detailed under “2.4.1. Linearity” and “2.4.2. Assay of laboratory prepared mixtures of the three drugs”. The drugs concentrations were calculated from the corresponding regression equations.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The measured absorption spectra of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na showed sever overlapping; Figure 1. A problem that restricts their simultaneous estimation of the three drugs either in mixtures or in dosage forms. Although the drugs were analyzed using a wide diversity of many UV-spectrophotometric methods, there is no published articles describing simultaneous determination of the three studied drugs.

3.1. Double divisor ratio spectra derivative method (DDRDM)

The principle of the DDRDM method applied the derivative technique to the ratio spectra. Moreover, ratio spectrum of one drug is calculated by dividing the spectrum of the ternary mixture by a standard spectrum representing the sum of the other two compounds in the title mixture. Also, the quantitative measurements could be at either the maximum or minimum wavelengths<sup>23, 24</sup>.

Various spectrophotometric parameters were investigated to obtain maximum resolution and

sensitivity. Firstly, the concentration of the standard binary mixture used as double divisor should be determined precisely. Different concentrations were tried where  $20 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$  of each drug was the most appropriate concentration to be used as a divisor regarding signal-to-noise ratio.

Moreover, the influence of each of the derivative order,  $\Delta\lambda$  and the scaling factor were studied. Although both first and second derivative were tried but <sup>3</sup>D had achieved the most acceptable results regarding the obtained recovery. Best results were obtained upon applying  $\Delta\lambda = 8.0$  and scaling factor = 100 for the third derivative spectra.

The measured spectra of amprolium HCl was divided by the sum of the spectra of each of sulfaquinoxaline-Na and ethopabate ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) as a “double divisor” to get ratio spectra. <sup>3</sup>D of the ratio spectra was calculated applying  $\Delta\lambda = 8.0$  and scaling factor = 100 where amprolium HCl was determined at 229.0 and 238.6 nm; Figure 2. The same procedure was followed for ethopabate estimation using amprolium HCl and sulfaquinoxaline-Na as a “double divisor”; Figure 3. While amprolium HCl and ethopabate were employed as a “double divisor” for sulfaquinoxaline-Na determination; Figure 4. There was a reasonable linearity at 233.0, 250.0 and 315.0 nm for ethopabate. While sulfaquinoxaline-Na was determined at 234.0, 242.0, 263.0 and 289.0 nm.

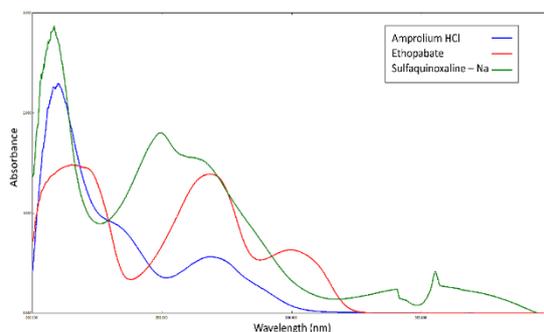


Figure 1: Zero-order absorption spectra of  $20 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$  of each of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na in methanol.

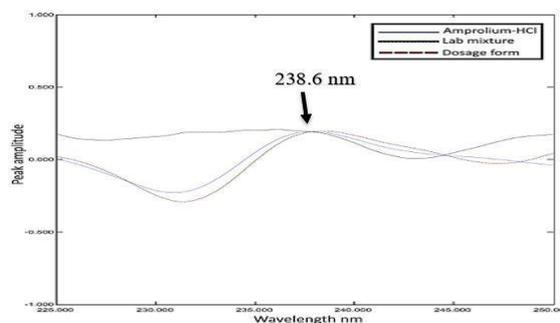
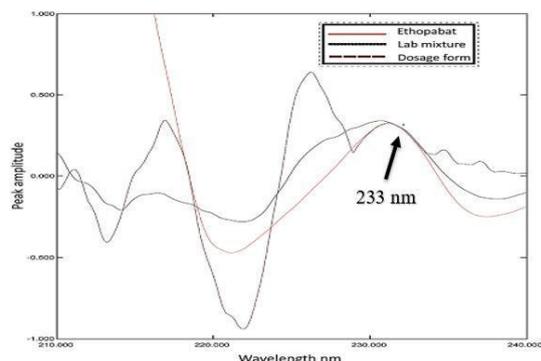
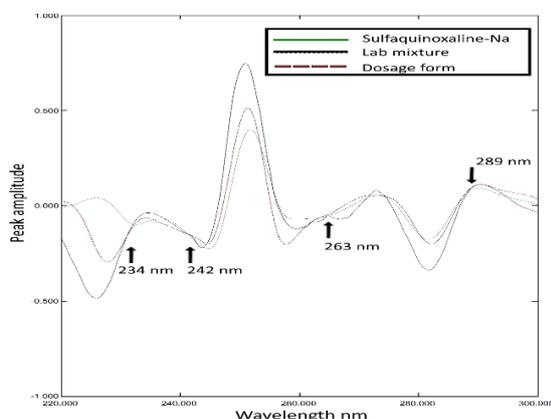


Figure 2: Third derivative of ratio spectra of amprolium HCl ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) in pure form, dosage form and

laboratory prepared mixture using sulfaquinoxaline-Na ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) and ethopabate ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) as a double divisor.



**Figure 3:** Third derivative of ratio spectra of ethopabate ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) in pure form, dosage form and laboratory prepared mixture using amprolium HCl ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) and sulfaquinoxaline-Na ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) as a double divisor.



**Figure 4:** Third derivative of ratio spectra of sulfaquinoxaline-Na ( $12.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) in pure form, dosage form and laboratory prepared mixture using amprolium HCl ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) and ethopabate ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) as a double divisor.

### 3.2. Ratio dual wavelength method (RDW)

Simply, the principles of both ratio difference method and dual wavelength method were combined so that the resulted method had proven its merits in determining compounds selectively in ternary mixtures. Each component could be selectively determined after complete removal of the interference exerted by the other two components using one component as a divisor and choosing two wavelengths showing equal absorptivity's for the second component <sup>25</sup>. Firstly, the divisor concentration should be selected to obtain ratio spectra. Then, one wavelength couple at least showing equal absorptivities was specified for quantitative determination of each drug.

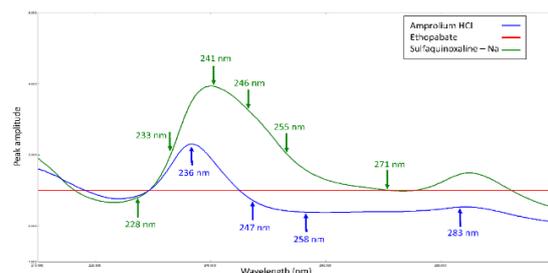
Different divisor concentrations were studied where  $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$  of each drug was suitable based

on maximum selectivity and minimal noise. For the proposed ternary mixture of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na, each drug was estimated at the amplitude difference at one or more wavelengths couples. The amplitude differences between different wavelength couples were tried, where couples only showed reliable results regarding selectivity and recovery were selected.

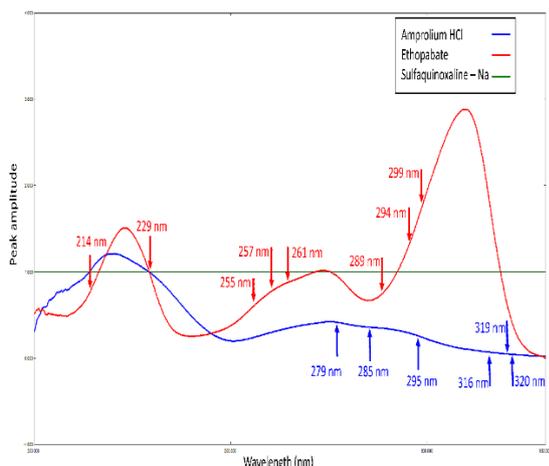
The ratio spectra of the three drugs were obtained after using a divisor of  $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$  of ethopabate. Ethopabate appears as a straight line with constant amplitude, whereas the sulfaquinoxaline-Na shows equal amplitudes at (236 and 247 nm) and (258 and 283 nm); Figure 5. Therefore, the difference in amplitudes between these two wavelengths would be selectively corresponding to amprolium HCl concentration. Amprolium HCl could be also determined between (279 and 319 nm), (285 and 320 nm) and (296 and 316 nm) using  $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$  of sulfaquinoxaline-Na as divisor at which ethopabate showed equal amplitudes and sulfaquinoxaline-Na appears straight line with constant amplitude; Figure 6.

The determination of ethopabate was conducted after dividing the spectra of the three drugs by the spectrum of  $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$  of sulfaquinoxaline-Na; Figure 6. So that sulfaquinoxaline-Na was showed as a straight line with constant amplitude, whereas the amprolium HCl had equal amplitudes at (214.0 and 229.0 nm), (255.0 and 299.0 nm), (257.0 and 289.0 nm) and (216.0 and 294.0 nm) at which ethopabate was selectively determined. Moreover, ethopabate could be determined at (214.0 and 229.0 nm), (242.0 and 262.0 nm) and (248.0 and 254.0 nm) using amprolium HCl ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) as divisor at which sulfaquinoxaline-Na exhibited equal amplitudes; Figure 7.

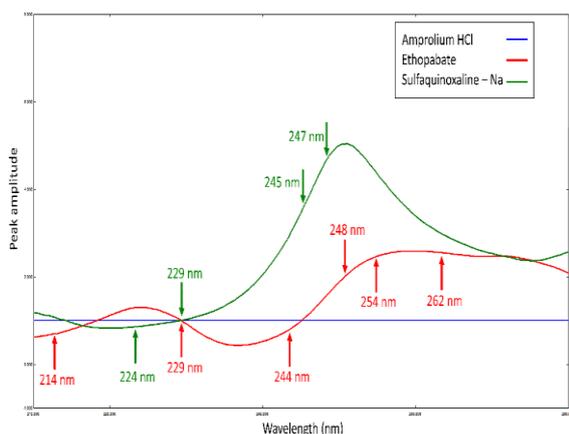
Similarly, RDW was applied for sulfaquinoxaline-Na determination using ethopabate ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) or amprolium HCl ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) as a divisor; Figure 7. The selected wavelengths couples are (224.0 and 247.0 nm) and (229.0 and 245.0 nm) applying amprolium HCl ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) as a divisor, while (228.0 and 246.0 nm), (233.0 and 241.0 nm) and (255.0 and 271.0 nm) using ethopabate ( $20.0 \mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ) as a divisor; Figure 5.



**Figure 5:** Ratio spectra of 20.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> of each of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na using 20.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> ethopabate as a divisor.



**Figure 6:** Ratio spectra of 20.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> of each of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na using 20.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> sulfaquinoxaline-Na as a divisor.



**Figure 7:** Ratio spectra of 20.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> of each of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na using 20.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> amprolium HCl as a divisor.

### 3.3. Method validation

The methods were validated according to the ICH guidelines<sup>26</sup>.

#### 3.3.1. Linearity

Good linear relationship was found between the peak amplitude and the corresponding drug concentration over the range of 6.0 - 50.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup>, 2.0 - 27.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> and 3.0 - 25.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> for amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na, respectively by proposed UV- spectrophotometric methods; Table 1, 2.

#### 3.3.2. Accuracy

It was checked by analysis of three triplicate determinations of different concentrations within the linearity range of amprolium HCl (10.0, 18.0, 35.0 µg

mL<sup>-1</sup>), ethopabate (4.0, 7.0, 11.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup>) and sulfaquinoxaline-Na (6.0, 12.0, 20.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup>) in the same day and within three successive days. Accuracy range was found to be 99.76-100.32% ± 0.16-1.63, 99.45-100.60% ± 0.71-1.32 and 98.63-100.84 ± 0.29-1.08 for the three drugs, respectively; Table 1, 2.

#### 3.3.3. Precision

The repeatability and reproducibility of the proposed UV-spectrophotometric methods were confirmed by calculating intraday and interday RSD %. The results ranged from 0.11 – 1.99 %, 0.04% - 1.84 and 0.23% - 1.95 % for the three drugs, respectively; Table 1, 2.

#### 3.3.4. Selectivity

It was revealed by analyzing laboratory prepared mixtures of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na in different ratios. Simultaneous determination of the three drugs without any interference was achieved. Thus, the established methods were proved to be selective as indicated by the obtained recoveries; Table 3.

Amprolium HCl was determined in the presence of ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na with mean recovery% of 99.29 by <sup>3</sup>DDRR method, and 99.68, 98.93, 100.45, 100.12 and 99.74 by RDW method.

While the percentage recovery sulfaquinoxaline-Na estimation was 101.67, 100.96, 101.15 and 100.61 by <sup>3</sup>DDRR and 100.34, 101.71, 100.60, 100.45 and 99.97 by RDW method.

Furthermore, for ethopabate assessment, <sup>3</sup>DDRR showed recoveries ± SD of 100.36% ± 1.21, while RDW recoveries ± SD were found to be 99.47% ± 0.83, 99.67% ± 0.83, 99.56% ± 0.92, 100.67% ± 1.28, 100.20% ± 1.65, 99.32% ± 1.12, 100.05% ± 1.14.

The selectivity of the proposed method was further assessed by analyzing of the studied drugs in their veterinary dosage form; Amprothoquine powder. The obtained results had confirmed that the proposed spectrophotometric methods were valid for the simultaneous determination of the three drugs in their combined dosage forms without any interference from each other and from excipients and additives; Table 4.

The validity of the proposed methods was further checked by applying the standard addition technique; Table 4. The obtained results were statistically 27 compared with those obtained from the reported methods. <sup>1</sup>D UV-spectrophotometry was stated for the simultaneous determination of amprolium HCl and ethopabate at 239.0 nm and 246.5 nm; respectively<sup>20</sup>. While the reported method for sulfaquinoxaline-Na was a TLC–densitometry using chloroform: methanol (9:1, v/v) as a mobile phase<sup>18</sup>.

Table 4 Showed that calculated t- and F- values were less than the theoretical ones with respect to accuracy and precision within a probability of 95%, assuring the absence of the significance difference between the proposed and the reported methods. Moreover, the proposed methods were proved to be more selective applying less sophisticated apparatus.

### 3.3.5. Stability of standard solutions

The stability of the standard solutions of amprolium HCl, sulfaquinoxaline-Na and ethopabate (0.1 mg mL<sup>-1</sup>) in methanol were evaluated by the UV-spectrophotometric methods. The solutions were found to be stable for more than one month at room temperature or in refrigerator.

**Table 1: Regression parameters for the determination of amprolium HCl and ethopabate by the proposed UV-Spectrophotometric methods**

Parameters	Amprolium HCl						Ethopabate								
	RDW					<sup>3</sup> DDRD	RDW								<sup>3</sup> DDRD
	Using ethopabate as a divisor		using sulfaquinoxaline-Na as a divisor				using sulfaquinoxaline-Na as a divisor				using amprolium HCl as a divisor				
$\lambda_{max}$ (nm)	236.0 and 247.0	283.0 & 258.0	296.0 & 316.0	285.0 & 320.0	279.0 & 319.0	238.6	255.0 & 299.0	294.0 & 261.0	214.0 & 229.0	257.0 & 289.0	214.0 & 229.0	244.0 & 262.0	248.0 & 254.0	233.0	
Linearity range	6.0-50.0 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$						2.0-27.0 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$								
Slope $\pm$ S.D.	0.07839 $\pm$ 1.5 E 10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.00704 $\pm$ 2.2E <sup>-5</sup>	0.00951 $\pm$ 3.6E <sup>-5</sup>	0.0145 $\pm$ 2.29 E <sup>-5</sup>	0.01749 $\pm$ 5.72E <sup>-5</sup>	0.011 $\pm$ 3.89E <sup>-5</sup>	0.06058 $\pm$ 1.6E <sup>-4</sup>	0.01777 $\pm$ 4.13E <sup>-5</sup>	0.01421 $\pm$ 4.15E <sup>-5</sup>	0.005826 $\pm$ 1.19E <sup>-5</sup>	0.01348 $\pm$ 2.65E <sup>-5</sup>	0.08363 $\pm$ 2.7E <sup>-4</sup>	0.04287 $\pm$ 1.4E <sup>-4</sup>	0.008 $\pm$ 2.44E <sup>-5</sup>	
Intercept $\pm$ S.D.	0.0307 $\pm$ 0.004319	0.0786 $\pm$ 6.4E <sup>-4</sup>	0.0214 $\pm$ 8.7E <sup>-4</sup>	0.0238 $\pm$ 6.5E <sup>-4</sup>	0.003616 $\pm$ 1.6E <sup>-3</sup>	-0.082 $\pm$ 1.12E <sup>-3</sup>	0.03120 $\pm$ 3.08E <sup>-3</sup>	0.020836 $\pm$ 7.6E <sup>-4</sup>	0.0100 $\pm$ 7.7E <sup>-4</sup>	0.001217 $\pm$ 2.2E <sup>-4</sup>	0.01044 $\pm$ 6.8E <sup>-4</sup>	0.02666 $\pm$ 5.1E <sup>-3</sup>	0.026015 $\pm$ 2.6E <sup>-3</sup>	0.009 $\pm$ 4.55E <sup>-4</sup>	
S.D. of residual	4.84 E <sup>-3</sup>	8.70 E <sup>-4</sup>	1.19 E <sup>-3</sup>	8.86 E <sup>-4</sup>	2.22 E <sup>-3</sup>	1.51 E <sup>-3</sup>	3.51 E <sup>-3</sup>	8.75 E <sup>-4</sup>	8.80 E <sup>-4</sup>	2.53 E <sup>-4</sup>	7.73 E <sup>-4</sup>	5.89 E <sup>-3</sup>	3.00 E <sup>-3</sup>	4.17 E <sup>-4</sup>	
Coefficient of determinations	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	
Accuracy (R% $\pm$ S.D.)*	101.20 $\pm$ 1.10	100.25 $\pm$ 0.16	100.16 $\pm$ 1.63	99.76 $\pm$ 0.89	100.32 $\pm$ 1.45	100.28 $\pm$ 0.63	100.60 $\pm$ 0.67	99.45 $\pm$ 0.48	99.45 $\pm$ 1.32	100.42 $\pm$ 1.06	100.12 $\pm$ 0.96	100.12 $\pm$ 0.71	100.50 $\pm$ 0.91	100.38 $\pm$ 0.98	

\*mean of nine determinations., Ratio dual wavelength method (RDW)

**Table 2: Regression parameters for the determination of sulfaquinoxaline-Na by the proposed UV-Spectrophotometric methods**

Parameters	Sulfaquinoxaline									
	RDW					<sup>3</sup> DDRD				
	using ethopabate as a divisor			using amprolium HCl as a divisor						
$\lambda_{max}$ (nm)	228.0& 246.0	233& 241.0	255.0& 271.0	224.0& 247.0	229.0& 245.0	234.0	242.0	263.0	289.0	
Linearity rang	3.0-25.0 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$									
Slope $\pm$ S.D.	0.1467 $\pm$ 1.65E <sup>-4</sup>	0.106 $\pm$ 3.04E <sup>-4</sup>	0.0407 $\pm$ 1.23E <sup>-4</sup>	0.1827 $\pm$ 5.51E <sup>-4</sup>	0.1381 $\pm$ 2.26E <sup>-4</sup>	0.006 $\pm$ 1.51E <sup>-5</sup>	0.014 $\pm$ 4.85E <sup>-5</sup>	0.004 $\pm$ 1.45E <sup>-5</sup>	0.0102 $\pm$ 2.31E <sup>-5</sup>	
Intercept $\pm$ S.D.	-0.3245 $\pm$ 2.832E <sup>-3</sup>	0.02329 $\pm$ 5.24E <sup>-3</sup>	-0.01251 $\pm$ 2117E <sup>-3</sup>	0.1491 $\pm$ 9.4964E <sup>-3</sup>	0.8549 $\pm$ 3.873E <sup>-3</sup>	0.0149 $\pm$ 2.59E <sup>-4</sup>	0.01439 $\pm$ 8.33E <sup>-4</sup>	0.011 $\pm$ 2.48E <sup>-4</sup>	-0.011 $\pm$ 5.5E <sup>-4</sup>	
S.D. of residual	2.977E <sup>-3</sup>	5.509E <sup>-3</sup>	2.226E <sup>-3</sup>	9.95E <sup>-3</sup>	4.072E <sup>-3</sup>	2.72E <sup>-4</sup>	8.65E <sup>-4</sup>	2.71E <sup>-4</sup>	5.78E <sup>-4</sup>	
Coefficient of determinations	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	
Accuracy (R% $\pm$ S.D.)*	99.57 $\pm$ 1.08	98.63 $\pm$ 0.42	100.51 $\pm$ 0.38	100.84 $\pm$ 0.79	99.85 $\pm$ 0.29	99.94 $\pm$ 0.40	100.38 $\pm$ 1.21	99.55 $\pm$ 0.49	99.81 $\pm$ 0.56	

\*mean of nine determinations., Double divisor ratio spectra derivative method (DDRD), Ratio dual wavelength method (RDW).

**Table 3: Determination of amprolium HCl, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na in their laboratory prepared mixtures by the proposed UV-Spectrophotometric methods**

Drugs conc. ( $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ )			RDW method															<sup>3</sup> DDR method							
Amprolium HCl	Sulfaquinoxaline -Na	Ethopabate	Recovery % of Amprolium HCl					Recovery % of Sulfaquinoxaline -Na					Recovery % of Ethopabate					Recovery % of Amprolium HCl	Recovery % of Sulfaquinoxaline -Na				Recovery % of Ethopabate		
			236.0&247.0	283.0&258.0	296.0&316.0	279.0&319.0	285.0&320.0	228.0&246.0	233.0&241.0	255.0&271.0	224.0&247.0	229.0&245.0	255.0&299.0	294.0&261.0	214.0&229.0	257.0&289.0	214.0&229.0		244.0&262.0	246.0&254.0	238.6	234.0		242.0	263.0
20*	12*	1*	98.59	99.43	101.89	100.77	101.11	101.72	101.78	101.09	100.41	101.30	100.21	100.80	100.03	101.92	98.03	99.12	100.41	98.55	98.34	101.86	101.50	100.35	101.04
20	20	20	100.22	98.47	101.96	99.74	98.92	100.43	101.69	101.22	100.23	98.57	99.54	98.73	99.34	98.98	100.18	98.74	99.978	99.10	100.84	101.21	101.38	101.05	101.25
10	20	20	100.37	99.09	98.95	101.46	99.72	99.20	101.55	100.9	101.51	98.93	100.37	99.32	99.45	99.98	98.63	98.73	98.12	100.74	98.34	98.57	101.13	99.45	99.38
20	10	20	98.81	98.47	100.19	99.52	100.03	100.93	101.77	100.01	100.64	99.52	98.70	99.61	99.66	100.98	100.39	98.74	100.72	99.00	101.84	100.43	100.25	100.10	98.75
20	20	10	100.41	99.19	99.27	99.11	98.94	99.43	101.78	99.73	99.45	100.63	98.58	100.38	99.32	101.96	101.99	101.31	100.99	99.05	101.67	101.43	101.50	102.01	101.38
Mean % $\pm$ SD			99.68 $\pm$ 0.90	98.93 $\pm$ 0.44	100.45 $\pm$ 1.42	100.12 $\pm$ 0.67	99.74 $\pm$ 0.91	100.34 $\pm$ 1.05	101.71 $\pm$ 0.10	100.60 $\pm$ 0.68	100.45 $\pm$ 0.74	99.97 $\pm$ 1.15	99.47 $\pm$ 0.83	99.67 $\pm$ 0.83	99.56 $\pm$ 0.92	100.67 $\pm$ 1.28	100.20 $\pm$ 1.65	99.32 $\pm$ 1.12	100.05 $\pm$ 1.14	99.29 $\pm$ 0.84	101.67 $\pm$ 1.75	100.96 $\pm$ 0.70	101.15 $\pm$ 0.53	100.61 $\pm$ 1.01	100.36 $\pm$ 1.21

\*mean of nine determinations., Double divisor ratio spectra derivative method (DDR), Ratio dual wavelength method (RDW).

**Table 4: Statistical analysis of the result obtained by the proposed UV and reported methods for the determination amprolium HC, ethopabate and sulfaquinoxaline-Na in their pure form**

Parameters	Amprolium HCl				Ethopabate				Sulfaquinoxaline -Na				Reported method**															
	UV-Spectrophotometric methods			<sup>1</sup> D	UV-Spectrophotometric methods			<sup>1</sup> D	UV-Spectrophotometric methods			TLC																
	RWD		<sup>3</sup> DDR		RWD		<sup>3</sup> DDR		RWD		<sup>3</sup> DDR																	
	236.0 & 247.0	283.0 & 258.0			296.0 & 316.0	285.0 & 320.0			279.0 & 319.0	238.6				239.0	255.0 & 299.0	294.0 & 261.0	214.0 & 229.0	257.0 & 289.0	214.0 & 229.0	244.0 & 262.0	248.0 & 254.0	233.0	246.5	228.0 & 246.0	233.0 & 241.0	255.0 & 271.0	224.0 & 247.0	229.0 & 245.0
Conc. range	6.0-50.0 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$				2.0-27.0 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$				3.0-25.0 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$																			
Mean %	99.73	100.06	100.23	100.07	100.49	101.61	100.45	100.48	100.30	100.62	100.23	100.62	99.98	100.15	100.28	99.33	100.20	100.20	99.83	100.33	100.28	99.57	100.63	100.92	100.71	100.75	100.86	
S.D.	0.64	1.10	1.34	0.49	0.63	0.67	0.65	1.39	1.41	1.31	0.68	1.09	0.81	1.06	0.60	1.30	0.82	0.90	0.36	1.69	0.33	0.56	0.48	1.16	0.44	0.82	0.57	
Variance	0.40	1.10	1.79	0.24	0.40	0.44	0.42	1.95	1.71	0.47	1.18	0.67	1.12	0.36	1.69	0.82	0.90	0.36	1.69	0.11	0.31	1.75	0.48	1.35	0.20	0.67	0.57	
N	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
t-test*	1.75	0.72	0.31	1.06	0.08	1.80	-	1.69	2.00	2.20	1.31	1.17	1.18	1.74	1.62	-	0.98	1.78	-	0.98	1.10	0.85	0.85	0.36	0.09	0.41	0.18	-
F-test*	1.04	2.61	4.24	1.79	0.95	1.06	-	1.74	3.95	4.79	1.31	1.17	1.18	1.74	3.15	-	2.96	0.70	-	5.11	1.82	0.32	0.85	0.85	2.38	0.35	1.17	-
Standard addition Mean% $\pm$ S.D.	99.73 $\pm$ 0.64	100.06 $\pm$ 1.05	100.23 $\pm$ 1.34	100.07 $\pm$ 0.48	100.49 $\pm$ 0.63	101.61 $\pm$ 0.67	-	99.39 $\pm$ 1.08	100.45 $\pm$ 1.20	101.24 $\pm$ 0.78	101.21 $\pm$ 0.52	98.35 $\pm$ 0.34	98.62 $\pm$ 0.62	100.99 $\pm$ 1.03	100.86 $\pm$ 0.93	-	100.20 $\pm$ 1.30	99.83 $\pm$ 0.90	-	100.33 $\pm$ 0.33	100.28 $\pm$ 0.56	99.57 $\pm$ 1.32	100.63 $\pm$ 0.70	100.92 $\pm$ 1.16	100.71 $\pm$ 0.44	100.75 $\pm$ 0.82	-	

\*Figures in parenthesis are the theoretical t- and F- values at p=0.05 were 2.31 and 6.39; respectively. \*\*The reported method involved UV-measurements for <sup>1</sup>D of both amprolium and ethopabate determination <sup>20</sup>, TLC densitometry for determination of sulfaquinoxaline-Na <sup>18</sup>

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The present work provides two simple, rapid, accurate, precise, time and cost reduction methods. Both methods could be used for the simultaneous routine analysis of amprolium HCl, sulfaquinoxaline-

Na and ethopabate in their pure and available dosage forms without preliminarily sample separation and preparation. The proposed UV-spectrophotometric methods were more selective. Because they are used for determination of the three drugs in presence of each other without any interference and do not need any expansive apparatus. Therefore, they could be applied in quality control laboratories for analysis of cited drugs.

#### Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest Ethics.

#### Ethics statement: NA

#### Author contribution

Author SA designed the study and wrote the protocol. Author NS supervise the analyses of the study. Author SE performed the experimental work, statistical analysis and wrote the first draft of the manuscript and managed literature searches. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

#### Funding

The work received no funding.

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