FORMULAE: Table 1 MW: Table 1 CAS: Table 2 RTECS: Table 2

METHOD: 5044, Issue 1 EVALUATION: PARTIAL Issue 1: 15 March 2003

OSHA: Table 2 PROPERTIES: Table 1

NIOSH: Table 2 ACGIH: Table 2

Synonyms: Table 2

	SAMPLING		MEASUREMENT	
SAMPLER:	FILTER, PTFE (37-mm, 2-µm)	TECHNIQUE:	HPLC, UV detection	
FLOW RATE:	1 L/min	ANALYTE:	See Table 1	
VOLMIN: -MAX:	150 L 1000L	EXTRACTION:	Methanol, extraction overnight at room temperature	
SHIPMENT:	Ship at ambient temperature.	INJECTION VOLUME:	25 μL	
SAMPLE STABILITY:	30 days at 25 °C [1]	MOBILE PHASE:	60% acetonitrile / 40% water @ 26 °C, 1.75 mL/min	
BLANKS:	2 to 10 field blanks per set	COLUMN:	C18 reversed phase, 150 x 4.6-mm, 5-µm; in-line pre-filter, 2.0- µm	
		DETECTOR:	UV/Vis at 200 nm and 237 mµ	
	ACCURACY	CALIBRATION:	Standards in methanol	
RANGE STUDIED	): Not determined	RANGE:	β-Estradiol 0.3 to 44 μg/sample	
BIAS:	Not determined		Estrone 0.2 to 64 μg/sample Progesterone 0.5 to 64 μg/sample β-Estradiol 3-Benzoate 0.5 to	
OVERALL PRECISION(S <sub>rt</sub> ):	Not determined		64 μg/sample [1]	
ACCURACY:	Not determined	ESTIMATED LOD:	Table 3	
		PRECISION (S,):	β-Estradiol 0.040 Estrone 0.039 Progesterone 0.030 β-Estradiol 3-Benzoate 0.032 @ 0.5 - 64 μg/sample [1]	

**APPLICABILITY:** This method has not been used to evaluate field air samples. The method is based on a preliminary investigation analyzing field wipe samples collected during a health hazard evaluation at a facility producing birth control pills [1]. Appendix 1 contains information on recovery of analytes from wipe samples.

INTERFERENCES: Any compound that elutes at the same HPLC retention times may interfere.

OTHER METHODS: No validated methods were found.

### **REAGENTS:**

- 1. Water, distilled, deionized, degassed
- 2. Acetonitrile, HPLC grade, degassed.\*
- 3. Methanol, HPLC grade.\*
- 4. β-Estradiol (Sigma E8875 or equivalent)\*
- 5. Estrone (Sigma E9750 or equivalent)\*
- 6. Progesterone (Sigma P0130 or equivalent)\*
- β-Estradiol 3-Benzoate (Sigma E8515 or equivalent)\*
- 8. Stock standard solutions: place approximately 40 mg of each analyte, weighed to 0.001 mg, in separate 20-mL vials and dissolve in 20-mL methanol.
- Estrogen mixed standards: combine 4 mL of each stock standard solution in a 20-mL vial. Prepare serial dilutions of this mixture in methanol to 0.05 µg/mL.
- \* See SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

# **EQUIPMENT:**

- Filters: PTFE-laminate, 37-mm, 2-µm pore size (SKC Inc., Cat No. 225-17-07 or equivalent), cellulose spacer ring, 37-mm OD, 32-mm ID (SKC Inc., Cat. No. 225-23 or equivalent) in a 37-mm cassette filter holder.
- 2 Culture tubes, PTFE-lined screw cap, 16-mm x 100-mm.
- 3. Vials, auto-sampler, 4-mL, with PTFE-lined septa.
- 4. Pipets, volumetric (0.5- to 20-mL)
- 5. Vials, PTFE-lined screw cap, 20-mL.
- 6. Forceps.
- 7. Hamilton syringes, 50-µL and 100-µL.
- 8. Syringe, disposable, 10-mL.
- 9. Syringe filter, PTFE, 0.45-µm
- HPLC with integrator and autosampler; UV/Vis detectors in series (200-nm and 237-nm); C18 column, 150x4.6-mm (Alltima; Alltech Associates Inc., State College PA, Cat. No. 88053, or equivalent); in-line pre-filter, 2.0 μm (Opti-Solv; Optimize Technologies, or equivalent).
- Rotator, rotating tube shaker (Labquake-Thermolyne or equivalent).

**SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS:** Acetonitrile and methanol are flammable and health hazards. Methanol is a cumulative poison. Estrogenic compounds may be carcinogens [3]. Handle in a well ventilated hood and wear protective clothing.

# **SAMPLING:**

- 1. Calibrate each personal sampling pump with a representative sampler in line.
- 2. Take personal samples at 1 L/min for a total sample size of 150 to 1000 L.
- 3. Pack filter cassettes securely for shipment (unrefrigerated).
- 4. Store samples at ambient temperature upon receipt at the laboratory.

### **SAMPLE PREPARATION:**

- 5. Remove each filter from the cassette holder, roll with forceps and place in a 16 x 100 mm culture tube.
- 6. Add 4.0 mL methanol to each tube.
- 7. Prepare media and reagent blanks in the same manner.
- 8. Cap each tube tightly and place on rotator. Rotate ≥8 hr at room temperature.
- 9. Filter extracts, if necessary, using a disposable syringe fitted with a 0.45-µm PTFE filter into a clean vial.
- 10. Transfer all extracts to labeled autosampler vials.

### CALIBRATION AND QUALITY CONTROL:

- 11. Calibrate daily with at least six working standards over the range of interest.
  - a. Prepare serial dilutions of the stock mixture in the range of 0.08 to 80  $\mu g/mL$
  - b. Analyze with samples and blanks (steps 15 and 16).
  - c. Prepare a calibration graph (peak area vs mass of analyte, µg per sample).

- 12. Determine the desorption efficiency and recovery in the range of interest for each lot of filters used for sampling.
  - a. Prepare four tubes at each of three levels plus three media blanks.
  - b. Add known amounts of the analyte or analyte mixture in methanol to the filters.
  - c. Allow to stand ≥2 hr for solvent evaporation.
  - d. Prepare samples (steps 6 through 10) and analyze together with standards (steps 15 and 16).
  - e. Determine recovery.
- 13. Analyze three quality control blind spikes and three analyst spikes to ensure that the calibration graph and recovery graph are in control.

### **MEASUREMENT:**

- 14. Set HPLC according to manufacturer's instructions and conditions on page 5044-1.
- 15. Inject sample aliquot manually or with autosampler.
- 16. Measure peak areas.

### **CALCULATIONS:**

- 17. Determine the mass in µg of analytes found on the sample filter, W, and on the average blank filter, B.
- 18. Calculate concentration, C, of analytes in the air volume sampled, V (L):

$$C = \frac{W - B}{V}, mg/m^3$$

NOTE:  $\mu g/L \equiv mg/m^3$ 

# **EVALUATION OF METHOD:**

This method has been used to analyze field-generated wipe samples [2]. It was not evaluated with laboratory-generated air samples. LOD/LOQ, extraction efficiency, sampling stability and storage stability studies were performed with laboratory-spiked filters.

LOD/LOQ values (in  $\mu$ g/filter) for  $\beta$ -Estradiol were 0.8/2.5; for Estrone, 0.2/0.5; for Progesterone, 0.5/1.7; and for  $\beta$ -Estradiol 3-Benzoate, 0.5/1.7.

Extraction efficiency for  $\beta$ -Estradiol ranged from 94 to 103%; for Estrone, 95 to 104%; for Progesterone; 97 to 102%; for  $\beta$ -Estradiol 3-Benzoate, 95 to 101%. An additional recovery study using Wash 'n Dri® wipes gave extraction efficiencies of 97 to 100%.

The stability of the analytes on the filter media (static efficiency) was evaluated by drawing air through spiked filters. Recoveries ranged from 94 to 102% for  $\beta$ -Estradiol; for Estrone, from 96 to 101%; for Progesterone, from 99 to 102%; and for  $\beta$ -Estradiol 3-Benzoate, from 92 to 101%.

Recovery after 30-day storage at 25 °C was 93% for  $\beta$ -Estradiol, 94% for Estrone, 98% for Progesterone, and 111% for  $\beta$ -Estradiol 3-Benzoate.

# **REFERENCES:**

- [1] Mathews ES and Neumeister CE [2000]. Backup Data Report for Method 5044, Estrogenic Compounds by HPLC (unpublished), NIOSH, DART.
- [2] Neumeister CE [1983]. Analytical Report for Sequence 1400. Cincinnati, OH: National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (unpublished).
- [3] Sixth Annual Report on Carcinogens [1991]. USDHHS/PHS, National Toxicology Program

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**TABLE 1. PROPERTIES** 

Compound	Formula	M.W.	M.P. (°C)	UV Max (nm)
β-Estradiol	$C_{18}H_{24}O_2$	272	173-179	206
Estrone	$C_{18}H_{22}O_2$	270	254-256	198
Progesterone	$C_{21}H_{30}O_2$	314	127-131	237
β-Estradiol-3-Benzoate	$C_{25}H_{28}O_3$	376	191-196	201

**TABLE 2. GENERAL INFORMATION** 

Compound	Synonyms	CAS	RTECS	Exposure Limit
β-Estradiol	dihydroxyfollicular hormone dihydroxyestrin oestra-1,3,5(10) triene-3,17-betadiol	50-28-2	KG2975000	None Specified
Estrone	3-hydroxyestra-1,3,5(10)-trien-17-one 1,3,5-estratrien-3-ol-17-one oestrone folliculin	53-16-7	1009137ES	None Specified
Progesterone	pregn-4-ene-3,20-dione luteohormone Corlutin	57-83-0	TW 0175000	None Specified
β-Estradiol-3-Benzoate	estradiol benzoate oestradiol monobenzoate (17β)-estra-1,3,5(10)-triene-3,17-diol 3-benzoate Benovocylin	50-50-0	KG4050000	None Specified

TABLE 3. LOD/LOQ DETERMINATION

Compound	LOD µg/filter	LOQ µg/filter
β-Estradiol	0.8	2.5
Estrone	0.2	0.5
Progesterone	0.5	1.7
β-Estradiol 3-Benzoate	0.5	1.7

# **APPENDIX 1: PREPARATION OF SPIKES ON WIPES:**

Wipe media (W ash 'n Dri® Moist Disposable Towelettes) were opened and spread to evaporate to dryness. Dried towelettes were rolled and inserted into 16x100-mm PTFE-lined screw cap tubes. A Hamilton syringe was used to place measured amounts of stock solution in methanol (50 µL containing 40 µg of each analyte) on each wipe. After allowing the spikes to evaporate, 8 mL of methanol was added to each tube, and the tubes were capped and rotated overnight at room temperature to extract the spiked analyte from the wipes.

### **EFFICIENCY OF EXTRACTION:**

Compound	Efficiency of Extraction (%) (n=6)	S <sub>r</sub>	
β-Estradiol	100	1.4	
Estrone	97	3.1	
Progesterone	99	0.82	
β-Estradiol 3-Benzoate	99	0.76	