

CHROMBIO. 1688

Letter to the Editor

Rapid extraction of leukotrienes from biologic fluids and quantitation by high-performance liquid chromatography

Sir,

We wish to point out a potential problem in our method using EDTA to improve the liquid chromatography of leukotrienes [1]. We failed to emphasize that EDTA is very poorly soluble in methanol, and that washing of high-performance liquid chromatographic columns equilibrated in methanol with EDTA will lead to precipitation of the EDTA and, potentially, clogging of the column. This problem is totally obviated by first equilibrating the column in water, washing with EDTA, and then totally washing the column again with water prior to equilibrating with methanol-containing mobile phases.

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1 S.A. Metz, M.E. Hall, T.W. Harper and R.C. Murphy, *J. Chromatogr.*, 233 (1982) 193–201.

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