pH Effect on Chromatographic Column

In the article "High-Speed Liquid Chromatographic Determination of Pilocarpine in Pharmaceutical Dosage Forms," which appeared in the November Journal[1], I noticed that the author used a mobile phase whose pH was 9.2. The author used this mobile phase with two columns (octadecylsilane and cyanopropylsilane). According to my information, the pH of the mobile phase should not be more than 8; otherwise, the bonds in these two columns get hydrolyzed, which destroys the columns rather fast. These two columns cost about $600.

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Measurement of Iodochlorhydroxyquin/Clioquinol

In his recent paper, "TLC Determination of Iodochlorhydroxyquin and Its Conjugate in Plasma," Del Soldato[1] claimed that no method existed until then for the measurement of these compounds in biological fluids. This is simply not true. Two GLC methods were published in 1973, one a study of patients with subacute myelo-optico-neuropathy[2] and the other a pharmacokinetic study using healthy volunteers[3]. Since then, two further GLC methods, using extractive alkylation, were reported[4,5].

No doubt some confusion arises from the fact that the compound 5-chloro-7-iodo-8-hydroxyquinoline is called iodochlorhydroxyquin in the United States while the name clioquinol is used in Europe and Japan. This usage, however, does not excuse the statement of Del Soldato since, of the two papers published in 1973, one used the name clioquinol in its title while the other used iodochlorhydroxyquin.

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This letter is intended to correct an omission under *Acknowledgments* in the recent article: "TLC Sensitivity of Six Modifications of Dragendorff's Reagent"[1]. Dr. G. R. Padmanabhan, currently at Ciba-Geigy Corp., Suffern, N.Y., and Dr. J. E. Heveran of Hoffmann–La Roche Inc., Nutley, N.J., were instrumental in the selection of some of the compounds used in the study, namely trimethylsulfonium iodide, edrophonium chloride, and benzyltriphenylphosphonium chloride, and they provided technical assistance in the initial stages of the experiment. In addition, in an unpublished study, several other compounds, not included in our work, were examined by them using a somewhat different procedure than ours. Their names were inadvertently omitted from the original manuscript.

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