

## Evaluation of Labelling Conditions, Quality Control, and Biodistribution Study of $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ - D-Aminolevulinic Acid (5-ALA)

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**Abstract :** Labeling of 5-Aminolevulinic acid (5-ALA) with  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$  was achieved by using tin chloride dihydrate ( $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) as reducing agent. Radiochemical purity and labeling efficiency was determined by Whatman paper No.3 and instant thin layer chromatographic strips impregnated with silica gel (ITLC/SG). Labeling efficiency was dependent on many parameters such as amount of ligand, reducing agent, pH, and incubation time. Therefore, optimum conditions for maximum labeling were selected. Stability of  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ - 5-ALA was also checked in fresh human serum. Tissue bio-distribution of  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -5-ALA was evaluated in Spargue Dawley rats. 5-ALA was 98% labeled with  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$  under optimum conditions, i.e.  $100\mu\text{g}$  of 5-ALA, pH: 4,  $10\mu\text{g}$  of  $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and 30 minutes incubation at room temperature.  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$  labelled 5- ALA remained stable for 24 hours in human serum. Bio-distribution study (%ID/gm) in rats revealed that maximum accumulation of  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -5-ALA was in liver, spleen, stomach and intestine after half hour, 4 hours, and 24 hours. Significant activity in bladder and urine indicated urinary mode of excretion.

**Keywords :**  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -ALA, aminolevulinic acid, quality control, radiopharmaceuticals

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