

Stability Assessment of Compounded Bracketed Hydroquinone 2-10% in Medisca HRT Cream Base

The physical, chemical, and microbiological stability of two different concentrations of Hydroquinone (2% and 10% w/w) compounded with Sodium Metabisulfite (0.5% w/w) and Edetate Disodium (0.1% w/w) in HRT Cream Base were evaluated over time. The formulations were packaged in tightly-closed, light resistant, plastic containers and stored at controlled room temperature (25°C) for the duration of the study. Physicochemical characteristics were analyzed at predetermined time points (0, 30, 60, 90, 120, 150 and 180 days) and each formula tested had the organoleptic properties inspected, the pH measured, and the Hydroquinone concentration assayed using a validated, stability-indicating HPLC-UV method. The antimicrobial preservative effectiveness was also tested using a validated method according to USP <51>. The results showed that the concentration of the bracketed Hydroquinone formulations remained within USP specification (90 to 110%) for at least 180 days at the tested conditions (*Table 1*). No significant changes in organoleptic properties or pH were observed. Antimicrobial preservative effectiveness also met USP <51> requirements for both concentrations (*Table 2*). In conclusion, Hydroquinone 2% and 10% in HRT Cream Base were found to be physically, chemically and microbiologically stable for up to 180 days at the tested conditions. Therefore, an extended beyond-use date of 180 days may be assigned to this bracketed range of Hydroquinone concentrations if the same vehicle and conditions are respected.



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Product No.: 0701



Table 1. Stability of Hydroquinone 2% and 10% in HRT Cream Base at 25°C for 180 days.

Time Points	Hydroquinone 2%	Hydroquinone 10%
Assay (%)^a		
Initial	100 ± 0.00	100 ± 0.00
30 days	98.66 ± 0.41	97.82 ± 0.09
60 days	97.50 ± 0.22	95.82 ± 0.10
90 days	97.80 ± 0.15	100.10 ± 0.04
120 days	99.63 ± 0.36	100.42 ± 0.02
150 days	98.02 ± 0.00	99.80 ± 0.01
180 days	99.45 ± 0.05	100.33 ± 0.07
pH		
Initial	5.29	5.18
30 days	4.95	4.46
60 days	4.09	4.39
90 days	4.13	3.96
120 days	3.95	3.78
150 days	3.86	3.72
180 days	3.88	3.59

^a Reported as Mean ± SD of duplicate determinations.

Table 2. Antimicrobial Preservative Effectiveness of Hydroquinone 2% and 10% in HRT Cream Base.

Identification	Method	Test Performed	Specification ^a	Result ^b
Hydroquinone 2% in HRT Cream Base	USP <51>	Antimicrobial Effectiveness Testing	Category 2	Pass
Hydroquinone 10% in HRT Cream Base	USP <51>	Antimicrobial Effectiveness Testing	Category 2	Pass

^a Category 2 includes topically used products made with aqueous bases or vehicles, such as emulsions.

^b Product must meet the following for (i) Bacteria: NLT 2.0 log reduction from initial count at 14 days; no increase from 14 days count to 28 days. (ii) Yeast and mold: No increase from the initial calculated count at 14 and 28 days.

Medisca Formula

[F.008.950](#) Hydroquinone 2% - 10% Topical Cream (Emulsion, 100g)

For More Information

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