



Development of Immunochemical Methods for Purification and Detection of the Steroid Drug Medroxyprogesterone Acetate

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ABSTRACT

An immunochemical sol-gel-based immunoaffinity purification (IAP) method for purification and detection of the progestin drug medroxyprogesterone acetate (MPA) was developed. A polyclonal antibody (Ab) for MPA was generated, and two competitive (indirect and direct) sensitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs) for its detection were developed and implemented to determine the recovery and efficiency of the sol-gel based IAP method. The detection limits of the assays were $1.4 \pm 0.2 \text{ ng} \cdot \text{mL}^{-1}$ ($n = 4$) and $4.0 \pm 0.4 \text{ ng} \cdot \text{mL}^{-1}$ ($n = 25$) for the indirect and direct ELISAs, respectively. The Abs did not exhibit cross-reactivity with any other progestin or steroid hormone, with the exception of megestrol acetate, with which the Ab exhibited 76% cross-reactivity. The sol-gel IAP method successfully eliminated serum interference to a degree that enabled ELISA analysis of spiked serum samples. This method was also found fully compatible with subsequent chemical analytical methods, such as liquid chromatography followed by mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS). The approaches developed in this study form a basis for analysis of MPA in biological samples and may be further used to study population exposure to MPA and to monitor MPA contamination in water samples.

KEYWORDS

Medroxyprogesterone Acetate; ELISA; Immunoaffinity Chromatography; Sol-Gel; Pharmaceutical Residues; Residue Monitoring

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