

## **E2-13 : THIN LAYER CHROMATOGRAPHY IN THE DETECTION OF INGREDIENTS AND ADULTERANTS IN COMMERCIAL DRUGS**

*P Jayanetti, BMARI, Nawinna, Maharagama.*

Numerous commercial drugs claiming to contain herbal ingredients are being introduced to the market. Customers and rival manufacturers complain of adulterations. Hence fast and efficient methods of detection of adulterations were necessitated. Suitable test methods, capable of practical quality control of such medicine, had to be identified. This paper reveals how thin layer chromatography (TLC) was successfully used in solving some problems of dispute. Three well known commercial drugs suspected of adulteration are considered.

The authentic compound drug was extracted in selected solvents. Extracts were spotted on TLC plates along with those of suspected materials. Chromatograms were run in different eluent media selected suitably. The major constituents were

visualized using ultra violet light and chemical spray reagents. The phytochemicals present in the preparation were compared with those present in the suspected ingredients. Major chemical constituents of the ingredients were visible in one or more of the TLC's, of different extracts of the drug. These results prove that TLC methods can be successfully used in identification of ingredients and detection of adulteration of commercial drugs.