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Saikokeishito Extract

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Saikokeishito Extract contains not less than 1.5 mg and not more than 6 mg of saikosaponin b_2 , not less than 60 mg and not more than 180 mg of baicalin ($C_{21}H_{18}O_{11}$: 446.36), not less than 17 mg and not more than 51 mg (for preparation prescribed 2 g of Peony Root) or not less than 21 mg and not more than 63 mg (for preparation prescribed 2.5 g of Peony Root) of paeoniflorin ($C_{23}H_{28}O_{11}$: 480.46), and not less than 13 mg and not more than 39 mg (for preparation prescribed 1.5 g of Glycyrrhiza) or not less than 17 mg

and not more than 51 mg (for preparation prescribed 2 g of Glycyrrhiza) of glycyrrhizic acid ($C_{42}H_{62}O_{16}$: 822.93), per extract prepared with the amount specified in the Method of preparation.

Method of preparation

	1)	2)	3)	4)
Bupleurum Root	5 g	5 g	5 g	5 g
Pinellia Tuber	4 g	4 g	4 g	4 g
Scutellaria Root	2 g	2 g	2 g	2 g
Peony Root	2 g	2.5 g	2 g	2 g
Jujube	2 g	2 g	2 g	2 g
Ginseng	2 g	2 g	2 g	2 g
Cinnamon Bark	2.5 g	2.5 g	2.5 g	2 g
Glycyrrhiza	1.5 g	1.5 g	1.5 g	2 g
Ginger	0.5 g	1 g	1 g	1 g

Prepare a dry extract or viscous extract as directed under Extracts, according to the prescription 1) to 4), using the crude drugs shown above.

Description Saikokeishito Extract is a yellow-brown to blackish brown, powder or viscous extract, having a slightly odor and a slight sweet first, then a bitter and slightly pungent taste.

Identification (1) Shake 2.0 g of the dry extract (or 6.0 g of the viscous extract) with 10 mL of sodium hydroxide TS, add 5 mL of 1-butanol, shake, centrifuge, and use the supernatant liquid as the sample solution. Separately, dissolve 1 mg of saikosaponin b_2 for thin-layer chromatography in 1 mL of methanol, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with these solutions as directed under Thin-layer Chromatography <2.03>. Spot 10 μ L of the sample solution and 2 μ L of the standard solution on a plate of silica gel for thin-layer chromatography. Develop the plate with a mixture of ethyl acetate, ethanol (99.5) and water (8:2:1) to a distance of about 10 cm, and air-dry the plate. Spray evenly 4-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde TS on the plate: one of the spot among the several spots obtained from the sample solution has the same color tone and R_f value with the red spot from the standard solution (Bupleurum Root).

(2) Shake 1.0 g of the dry extract (or 3.0 g of the viscous extract) with 10 mL of water, add 25 mL of diethyl ether, shake, and separate the diethyl ether layer. Evaporate the layer under reduced pressure, add to the residue 2 mL of diethyl ether, and use this solution as the sample solution. Separately, dissolve 1 mg of wogonin for thin-layer chromatography in 1 mL of methanol, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with these solutions as directed under Thin-layer Chromatography <2.03>. Spot 20 μ L of the sample solution and 2 μ L of the standard solution on a plate of silica gel for thin-layer chromatography. Develop the plate with a mixture of ethyl acetate, hexane and acetic acid (100) (10:10:1) to a distance of about 10 cm, and air-dry the plate. Spray evenly iron (III) chloride-methanol TS on the plate: one of the spot among the several spots obtained from the sample solution has the same color tone and R_f value with the yellow-brown spot from the standard solution (Scutellaria Root).

(3) Shake 1.0 g of the dry extract (or 3.0 g of the viscous extract) with 10 mL of water, add 10 mL of 1-butanol, shake, centrifuge, and use the supernatant liquid as the sam-

ple solution. Separately, dissolve 1 mg of Paeoniflorin RS in 1 mL of methanol, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with these solutions as directed under Thin-layer Chromatography <2.03>. Spot 5 μ L each of the sample solution and standard solution on a plate of silica gel for thin-layer chromatography. Develop the plate with a mixture of ethyl acetate, methanol and water (20:3:2) to a distance of about 10 cm, and air-dry the plate. Spray evenly 4-methoxybenzaldehyde-sulfuric acid TS on the plate, and heat at 105°C for 5 minutes: one of the spot among the several spots obtained from the sample solution has the same color tone and *Rf* value with the purple spot from the standard solution (Peony Root).

(4) Shake 2.0 g of the dry extract (or 6.0 g of the viscous extract) with 10 mL of sodium hydroxide TS, add 5 mL of 1-butanol, shake, centrifuge, and use the supernatant liquid as the sample solution. Separately, dissolve 1 mg of Ginsenoside Rb₁ RS in 1 mL of methanol, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with these solutions as directed under Thin-layer Chromatography <2.03>. Spot 10 μ L of the sample solution and 2 μ L of the standard solution on a plate of silica gel for thin-layer chromatography. Develop the plate with a mixture of ethyl acetate, 1-propanol, water and acetic acid (100) (7:5:4:1) to a distance of about 10 cm, and air-dry the plate. Spray evenly vanillin-sulfuric acid TS on the plate, heat at 105°C for 5 minutes, and allow to cool: one of the spot among the several spots obtained from the sample solution has the same color tone and *Rf* value with the purple spot from the standard solution (Ginseng).

(5) Perform the test according to the following (i) or (ii). (Cinnamon Bark)

(i) Put 10 g of the dry extract (or 30 g of the viscous extract) in a 300-mL hard-glass flask, add 100 mL of water and 1 mL of silicone resin, connect the apparatus for essential oil determination, and heat to boil under a reflux condenser. The graduated tube of the apparatus is to be previously filled with water to the standard line, and 2 mL of hexane is added to the graduated tube. After heating under reflux for about 1 hour, separate the hexane layer, and use this solution as the sample solution. Separately, dissolve 1 mg of (*E*)-cinnamaldehyde for thin-layer chromatography in 1 mL of methanol, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with these solutions as directed under Thin-layer Chromatography <2.03>. Spot 50 μ L of the sample solution and 2 μ L of the standard solution on a plate of silica gel for thin-layer chromatography. Develop the plate with a mixture of hexane, diethyl ether and methanol (15:5:1) to a distance of about 10 cm, and air-dry the plate. Spray evenly 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine TS on the plate: one of the spot among the several spots obtained from the sample solution has the same color tone and *Rf* value with the yellow-orange spot from the standard solution.

(ii) Shake 2.0 g of the dry extract (or 6.0 g of the viscous extract) with 10 mL of water, add 5 mL of hexane, shake, centrifuge, and use the supernatant liquid as the sample solution. Separately, dissolve 1 mg of (*E*)-2-methoxycinnamaldehyde for thin-layer chromatography in 1 mL of methanol, and use this as the standard solution. Perform the test with these solutions as directed under Thin-layer Chromatography <2.03>. Spot 20 μ L of the sample solution and 2 μ L of the standard solution on a plate of silica gel for thin-layer chromatography. Develop the plate with a mixture of hexane

and ethyl acetate (2:1) to a distance of about 10 cm, and air-dry the plate. Examine under ultraviolet light (main wavelength: 365 nm): one of the spot among the several spots obtained from the sample solution has the same color tone and *Rf* value with the bluish white fluorescent spot from the standard solution.

(6) Shake 1.0 g of the dry extract (or 3.0 g of the viscous extract) with 10 mL of water, add 10 mL of 1-butanol, shake, centrifuge, and use the supernatant liquid as the sample solution. Separately, dissolve 1 mg of liquiritin for thin-layer chromatography in 1 mL of methanol, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with these solutions as directed under Thin-layer Chromatography <2.03>. Spot 5 μ L each of the sample solution and standard solution on a plate of silica gel for thin-layer chromatography. Develop the plate with a mixture of ethyl acetate, methanol and water (20:3:2) to a distance of about 10 cm, and air-dry the plate. Spray evenly dilute sulfuric acid on the plate, and heat at 105°C for 5 minutes: one of the spot among the several spots obtained from the sample solution has the same color tone and *Rf* value with the yellow-brown spot from the standard solution (Glycyrrhiza).

(7) Shake 1.0 g of the dry extract (or 3.0 g of the viscous extract) with 10 mL of water, add 25 mL of diethyl ether, and shake. Separate the diethyl ether layer, evaporate the layer under reduced pressure, add to the residue 2 mL of diethyl ether, and use this solution as the sample solution. Separately, dissolve 1 mg of [6]-gingerol for thin-layer chromatography in 1 mL of methanol, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with these solutions as directed under Thin-layer Chromatography <2.03>. Spot 10 μ L of the sample solution and 5 μ L of the standard solution on a plate of silica gel for thin-layer chromatography. Develop the plate with a mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane (1:1) to a distance of about 10 cm, and air-dry the plate. Spray evenly 4-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde TS on the plate, heat at 105°C for 5 minutes, and allow to cool: one of the spot among the several spots obtained from the sample solution has the same color tone and *Rf* value with the blue-green spot from the standard solution (Ginger).

Purity (1) Heavy metals <1.07>—Prepare the test solution with 1.0 g of the dry extract (or an amount of the viscous extract, equivalent to 1.0 g of the dried substance) as directed under Extracts (4), and perform the test (not more than 30 ppm).

(2) Arsenic <1.11>—Prepare the test solution with 0.67 g of the dry extract (or an amount of the viscous extract, equivalent to 0.67 g of the dried substance) according to Method 3, and perform the test (not more than 3 ppm).

Loss on drying <2.41> The dry extract—Not more than 9.5% (1 g, 105°C, 5 hours).

The viscous extract—Not more than 66.7% (1 g, 105°C, 5 hours).

Total ash <5.01> Not more than 10.0%, calculated on the dried basis.

Assay (1) Saikosaponin b₂—Weigh accurately about 0.5 g of the dry extract (or an amount of the viscous extract, equivalent to 0.5 g of the dried substance), add exactly 50 mL of diluted methanol (1 in 2), shake for 15 minutes, filter, and use the filtrate as the sample solution. Separately, weigh accurately about 10 mg of saikosaponin b₂ for assay, previ-

ously dried in a desiccator (silica gel) for 24 hours or more, and dissolve in 50 mL of methanol, and add water to make exactly 100 mL. Pipet 10 mL of this solution, and add diluted methanol (1 in 2) to make exactly 100 mL, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with exactly 10 μ L each of the sample solution and standard solution as directed under Liquid Chromatography <2.01> according to the following conditions, and determine the peak areas, A_T and A_S , of saikosaponin b_2 .

$$\text{Amount (mg) of saikosaponin } b_2 = M_S \times A_T/A_S \times 1/20$$

M_S : Amount (mg) of saikosaponin b_2 for assay

Operating conditions—

Detector: An ultraviolet absorption photometer (wavelength: 254 nm).

Column: A stainless steel column 4.6 mm in inside diameter and 15 cm in length, packed with octadecylsilanized silica gel for liquid chromatography (5 μ m in particle diameter).

Column temperature: A constant temperature of about 40°C.

Mobile phase: A mixture of 0.05 mol/L sodium dihydrogen phosphate TS and acetonitrile (5:3).

Flow rate: 1.0 mL per minute (the retention time of saikosaponin b_2 is about 12 minutes).

System suitability—

System performance: When the procedure is run with 10 μ L of the standard solution under the above operating conditions, the number of theoretical plates and the symmetry factor of the peak of saikosaponin b_2 are not less than 5000 and not more than 1.5, respectively.

System repeatability: When the test is repeated 6 times with 10 μ L of the standard solution under the above operating conditions, the relative standard deviation of the peak area of saikosaponin b_2 is not more than 1.5%.

(2) Baicalin—Weigh accurately about 0.1 g of the dry extract (or an amount of the viscous extract, equivalent to about 0.1 g of the dried substance), add exactly 50 mL of diluted methanol (7 in 10), shake for 15 minutes, filter, and use the filtrate as the sample solution. Separately, weigh accurately about 10 mg of Baicalin RS (separately determine the water), and dissolve in methanol to make exactly 100 mL. Pipet 5 mL of this solution, add diluted methanol (7 in 10) to make exactly 10 mL, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with exactly 10 μ L each of the sample solution and standard solution as directed under Liquid Chromatography <2.01> according to the following conditions, and determine the peak areas, A_T and A_S , of baicalin in each solution.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Amount (mg) of baicalin (C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{11}) \\ = M_S \times A_T/A_S \times 1/4 \end{aligned}$$

M_S : Amount (mg) of Baicalin RS, calculated on the anhydrous basis

Operating conditions—

Detector: An ultraviolet absorption photometer (wavelength: 277 nm).

Column: A stainless steel column 4.6 mm in inside diameter and 15 cm in length, packed with octadecylsilanized silica gel for liquid chromatography (5 μ m in particle diameter).

Column temperature: A constant temperature of about 40°C.

Mobile phase: A mixture of diluted phosphoric acid (1 in

200) and acetonitrile (19:6).

Flow rate: 1.0 mL per minute (the retention time of baicalin is about 10 minutes).

System suitability—

System performance: When the procedure is run with 10 μ L of the standard solution under the above operating conditions, the number of theoretical plates and the symmetry factor of the peak of baicalin are not less than 5000 and not more than 1.5, respectively.

System repeatability: When the test is repeated 6 times with 10 μ L of the standard solution under the above operating conditions, the relative standard deviation of the peak area of baicalin is not more than 1.5%.

(3) Paeoniflorin—Weigh accurately about 0.5 g of the dry extract (or an amount of the viscous extract, equivalent to about 0.5 g of the dried substance), add exactly 50 mL of diluted methanol (1 in 2), shake for 15 minutes, filter, and use the filtrate as the sample solution. Separately, weigh accurately about 10 mg of Paeoniflorin RS (separately determine the water), dissolve in diluted methanol (1 in 2) to make exactly 100 mL, and use this solution as the standard solution. Perform the test with exactly 10 μ L each of the sample solution and standard solution as directed under Liquid Chromatography <2.01> according to the following conditions, and determine the peak areas, A_T and A_S , of paeoniflorin in each solution.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Amount (mg) of paeoniflorin (C}_{23}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_{11}) \\ = M_S \times A_T/A_S \times 1/2 \end{aligned}$$

M_S : Amount (mg) of Paeoniflorin RS, calculated on the anhydrous basis

Operating conditions—

Detector: An ultraviolet absorption photometer (wavelength: 232 nm).

Column: A stainless steel column 4.6 mm in inside diameter and 15 cm in length, packed with octadecylsilanized silica gel for liquid chromatography (5 μ m in particle diameter).

Column temperature: A constant temperature of about 20°C.

Mobile phase: A mixture of water, acetonitrile and phosphoric acid (850:150:1).

Flow rate: 1.0 mL per minute (the retention time of paeoniflorin is about 9 minutes).

System suitability—

System performance: Dissolve 1 mg each of Paeoniflorin RS and albiflorin in diluted methanol (1 in 2) to make 10 mL. When the procedure is run with 10 μ L of this solution under the above operating conditions, albiflorin and paeoniflorin are eluted in this order with the resolution between these peaks being not less than 2.5.

System repeatability: When the test is repeated 6 times with 10 μ L of the standard solution under the above operating conditions, the relative standard deviation of the peak area of paeoniflorin is not more than 1.5%.

(4) Glycyrrhizic acid—Weigh accurately about 0.5 g of the dry extract (or an amount of the viscous extract, equivalent to about 0.5 g of the dried substance), add exactly 50 mL of diluted methanol (1 in 2), shake for 15 minutes, filter, and use the filtrate as the sample solution. Separately, weigh accurately about 10 mg of Glycyrrhizic Acid RS (separately determine the water), dissolve in diluted methanol (1 in 2) to make exactly 100 mL, and use this solution as the standard

solution. Perform the test with exactly 10 μ L each of the sample solution and standard solution as directed under Liquid Chromatography <2.01> according to the following conditions, and determine the peak areas, A_T and A_S , of glycyrrhizic acid in each solution.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Amount (mg) of glycyrrhizic acid (C}_{42}\text{H}_{62}\text{O}_{16}) \\ & = M_S \times A_T/A_S \times 1/2 \end{aligned}$$

M_S : Amount (mg) of Glycyrrhizic Acid RS, calculated on the anhydrous basis

Operating conditions—

Detector: An ultraviolet absorption photometer (wavelength: 254 nm).

Column: A stainless steel column 4.6 mm in inside diameter and 15 cm in length, packed with octadecylsilanized silica gel for liquid chromatography (5 μ m in particle diameter).

Column temperature: A constant temperature of about 40°C.

Mobile phase: A mixture of diluted acetic acid (31) (1 in 15) and acetonitrile (13:7).

Flow rate: 1.0 mL per minute (the retention time of glycyrrhizic acid is about 12 minutes).

System suitability—

System performance: When the procedure is run with 10 μ L of the standard solution under the above operating conditions, the number of theoretical plates and the symmetry factor of the peak of glycyrrhizic acid are not less than 5000 and not more than 1.5, respectively.

System repeatability: When the test is repeated 6 times with 10 μ L of the standard solution under the above operating conditions, the relative standard deviation of the peak area of glycyrrhizic acid is not more than 1.5%.

Containers and storage Containers—Tight containers.

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