

# Understanding and mitigating the consequences of undesired crystallisation taking place during washing of active pharmaceuticals

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#### Results

Anti-solvent effect observed from previous 1ml glass vial procedure (where  $300\mu$ L of saturated solution and  $700\mu$ L of wash solution is used):

		Wash Solvents		
		Heptane	Acetonitrile	Isopropyl acetate
Crystallisation Solvents	Ethanol	<b>40</b> -60% (v/v)	No nucleation	<b>10</b> -90% (v/v)
	Isopropanol	<b>40</b> -60% (v/v)	No nucleation	<b>0</b> -100% (v/v)
	Isoamyl alcohol	<b>20-</b> 80% (v/v)	No nucleation	No nucleation

Anti-solvent effect observed from centrifuge filter vial method (where 120 µL of saturated solution and 280  $\mu$ L of wash solution is used):

Wash Solvents

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- saturation and particles

## **Project Aim & Objective**

A wash solvent guide is designed to look at various important factors while selecting a wash solvent:



#### **Materials & Method**

This analysis is conducted on paracetamol crystalised from three different crystallisation solvents; ethanol, isopropanol and isoamyl alcohol

		Heptane	Acetonitrile	Isopropyl acetate
Crystallisation Solvents	Ethanol	<b>30-</b> 70% (v/v)	No nucleation	No nucleation
	Isopropanol	<b>30-7</b> 0% (v/v)	No nucleation	No nucleation
	Isoamyl alcohol	<b>10</b> -90% (v/v)	No nucleation	No nucleation

Delayed precipitation of solutes observed using the centrifuge vial method is due to the kinetics of nucleation (mixing and scale of the experiment?).

#### • Two distinct examples:

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### - Ethanol – Acetonitrile: no anti-solvent effect was observed



#### - Ethanol – Heptane: anti-solvent effect was observed

Polynomial Fit



- Three wash solvents are evaluated; heptane, acetonitrile and isopropyl acetate
- Saturated solution is prepared using paracetamol and two related impurities (at 2mol %); metacetamol & acetanilide
- For wash solution, different ratios of crystallisation and wash solvents are used; 90:10, 75:25, 50:50, 40:60, 30:70, 20:80, 10:90, 100% wash solvent (% by volumes)

#### Anti-solvent screening procedure:



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![](_page_0_Figure_29.jpeg)

## **Conclusion & Future Work**

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- Poorly designed washing process can result in uncontrolled crystallisation of both API and impurities, affecting final product quality
- Binary solvent mixture's solubility data (crystallisation & wash solvent) assist in developing washing strategy that prevents product dissolution & agglomeration
- Ethanol Heptane system, washing should be carried out in steps (first wash: 40:60 ratio (cryst : wash solvent) of wash solution; final wash: pure heptane)
- In future, this work on mapped wash solvent composition boundaries will be used to explore the role of uncontrolled washing on product purity and agglomeration

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