

# OXIDATION OF PHENOTHIAZINE-DERIVED PHARMACEUTICALS BY FERRATE(VI): AN ASSESSMENT OF TRANSFORMATION PRODUCTS AND BIODEGRADABILITY

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## INTRODUCTION

Pharmaceuticals are established as micro-pollutants [1]. Drinking water treatment plants cannot completely eliminate these kind of contaminants [2]. Potassium ferrate ( $K_2FeO_4$ ) has an oxidizing-coagulant character in a single process [3]. However, incomplete mineralization lead to transformation products (TPs). TPs are new substances which might have similar and non-target interactions in the environment [4].

Phenothiazine-derived drugs are worldwide prescribed as first-generation antipsychotic, antiparkinson and antihistamines. Chlorpromazine, Promazine, Promethazine are among the most used phenothiazine-derived pharmaceuticals.

## METHODOLOGY

- $K_2FeO_4$  (61% w:w) was prepared according to Delaude and Laszlo (1996) [5].

### Experimental procedure

The procedure involves the oxidation of 20 mg L<sup>-1</sup> of each of the following pharmaceuticals: Promazine, Promethazine, and Chlorpromazine. The reaction is carried out in a solution with a pH of 2.3 and a 1:17 mol L<sup>-1</sup>:mol L<sup>-1</sup> ratio of [Phen]:[Fe(VI)]. The reaction mixture is quenched with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> to remove residual Fe(VI), and the pH is adjusted to 6-7. The mixture is then centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 5 minutes and filtered through 0.20 μm cellulose acetate syringe filters.

### Monitoring, elucidation and proposal of TPs

UHPLC-LTQ-Orbitrap-XL MS  
High-resolution mass spectrometer (HRMS)  
H-ESI ion source  
Positive ion mode  
Non-target approach MS<sup>n</sup> mode  
CID 25-27 V

Column C18 ec RP18 CC  
125-2 mm Nucleodur 100-3

### Ready biodegradability (OECD 301 D)



	Blank	Quality Control	Substance Tested	Toxicity Control
Mineral medium	X	X	X	X
Inoculum (2 drops L <sup>-1</sup> )	X	X	X	X
Sample (ThOD 5 mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	-	-	X	X
Sodium acetate (ThOD = 5 mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	-	X	-	X

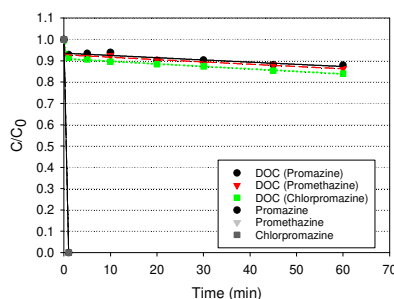
- Low amount of nutrient, Low bacterial density.  
➤ 20 ± 1 °C in the dark for 28 days

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Primary elimination and mineralization



#### Kinetic of mineralization

Two steps of pseudo-first order

$$C_t = C_1 e^{-k_1 \text{obs} t} + C_2 e^{-k_2 \text{obs} t}$$

$$PRO_t = 0.0643e^{-147.88t} + 0.9357e^{-0.0012t}$$

$$r^2 \text{ 0.953 (p < 0.05)}$$

$$PRM_t = 0.0721e^{-27.36t} + 0.93e^{-0.0012t}$$

$$r^2 \text{ 0.983 (p < 0.05)}$$

$$CPR_t = 0.0901e^{-2.7189t} + 0.91e^{-0.0014t}$$

$$r^2 \text{ 0.998 (p < 0.05)}$$

Figure 1. Mineralization of PRO, PROM and CPR by Fe(VI) oxidation-coagulation process. Initial conditions: [PRO]/[PROM]/[CPR] 20 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, pH 2.3, 1:17 mol L<sup>-1</sup>:mol L<sup>-1</sup> [Phen]:[Fe(VI)] ratio, and temp.: 20 ± 2 °C.

### Proposal of degradation pathway

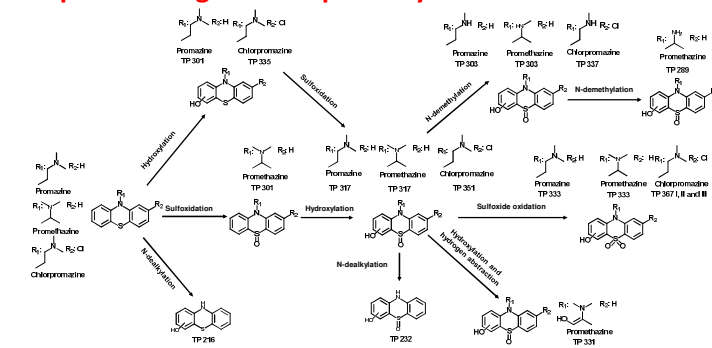


Figure 2. Combined degradation pathway of PRO, PROM and CPR by oxidation-coagulation process with Fe(VI).

### Aerobic biodegradation results (OECD 301 D)

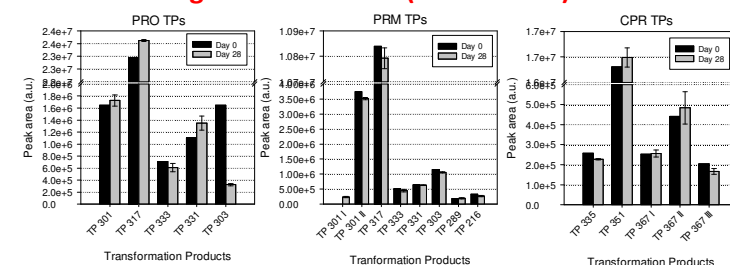


Figure 3. Peak areas of the transformation Products (TPs) formed from PRO, PROM, and CPR through Fe(VI) oxidation before and after 28 days of Closed Bottle Test (CBT).

## REFERENCES

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