List of figures

Fig. 1  *Piper longum* fruits
Fig. 2  *Piper nigrum* fruits
Fig. 3  Metabolism of piperine in rats and human beings
Fig. 4  Energy minimised structures of piperine and tetrahydropiperine
Fig. 5  HPLC chromatograms of piperine, piperonylic acid and vanillic acid
Fig. 6  Dose dependent effect of piperine and its metabolites on gastric emptying of phenol red in rats
Fig. 7  Dose dependent effect of piperine and its metabolites on gastric emptying of spheroids in rats
Fig. 8  Time dependent effect of piperine (4 mg/kg p.o.) on GE of liquids (phenol red) and solids (spheroids) in rats
Fig. 9  Effect of piperine and its metabolites on gastrointestinal transit after single dose treatment in mice
Fig. 10  Correlation of effect of piperine (8 mg/kg p.o. in mice) on GI transit and its GI concentration (170 mg/kg p.o. in rats) at different time intervals.
Fig. 11  Calibration plot for piperine
Fig. 12  Chromatograms of blank plasma, plasma spiked with piperine and a 2 h plasma sample obtained from a rat treated with piperine 10 mg/kg p.o. dose
Fig. 13  Chromatograms of blank bile and a bile sample spiked with piperine and piperic acid
Fig. 14  Plasma concentration-time profile of piperine in rats
Fig. 15  Chromatograms of control bile and a 1 h bile sample obtained from a rat treated with 85 mg/kg i.p. of piperine
Fig. 16  Chromatograms of control bile and standard piperic acid and a 1 h bile sample obtained from a rat treated with 85 mg/kg i.p. of piperine
Fig. 17  Chromatograms of blank urine and a mixture of standard vanillic acid, vanillin, piperonylic acid, piperonal and piperic acid in methanol
Fig. 18  Chromatograms of control, 24 h, 48 h, 72 h and 96 h urine samples in the ascending sequence
Fig. 19  Chromatograms of control, 4 h, 8 h, 12 h, 24 h, 32 h and 48 h plasma samples in the ascending sequence
Fig. 20  Chromatograms of control, 24 h, 48 h and 96 h faecal samples in the ascending sequence
Fig. 21  UV spectrums of piperine, major peak with RT 10 min and minor peak with RT 12.5 min
Fig. 22  Chromatogram of partially purified metabolites
Fig. 23  Total ion chromatogram, UV chromatogram and mass spectrum of piperine in 1 h plasma sample obtained from a rat
Fig. 24 Total ion chromatogram and UV chromatogram of partially purified metabolites and mass spectrum of major metabolite (RT 26.4 min)

Fig. 25 Total ion chromatogram and UV chromatogram of partially purified metabolites and mass spectrum of minor metabolite (RT 27.6 min)

Fig. 26 UV spectrums of piperine and minor metabolite

Fig. 27 MS/MS of piperine at m/z 286 and at m/z 201

Fig. 28 MS/MS of piperine at m/z 171 and at m/z 143

Fig. 29 MS/MS of minor metabolite at m/z 288 and at m/z 203

Fig. 30 MS/MS of minor metabolite at m/z 188 and at m/z 175

Fig. 31 MS/MS of minor metabolite at m/z 171 and at m/z 143

Fig. 32 Fragmentation pattern of piperine and minor metabolite

Fig. 33 Chromatograms of control plasma and a plasma sample spiked with 5-FU obtained using the method of Wrightson et al.

Fig. 34 Chromatograms of control plasma and a plasma sample obtained after the administration of 5-FU (25 mg/kg p.o.) to a rat

Fig. 35 Calibration plots for 5-FU 2-100 ng and from 250-1500 ng

Fig. 36 HPLC chromatograms of control plasma and a plasma sample obtained from a rat treated with AZT

Fig. 37 Calibration plots for AZT in plasma

Fig. 38 Chromatograms of control plasma and a plasma sample obtained from a rat treated with cefixime

Fig. 39 Chromatograms of control urine, a urine sample obtained from a rat treated with cefixime, control bile and a bile sample obtained from a rat treated with cefixime

Fig. 40 Calibration plots for cefixime in plasma, urine and bile

Fig. 41 Plasma concentration-time profiles of 5-FU after single dose and multiple dose administration of different formulations in rats

Fig. 42 Plasma concentration-time profiles of AZT after single dose administration of different formulations in normal and phenobarbital treated rats

Fig. 43 Plasma concentration-time profiles of AZT after administration of different formulations in phenobarbital treated rats (multiple dose study)

Fig. 44 Plasma concentration-time profiles of cefixime in rats after administration of different formulations (single dose and pretreatment study)

Fig. 45 Plasma concentration-time profiles of cefixime in rats after administration of different formulations (multiple dose study)