

# Chemical Stability Assessment

## Background Information



'At the drug discovery stage when drug candidates are screened against biological targets, compounds need to have sufficient stability in the assay buffers for enzyme, receptor, or cell-based assays to reliably measure biological activity.'

<sup>1</sup>Di L, Kerns E.H., Chen H, and Petusky SL. (2006) *J Biomol Screen*; **11(1)** 40-47.

- A compound is chemically unstable when it is degraded by non-enzymatic processes. Degradation may be caused by several mechanisms, the most common being hydrolysis, oxidation, or light-catalysed degradation.
- Compounds that are highly unstable may not be suitable as drug candidates since it may be difficult to maintain a therapeutically effective formulation.
- Compounds designed for oral administration must be chemically stable at the low pH values observed in the stomach in order for this to be an acceptable route. A range of different pH values are available.
- Cyprotex's Chemical Stability assay assesses degradation of the test article in buffer. The chemical stability assay can be performed using a range of different media including SGF (simulated gastric fluid), SIF (simulated intestinal fluid) or buffers at different pH values.

### Protocol

#### Test Article Concentration

5  $\mu$ M (different concentrations available)

#### Time Points

0, 15, 30, 60, 120 min

#### Number of Replicates

2

#### Test Article Requirements

50  $\mu$ L of 10 mM solution

#### Analysis Method

LC-MS/MS

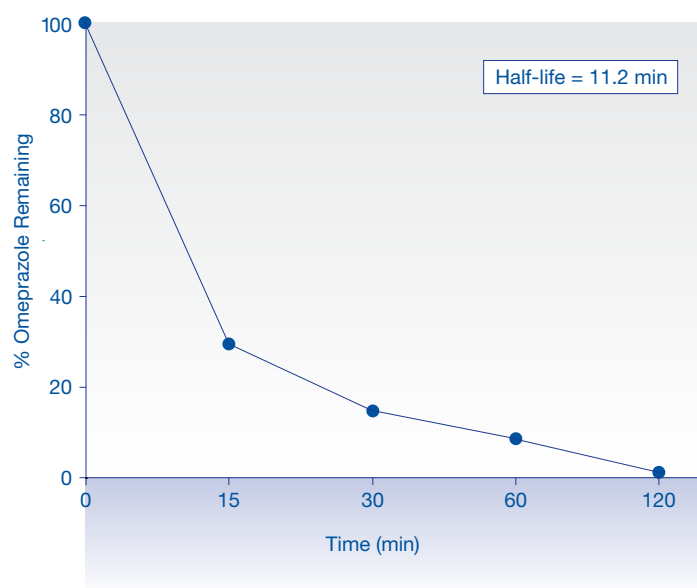
#### Data Delivery

% Parent compound remaining at each time point  
Half Life

**Oral administration is the route** of choice for new drugs. Compounds must be chemically stable at the low pH values observed in the stomach in order for this to be an acceptable route.

**Figure 1**

Degradation of omeprazole over 120 min in simulated gastric fluid.



**References**

<sup>1</sup> Di L. *et al.* (2006) *J Biomed Screen* **11**(1); 40-47.