Description

This collection contains spectral data on commonly abused drugs. The compounds represented are predominantly brand name drugs in dosage form with some drugs in bulk supply form and some narcotics. Some mixtures in this collection are street drugs, that is, mixtures of narcotics that have been unlawfully prepared.

This database has been developed to provide the chemist with a rapid method of characterizing drugs through a simple preparation technique (described below) without the time necessary for prolonged procedures such as chromatographic separation.

Technique

The sample preparation procedure was as follows:

The complete pill, capsule contents or supplied sample was ground and 5 ml of chloroform and sufficient ammonia or caustic soda was then added to render the mixture alkaline. The mixture was dried by shaking with a neutral drying agent, e.g. molecular sieves. The dried chloroform extract was then filtered onto a salt plate and evaporated to form a film on the plate. *The residue from the extraction was preserved. The infrared spectrum of the film was measured immediately (standing in air could cause decomposition).

The undissolved residue from the basic extraction was remixed with 5 ml of chloroform and sufficient HCl to render this mixture acidic. The drying, filtering, and evaporation procedures were repeated on this extract and the spectrum of the acidic extract measured immediately.

The evaporation technique occasionally resulted in a powdered sample forming on the salt plate; in these circumstances, the powder was scraped from the plate and a KBr pellet prepared for running the spectrum.

This collection has been subject to the Sadtler Data Review Protocol™ to provide you with the highest standard in spectral data today. These rigorous qualifying procedures start at data acquisition and continue throughout the database development process.

We thank the many people who helped us in obtaining samples for this database, with particular thanks to the staff of the Crime Laboratory of the City of Philadelphia Police Department for their help in providing and supervising the preparation of the more inaccessible materials.