

ISOLATION AND SPECTROSCOPIC CHARACTERIZATION OF UREA FROM HUMAN URINE

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ABSTRACT

Urea (UC) becomes isolated per litre of human urine by evaporation/concentration, nitration, precipitation, crystallization and recrystallization. It is then characterized by ¹H-NMR, ¹³C-NMR, UV-vis and FT-IR, melting point analysis, refractometry, pH and conductivity measurements. The percentage yields of urea obtained is 61.3% (~5.7g/L). The characterization of UC showed chemical shift of ¹H-NMR, and ¹³C-NMR at 2.75ppm and 163.78ppm respectively while UV-vis was 212.80nm and FT-IR result showed symmetric and asymmetric frequencies peaks of V_s (NH₂) and V_{as} (NH₂), a combination band of V_s (NH) and V_{as} (NH), C=O and V (C-N) all stretched. It is a white needle-like structure, very soluble in water, but slightly soluble in ethanol and methanol. Other results of the physical properties of UC are pH (27°C) = 5.70, refractive index (n) =1.321, melting point = 135 – 141 (°C) and electric conductivity = 1.9 x 10⁻⁴. The XRD showed the crystal to be amorphous. The results obtained revealed that useful substance, urea, can be isolated using simple methods for possible use as a ligand for synthesis of urea-based complexes and for the production of urea-based fertilizer, where pure urea is not available or costly which complement Green chemistry.

KEYWORDS: Urea, Human Urine, Spectroscopic, Characterization

Article History

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