



Formulation and in-vitro evaluation of metformin hydrochloride microspheres by solvent evaporation technique

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ABSTRACT

Mono or multi nuclear materials embedded in spherical coating matrix are called microspheres. Microspheres are solid, approximately spherical particles ranging in size from 1µm to 1000µm. These are made of polymeric, waxy or other protective materials, that are biodegradable synthetic polymers and modified natural products such as starches, gums, proteins fats, and waxes. Microencapsulation developed for use in medicine consists of solid or liquid core material containing one or more drugs enclosed in coating material. The core may also be referred as nucleus and the coating as wall or sheet. Depending upon manufacturing process various types of products are obtained in microencapsulation. These products are

- Microcapsules – mono or multinuclear material enclosed by a coat or membrane are called as microcapsules.
- Microspheres – mono or multinuclear material embedded in spherical coating matrix are called microspheres.

Keywords: Microspheres, Microencapsulation, Microcapsules, Biodegradable polymers.

INTRODUCTION

Diabetes mellitus is a group of metabolic diseases characterized by high blood sugar (glucose) levels that result from defects in insulin secretion, or its action, or both.

Metformin is an antihyperglycemic agent which improves glucose tolerance in patients with type 2 diabetes, lowering both basal and postprandial plasma glucose. Its pharmacologic mechanisms of action are different from other classes of oral antihyperglycemic agents. Metformin decreases hepatic glucose production, decreases intestinal

absorption of glucose, and improves insulin sensitivity by increasing peripheral glucose uptake and utilization.

Different kinds of controlled drug delivery systems have been developed for various routes of administration, since they require less frequent drug administration, provide more efficient therapeutic effects, and reduce the incidence of side effects. To develop a drug delivery system for oral administration, the preferred route of administration, it is necessary to optimize the release rate of an active ingredient from the system. One of the most

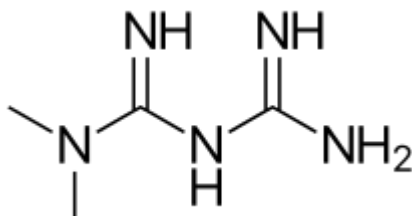
extensively studied methods is microsphere formulation.

In case of Diabetes mellitus needs to deliver the drug in controlled manner. To achieve this microspheres may be a promising drug delivery.

DRUG PROFILE

COMMON BRAND(S): Glucophage

GENERIC NAME(S): Metformin



Iupac Name N,N-DimethylimidodicarbonimidicDiamide

CAS number 657-24-9

Chemical formula: $C_4H_{11}N_5$

Molar mass: 129.1636 g/mol

METHODS OF PREPARATION OF MICROSPHERES

Different types of methods are employed for the preparation of microspheres. They include,

- Solvent evaporation.
- Single emulsion method.
- Double emulsion method.
- Polymerization technique.
- Phase separation co-acervation technique.
- Spray drying and spray congealing.
- Solvent removal.
- Solvent extraction.
- Freeze drying.
- Chemical and thermal cross linking.
- Precipitation.
- Hot melt microencapsulation method.

POLYMERS IN THE PREPARATION OF MICROSPHERES

Synthetic polymers

- Non-biodegradable polymers: Poly methyl methacrylate (PMMA), Acrolein, Glycidyl methacrylate, Epoxy polymers.
- Biodegradable polymers :Lactides, Glycolides& their co polymers, Poly alkyl cyano acrylates, Poly anhydrides.

Natural polymers

- Proteins:Albumin, Gelatin, and Collagen
- Carbohydrates: Agarose, Carrageenan, Chitosan, Starch
- Chemically modified carbohydrates:Poly dextran, Poly starch

LOADING OF DRUG

The active components are loaded over the microspheres principally using two ways.

1. During the preparation of microspheres .
2. After the formulation of microspheres by incubating them with the drug or protein.

Drug can be loaded by means of

- Physical entrapment.
- Chemical linkage.
- Surface adsorption.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

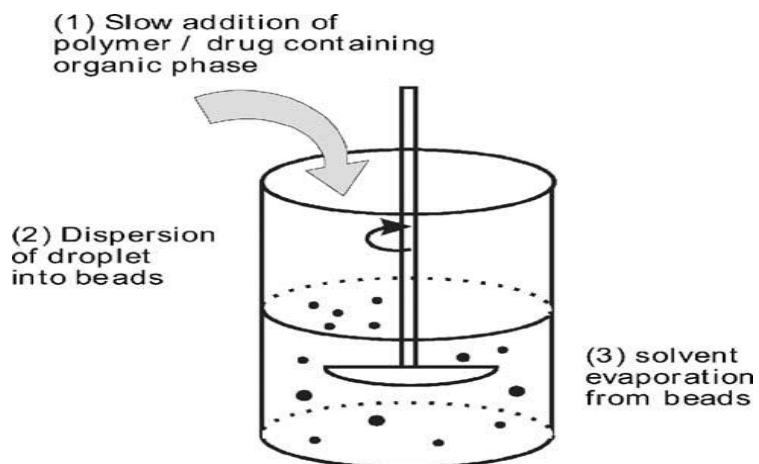
| S.No | Chemicals | Supplied by |
|------|--------------------|---|
| 1. | carvedilol | Gift sample from Chandra labs, Hyderabad. |
| 2. | Ethyl cellulose | Research-lab fine chem. industries, Mumbai. |
| 3. | Dichloro methane | Research-lab fine chem. Industries, Mumbai. |
| 4. | Poly vinyl alcohol | Research-lab fine chem industries Mumbai. |
| 5. | Ethanol | Changshuyangyuanchemicalscorp.china. |

Formulation table of metformin hydrochloride microspheres

Solvent evaporation method

Metformin hydrochloride microspheres were prepared by solvent evaporation technique. For this metformin and polymer were dissolved in mixture of dichloromethane and acetonitrile solution. Both drug and polymer solution were mixed well to form a uniform solution. Then add required amount of water to it and stir using homogenizer at 500rpm speed for 2minutes till an emulsion is formed. The obtained

emulsion was added (1ml) in intervals of 10min each to the liquid paraffin and span-80 mixture, before adding of drug, liquid paraffin and span-80 were stirred for 10min under constant stirring at 500 rpm. The constant stirring continued using homogenizer at 500rpm for 2hr. The microspheres formed were collected by whatmann filter paper and washed with distilled petroleum ether and dried at room temperature for one day to collect microspheres.



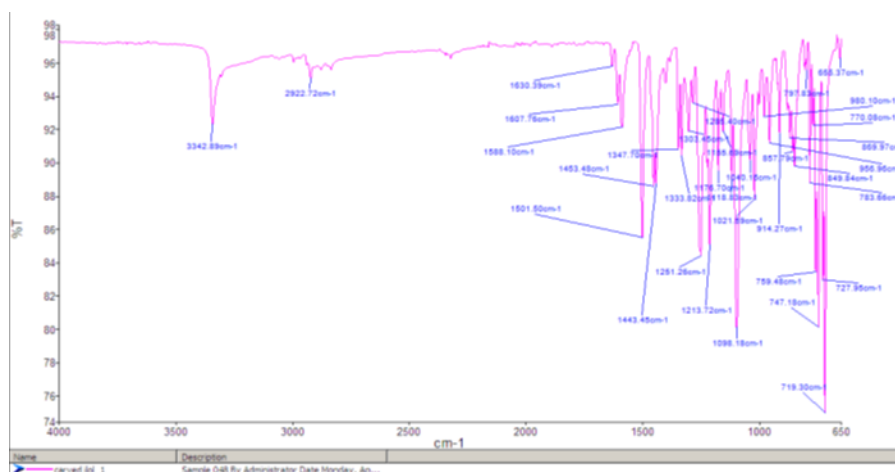
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Drug and Excipients Compatibility Studies

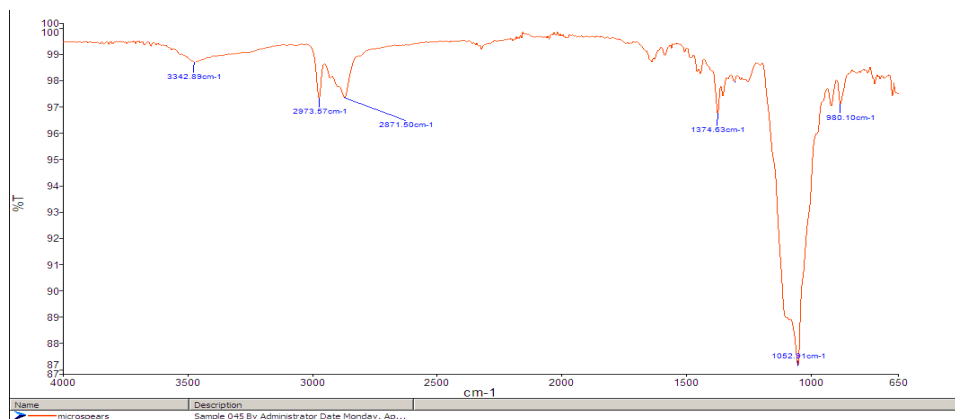
Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy

FTIR spectroscopy was used to ensure that no chemical interactions between the drugs and polymer

had occurred. The wave numbers of final formulation and individual ingredients were compared, Hence it was concluded that no chemical interactions were found between drug and polymer.



FTIR of Carvedilol



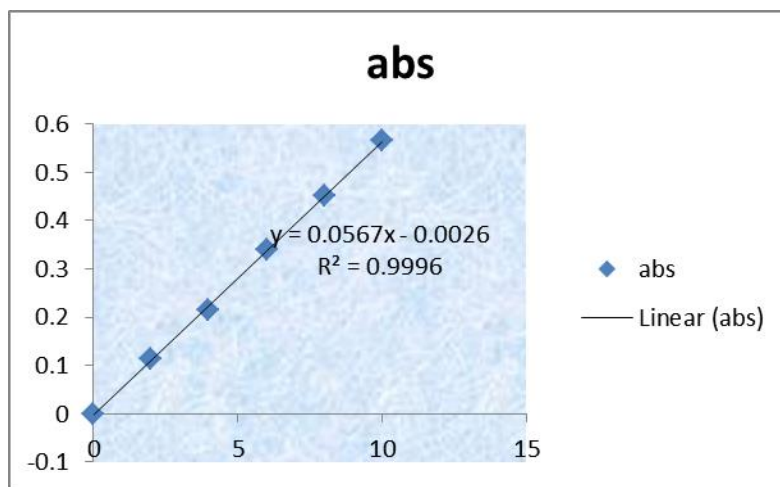
FTIR of Microspheres

Linearity plot of metformin hydrochloride in dichloromethane

The solutions of metformin hydrochloride were prepared and the absorbance of resulting solutions

was measured in UV spectrophotometer at nm. The standard graph between concentration Vs absorbance was given in figure

| CONCENTRATION($\mu\text{g/ml}$) | ABSORBANCE |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 2 | 0.113 |
| 4 | 0.215 |
| 6 | 0.339 |
| 8 | 0.452 |
| 10 | 0.565 |



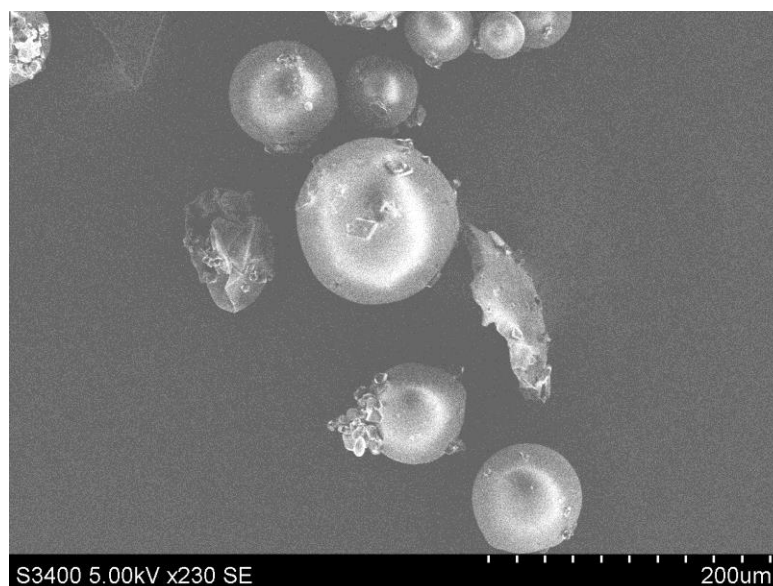
Percentage yield, entrapment efficiency, drug loading of microspheres

| Formulations | Percentage yield(%) | Entrapment efficiency(%) \pm SD | Drug loading \pm SD |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| F ₁ | 61.6 | 62.6 \pm 0.378 | 81.14 \pm 0.0208 |
| F ₂ | 71.5 | 88.6 \pm 0.208 | 51.75 \pm 0.0152 |
| F ₃ | 73.6 | 97.5 \pm 0.1527 | 45.26 \pm 0.114 |

Scanning Electron Microscopy

The microspheres prepared by solvent evaporation method showed a good sphericity, with

smooth surface and the particles were distributed uniformly without any lumps.

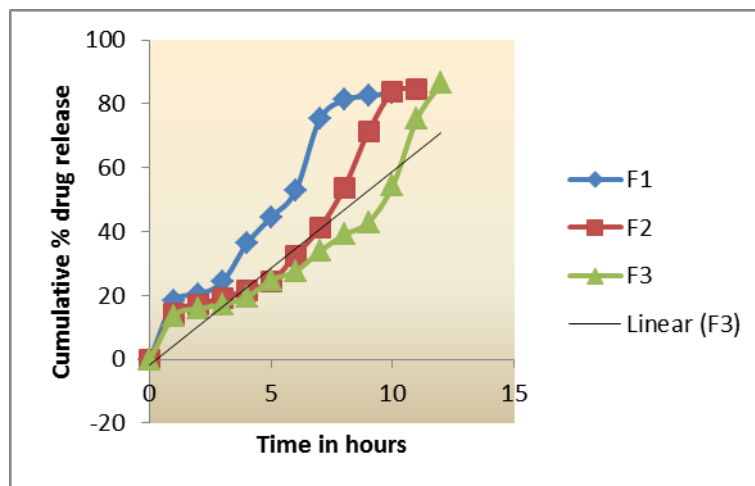


SEM photograph of metformin hydrochloride microspheres

In-vitro release studies: The in-vitro release profile of metformin hydrochloride microspheres were conducted in pH buffer for 12 hours.

Cumulative drug release of metformin hydrochloride microspheres

| Time (hrs) | % Cumulative drug release | | |
|------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | F _{1±SD} | F _{2±SD} | F _{3±SD} |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 18.14±0.012 | 14.5±0.102 | 13.67±0.01528 |
| 2 | 20.25±0.005 | 17.3±0.085 | 15.85±0.02517 |
| 3 | 24.35±0.068 | 19.28±0.342 | 17.25±0.03055 |
| 4 | 36.29±0.305 | 21.65±0.0643 | 19.54±0.03512 |
| 5 | 44.56±0.512 | 24.38±0.921 | 24.86±0.03055 |
| 6 | 52.72±0.482 | 32.59±0.007 | 27.62±0.1101 |
| 7 | 75.29±0.053 | 41.26±0.0181 | 33.86±0.09713 |
| 8 | 81.23±0.810 | 53.69±0.146 | 39.02±0.09849 |
| 9 | 82.45±0.035 | 71.34±0.0273 | 42.94±0.1 |
| 10 | 83.52±0.612 | 83.64±0.0471 | 54.37±0.283 |
| 11 | - | 84.5±0.0513 | 75.3±0.429 |
| 12 | - | - | 86.43±0.245 |

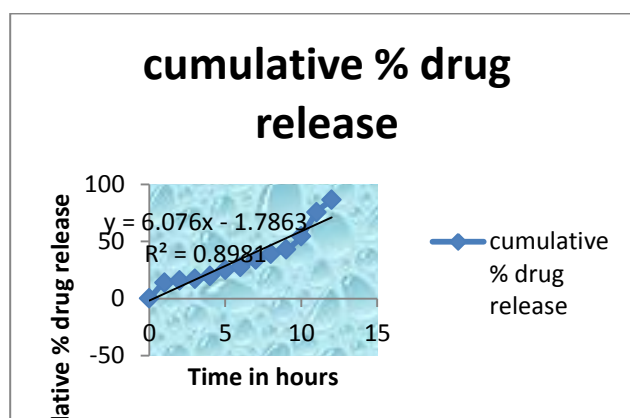


Release Kinetics Plots For Ethyl Cellulose Microspheres Containing metformin hydrochloride

The dissolution of microspheres formulation follows Zero order and Higuchi models.

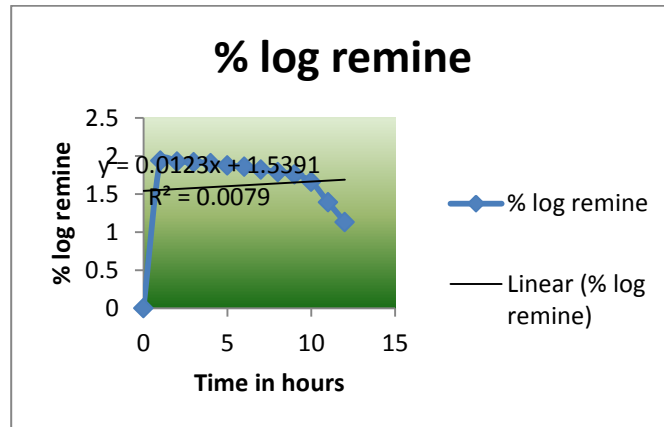
Zero order release model of metformin hydrochloride microspheres Optimized formulations.

| Time in hours(t) | cumulative %drug release(F ₃) |
|------------------|---|
| 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 13.67 |
| 2 | 15.85 |
| 3 | 17.25 |
| 4 | 19.54 |
| 5 | 24.86 |
| 6 | 27.62 |
| 7 | 33.86 |
| 8 | 39.02 |
| 9 | 42.94 |
| 10 | 54.37 |
| 11 | 75.3 |
| 12 | 86.43 |



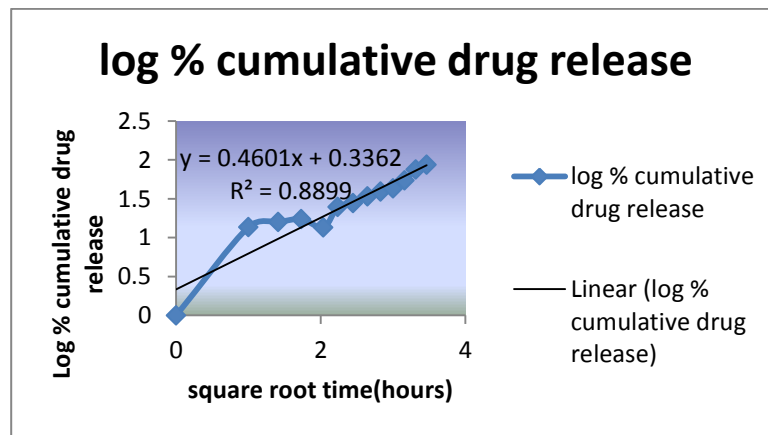
Zero order release of metformin hydrochloride microspheres

First order

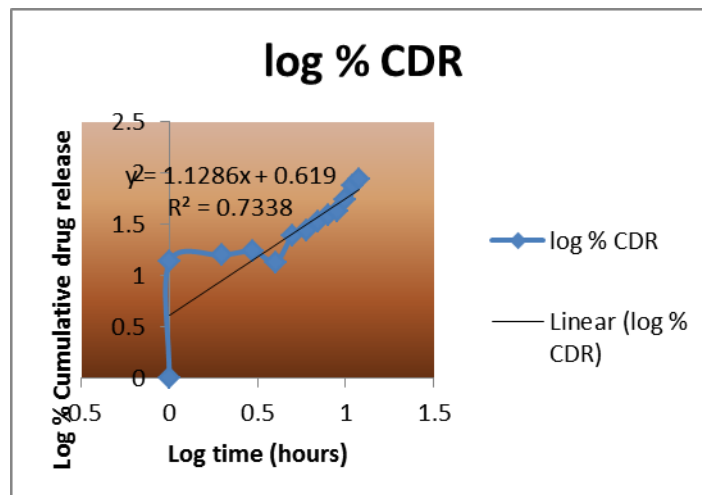


First order release of metformin hydrochloride microspheres.

Higuchi Plot



Higuchi plot of metformin hydrochloride microspheres.



peppas plot of metformin hydrochloride microspheres

CONCLUSION

The ethylcellulose microspheres of Metformin hydrochloride were successfully prepared by solvent evaporation technique and confirmed that it is a best method for preparing Metformin hydrochloride loaded microspheres from its higher percentage yield. The formulation F₃ has highest milligram of drug content followed by other formulations. The drug entrapment efficiency of three formulations were found to be F₁ 62.6, F₂ 88.6, F₃ 97.5 and the percentage yield of three formulations were found to be F₁ 61.6, F₂ 71.55 and F₃ 73.6.

Dissolution results of formulations were found to be F₁ 83.52, F₂ 84.5 and F₃ 86.43 in which F₁ formulation shows maximum drug release at 10th hour, F₂ at

11th hour and F₃ at 12th hour. Hence the drug release of F₃ formulation gets sustained than other formulations for a period of 12 hrs. It was concluded that as the polymer concentration increases, density of polymer increases that results in increased diffusion path length, which the drug molecules have to traverse so, the drug release of F₃ formulation takes long time than other formulations.

For all the formulations dissolution profile graph and percentage of drug release Vs time was plotted. From all the parameters mentioned above were taken, including surface characteristics of the formulation, drug polymer ratio and time F₃ Shows the reliable results.

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