

# Development And Characterization Of Pulsatile Release Tablet Of Nizatidine

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**Abstract:** The objectives of pulsatile release tablet of nizatidine are pulsatile. It inhibits the peptic secretion. The core tablets containing Nizatidine (150 mg/per tablet), lactose, microcrystalline cellulose (Avicel®PH101), polyvinyl pyrrolidone (PVP K30) and superdisintegrant like croscarmellose sodium (Ac-Di-Sol®) sodium starch glycolate, were prepared by direct compression. Initially, the core tablet excipients were dry blended in polybags for 10min, followed by the addition of Talc, magnesium stearate and Aerosil® 200. The powder components were further blended for 5min. The core tablets (diameter, 9mm; biconvex; average tablet weight, 360mg) were compressed using an eight station tablet machine (Karnavati, Ahmadabad, India). Nizatidine was observed to be almost white buff crystalline powder, sulphur mercaptan odour with metallic bitter test. The results are. The melting point was found to be 131-134°C. The solubility studies of Nizatidine were performed in various solvents. Nizatidine was to be freely soluble in chloroform, in methanol soluble in water and buffered solution slightly soluble in ethyl acetate and isopropanol. The melting was observed at 131-134°C. The DSC curve of pure Nizatidine exhibited a single endothermic response corresponding to the melting of drug. Onset of melting was obtained at 135°C. The superdisintegrant croscarmellose sodium, croscopolvidone, sodium starch glycolate shows broad endothermic fusion peaks at 96.11°C, 94.96°C and 84.48°C respectively which is due to glass transition state. The DSC spectra of physical mixture of Nizatidine and mixture of other excipients has also shown same endothermic peak like pure drug. These observations of DSC study indicate absence of significant interaction between drug and excipients used in tablets formulation.

**Keywords:** formulation of nizatidine, superdisintegrant croscopolvidone, cross croscarmellose sodium, evaluation

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION:

### 1.1 Pepticulcer

A peptic ulcer, also known as PUD or peptic ulcer disease, is the most common ulcer of an area of the gastrointestinal tract that is usually acidic and thus extremely painful. The lining of the stomach and small intestines is protected against the irritating acids produced in your stomach. If this protective lining stops working correctly and the lining breaks down, it results in inflammation (gastritis) or an ulcer. Most ulcers occur in the first layer of the inner lining. A hole that goes all the way through the stomach or duodenum is called a perforation.<sup>1</sup>

A major causative factor of gastric and duodenal ulcers is chronic inflammation due to *Helicobacter pylori* that colonizes the antral mucosa. The immune system is unable to clear the infection, despite the appearance of antibodies. Thus, the bacterium can cause a chronic active gastritis (type B gastritis), resulting in a defect in the regulation of gastrin production by that part of the stomach, and gastrin secretion can either be increased, or as in most cases, decreased, resulting in hypo or achlorhydria. Gastrin stimulates the production of gastric acid by parietal cells and, in *H. pylori* colonization responses that increase gastrin, the increase in acid can contribute to the erosion of the mucosa and therefore ulcer formation. Another major cause is the use of NSAIDs. The gastric mucosa protects itself from gastric acid with a layer of mucus, the secretion of which is stimulated by certain prostaglandins. NSAIDs block the function of cyclooxygenase 1 (cox-1), which is essential for the production of these prostaglandins. COX-2 selective anti-inflammatory preferentially inhibits cox-2, which is less essential in the gastric mucosa, and roughly halves the risk of NSAID-related gastric ulceration. As the prevalence of *H. pylori*-caused ulceration declines due to increased medical treatment, a greater proportion of ulcers will be due to increasing NSAID use among individuals with pain syndromes as well as the growth of aging populations that develop arthritis.

A major causative factor of gastric and duodenal ulcers is smoking and ulcer formation.<sup>2</sup> Others have been more specific in exploring the risks involved and have found that smoking by itself may not be much of a risk factor unless associated with *H. pylori* infection.<sup>3,4,5</sup> Similarly, while studies have found that alcohol consumption increases risk when associated with *H. pylori* infection, it does not seem to independently increase risk, and even when coupled with *H. pylori* infection.<sup>6</sup>

Types of ulcer based on location: (Duodenum) Duodenal ulcer, (Oesophagus) Oesophageal ulcer, (Stomach) Gastric ulcer,

### 1.2 Medication treating pepticulcer

Antiulcer refers to the property of substances or treatment that reduce the gastric acid secretions, duodenal ulcer is chronic remitting and relapsing disease. Goals of antiulcer therapy are

- Relief of pain,
- Ulcer healing,
- Prevention of complication,
- Prevention of relapse.

#### 1.2.1 Classification of drugs for pepticulcer

**1. Gastric acid secretion inhibitor**

- H<sub>2</sub> antihistamines: Cimetidine, Ranitidine, Famotidine, Roxatidine, Loxatidine, Nizatidine
- Proton pump inhibitors (PPI): Omeprazole, Esomeprazole, Lansoprazole, Pantoprazole, Rabeprazole
- Prostaglandin analogues (PA): Misoprostol
- Anticholinergics: Pirenzepine, Propanthelene, Oxyphenonium

**2. Gastric acid neutralizers (Antacids)**

- Systemic antacids: Sodium bicarbonate, Sodium citrate
- Nonsystemic antacids: Magnesium hydroxide, Magnesium trisilicate, Aluminium hydroxide gel, Calcium carbonate, Magaldrate

**3. Ulcer protective: Sucralfate, colloidal bismuth subcitrate (CBS)****4. Anti-*H. pylori* drugs: Amoxicillin, Clarithromycin, Metronidazole, Tetracycline.**<sup>7</sup>**H<sub>2</sub> antagonist**

Peptic ulcer occurs in that part of the gastrointestinal tract which is exposed to gastric acid and pepsin i.e. stomach and duodenum. It results probably due to an imbalance between aggressive (acid, pepsin, bile and *H. pylori*) and defensive factors (gastric mucus, bicarbonate secretion, prostaglandin, innate resistance of the mucosal cell) factor.<sup>8</sup>

Normal gastric acid secretion follows a circadian rhythm with a sudden surge of gastric acidity when gastric pH level goes far below 4 for at least 1 hour in the midnight. This pathophysiological condition is termed as nocturnal acid breakthrough (NAB). But steady state reveals that up to 70% of patients appear to be resistant to even high doses of proton pump inhibitor taken twice daily. It is observed that adding a bedtime dose of H<sub>2</sub> antagonist provides nocturnal recovery of gastric acid secretion.<sup>9</sup> H<sub>2</sub> receptor antagonists relieve symptoms of duodenal ulcers and promote ulcer healing.

**Mechanism of Action**<sup>10</sup>

The H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists inhibit acid production by reversibly competing with histamine for binding to H<sub>2</sub> receptors on the basolateral membrane of parietal cells. Four different H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists, which differ mainly in these drugs, are less potent than proton pump inhibitors but still suppress 24-hour gastric acid secretion by about 70%. The H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists predominantly inhibit basal acid secretion, which accounts for their efficacy in suppressing nocturnal acid secretion. Because the most important determinant of duodenal ulcer healing is the level of nocturnal acidity, evening dosing of H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists is adequate therapy in most instances.

**Therapeutic Uses**

The major therapeutic indications for H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists are to promote healing of gastric and duodenal ulcers, to treat uncomplicated GERD and to prevent the occurrence of stress ulcers.

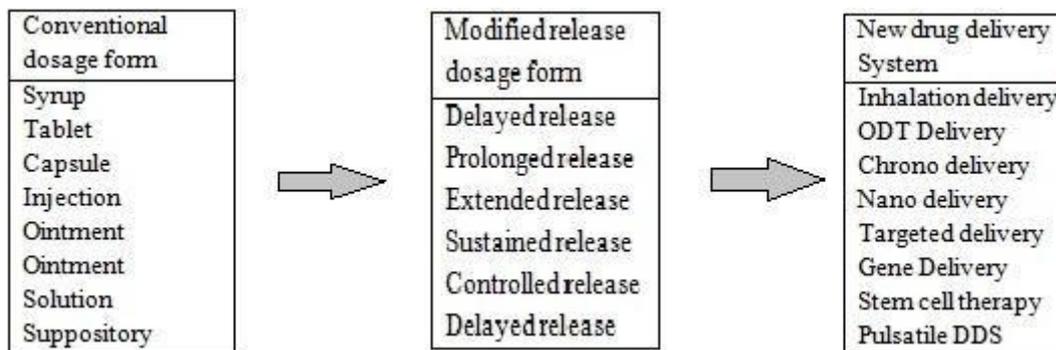
**Pharmacological action**

**H<sub>2</sub> blockade:** H<sub>2</sub> antagonist blocks histamine-induced gastric secretion, cardiac stimulation, uterine relaxation and bronchial relaxation, they attenuate fall in BP due to histamine, especially the late phase response seen with high doses they are highly selective, and have no effect on H<sub>1</sub> mediated responses or on the action on the other autacoids.

**Gastric secretion:** The only significant in vivo action of H<sub>2</sub> blockers is inhibition of gastric secretion. All phases of secretion are suppressed dose dependently, but the basal nocturnal secretion is suppressed more completely. Secretory responses to not only histamine but all other stimuli are attenuated. This reflects the permissive role of histamine in amplifying responses to other secretagogues. The volume, pepsin content and intrinsic factor secretion are also reduced.

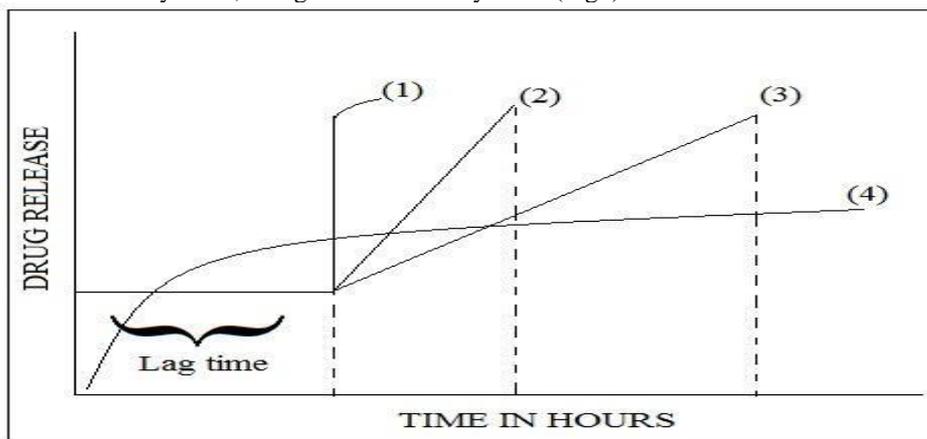
**1.0 Introduction to Pulsatile Drug Delivery System**

During the past several decades, conventional drug dosage forms have been widely used for treatment of various conditions. These drug dosage forms typically provide an immediate or rapid medication release, and supply a given concentration or quantity of the drug to the body's systemic circulatory system without any rate control. To maintain the effective plasma drug concentration, frequent administration is required. Due to poor drug efficacy, the incidence of side effects, frequency of administration and patient compliance of these conventional drug preparations, many traditional drug dosage forms are undergoing replacement by second-generation, modified drug-release dosage forms (Fig. 1). Treatments of numerous diseases using traditional drug products are often inconvenient and impractical if disease symptoms occur during the night or early morning. During the early 1990s, second-generation modified-release drug preparations achieved continuous and constant-rate drug delivery, in which constant or sustained drug output minimizes drug concentration "peak and valley" levels in the blood, so promoting drug efficacy and reducing adverse effects. Modified-release drug preparations are expected to provide reduced dosing frequency and improved patient compliance compared to conventional release preparations. Second-generation modified-release dosage forms include slowed-release, delayed-release, and prolonged-release extended-release, repeated-release, sustained-release, and controlled release drug preparations.<sup>11,12</sup>



**Figure 1: Progress of pharmaceutical preparation**

Several controlled-release preparations present numerous problems such as resistance and drug tolerance, and activation of the physiological system due to long-term constant drug concentrations in the blood and tissues. Physiological tolerance may develop as an organism builds resistance to the effects of a drug substance after repeated exposures. This indicates strongly that it is not always desirable to maintain constant blood levels of a drug over long periods. Pulsatile drug delivery system also reveal that the body's biological rhythm may affect normal physiological function, including gastrointestinal motility, gastric acid secretion, gastrointestinal blood flow, renal blood flow, hepatic blood flow, urinary pH, cardiac output, drug-protein binding, and liver enzymatic activity, and biological functions such as heart rate, blood pressure, body temperature, blood plasma concentration, intraocular pressure and platelet aggregation.<sup>1</sup> Most organ functions vary with the time of the day, particularly when there are rhythmic and temporal patterns in the manifestation of a given disease state. These symptoms of many diseases, such as bronchial asthma, myocardial infarction, angina pectoris, hypertension, and rheumatic disease have followed the body's biological rhythm. Day-night variation in asthmatic dyspnea and variations in the incidence of myocardial infarction occur throughout the early morning hours. Controlled-release medications deliver continuous treatment, rather than providing relief of symptoms and protection from adverse events solely when necessary, the development of a third-generation of advanced drug delivery systems (DDS) to optimize and create new innovative DDS which provide a defined dose, at a chosen rate, at a selected time, to a targeted site is now a growing challenge. A chronodelivery system, based on biological rhythms, is a state-of-the-art technology for drug delivery. Chronomodulated DDS not only increase safety and efficacy levels, but also improve overall drug performance. Chronomodulated drug delivery system also known as pulsatile drug delivery system.<sup>14</sup> The oral controlled-release system shows a typical pattern of drug release in which the drug concentration is maintained in the therapeutic window for a prolonged period of time, thereby ensuring sustained therapeutic action. However, there are certain conditions for which such a release pattern is not suitable. These conditions demand release of drug after a lag time. In other words, it is required that the drug should not be released at all during the initial phase of dosage form administration. Such a release pattern is known as pulsatile release. Recent studies have revealed that diseases have a predictable cyclic rhythm and that the timing of medication regimens can improve the outcome of a desired effect.<sup>15</sup> This condition demands release of drug as a "pulse" after a time lag and such system has been designed in a way that complete and rapid drug release should follow the lag time. Such systems are known as pulsatile drug delivery systems (PDDS), time-controlled systems, or sigmoidal release systems (Fig 2).



**Figure 2: Schematic representation of different drug delivery system (1) Sigmoidal release after lag time (2) Delayed release after lag time (3) Sustained release after lag time (4) Extended release without lag time**

PDDS have been developed in close connection with emerging Chronotherapeutics views. In this respect, it is well established that the symptoms of many pathologies, as well as the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic profiles of most drugs, are subject to circadian variation patterns.

As far as widespread chronic pathologies with night to early morning symptoms are concerned, such as cardiovascular disease (CVD), bronchial asthma and rheumatoid arthritis (RA), remarkable efficacy, tolerability and compliance benefits could arise from modified release medications. After bedtime administration, would allow the onset of therapeutic drug concentration to coincide with the time at which disease manifestations are more likely to occur. Performance of pulsatile delivery fulfills such goals. In addition to being potentially suitable for chronothera

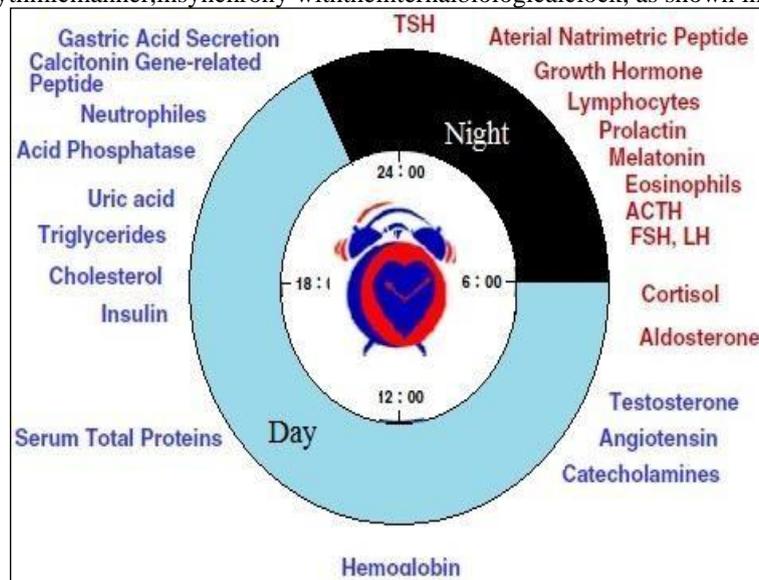
py.pulsatile release is also exploited to target proximal as well as distal colonic regions via the oral route.<sup>16</sup> Following are the reasons which force the inventor to think about the shift from conventional sustained release approach to the modern pulsatile delivery of drugs.

- ❖ **First pass metabolism:** Some drugs like betablockers, and salicylamide, undergo extensive first pass metabolism. To minimize the pre-systemic metabolism, these drugs require fast drug input for the saturation of metabolizing enzymes. Thus, a constant/sustained oral delivery would reduce the oral bioavailability.
- ❖ **Biological tolerance:** The pharmaco-therapeutic effect of the drug declines with the continuous release of drug plasma profiles. For example biological tolerance of trans-dermal nitro-glycerin.
- ❖ **Chrono-pharmacological needs:** According to circadian rhythms, it has been observed that symptoms and inception of disease occur during specific time periods of the 24 hours a day. For example Asthma, rheumatoid arthritis and angina pectoris attacks are most frequent in the morning hours.
- ❖ **Local therapeutic need:** For the local disorders treatment of such as Crohn's disease, Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD), ulcerative colitis and Inflammatory Bowel Syndrome (IBS). The absorption in the small intestine is highly advantageous to attain the therapeutic effect and to reduce side effects.
- ❖ **Instability of the drugs in GI fluid:** In case of such compounds, the uses of a sustained release preparation are widely suggested and acceptable from the therapeutic point of view.
- ❖ **Different drug absorption behavior in GIT:** In common, drug absorption is somewhat slow in the stomach rapid in the small intestine than stomach, and sharply minimizes in the large intestine to compensate the changes in absorption characteristics.<sup>17</sup>

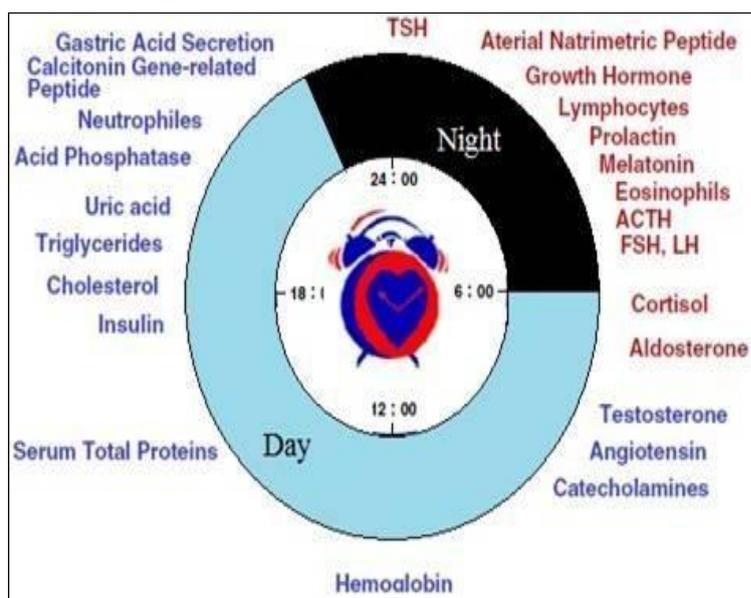
#### Circadian rhythms and their implications:

Circadian rhythms are self-sustaining, endogenous oscillation, exhibiting periodicities of about one day or 24 hours. Normally, circadian rhythms are synchronized according to the body's pacemaker clock, located in the suprachiasmatic nucleus of the hypothalamus. The physiology and biochemistry of human beings is not constant during the 24 hours, but variable in a predictable manner as defined by the timing of the peak and trough of each of the body's circadian processes and functions.

The peak in the rhythms of basal gastric acid secretion, white blood cells (WBC), lymphocytes, prolactin, melatonin, eosinophil, adrenal corticotrophin hormone (ACTH), follicle stimulating hormone (FSH), and luteinizing hormone (LH), is manifested at specific times during the nocturnal sleep span. The peak in serum cortisol, aldosterone, testosterone plus platelet adhesiveness and blood viscosity follows later during the initial hours of diurnal activity. Hematocrit is the greatest and airway caliber the best around the middle and afternoon hours, platelet numbers and uric acid peak later during the day and evening. Hence, several physiological processes in humans vary in a rhythmic manner, in synchrony with the internal biological clock, as shown in fig.3.<sup>18</sup>



**Figure 3: Human circadian time structure dependent pulsatile hormone secretion**



**Figure4: The circadian pattern of diseases**

Through a number of clinical trials and epidemiological studies, it has become evident that the level of disease activity of number of clinical disorders have a pattern associated with the body's inherent clock set according to circadian rhythms. In fact just as the time of day influences normal biologic processes, so it affects the pathophysiology of disease and its treatment. Examples of some of the diseases are shown in Table 1.

**Table1: Circadian rhythm and manifestation of clinical diseases**

Disease or syndrome	Circadian rhythmicity
Allergic Rhinitis	Worse in the morning/upon rising
Asthma	Exacerbation more common during the sleep period
Rheumatoid Arthritis	Symptoms more common during the sleep period
Osteoarthritis	Symptoms worse in the middle/late portion of the day
Angina Pectoris	Chest pain and ECG changes more common in early morning
Myocardial Infraction	Incidence greatest in early morning
Stroke	Incidence higher in the morning
Sudden cardiac death	Incidence higher in the morning after awakening
Peptic ulcer disease	Worse in late evening and early morning hours

**Chronopharmacotherapy**

Recent studies have revealed that diseases have predictable cyclic rhythms and that the timing of medication regimens can improve outcome in selected chronic conditions. "Chronopharmaceutics" consist of two words Chronobiology and pharmaceutics. Chronobiology is the study of biological rhythms and their mechanisms. There are three types of mechanical rhythms in our body. They are:

- i. Circadian
- ii. Ultradian
- iii. Infradian

Circadian:

This word comes from Latin word "circa" means about and "dies" means day Ultradian Oscillation of shorter duration are termed as Ultradian (more than one cycle per 24h) Infradian Oscillations that are longer than 24 h (less than one cycle per day).<sup>19</sup>

**1.3.2 Diseases with established circadian rhythms**

The diseases recently targeted for pulsatile drug delivery are those which have enough scientific background to justify chronopharmaceutical drug delivery system

compared to conventional drug administration. These include asthma, arthritis, duodenal ulcer, Cancer, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, hypercholesterolemia, neurological disorders etc. which have good circadian rhythm.<sup>20</sup>

#### ➤ **Duodenal ulcer**

Generally gastric acid secretion is highest in the evening in duodenal ulcer patients and decreases in the early morning.<sup>21</sup> One group of authors studied incidence of ulcer perforation for daily (circadian), weekly (circaseptan) and yearly (circannual) time effects. A circadian rhythm has been found overall that was reproducible and fairly stable across seasons, decades, and days of the week. Duodenal perforations showed highest incidence in the afternoon, while gastric perforations showed a major peak around noon and a secondary peak near midnight. For duodenal ulcer perforation, the circannual pattern was characterized by a 6-month rhythm, with significantly higher incidence in May–June–July and in November–December in most subgroups.<sup>22</sup>

#### ➤ **Bronchial asthma**

It is characterized by airway inflammation resulting in hyper responsiveness of lower respiratory tract to various environmental stimuli.<sup>23</sup> Airway resistance increases progressively at night in asthmatic patient. This asthma known as nocturnal asthma is an exacerbation of asthma with increase in symptoms, airway responsiveness and lung function. In day time antigen provokes the release of pro-inflammatory mediators from mast and eosinophils cells over the span of long hours resulting in exacerbation of inflammation, smooth muscle bronchospasm and contraction, over-stimulation of mucus glands with mucus hypersecretion of the small airways of the lung. It is a good target for chronotherapy because bronchoconstriction and exacerbation of symptoms vary on circadian fashion.<sup>24</sup>

#### ➤ **Allergic rhinitis**

Common symptoms of allergic rhinitis are sneezing, nasal rhinorrhea, red itchy eyes, nasal pruritus and nasal congestion.<sup>25</sup> Each of the symptoms was found to occur most frequently before breakfast and in the morning and least frequently in the middle of the day. There are two phases of occurrence of allergic rhinitis, i.e. early phase (developing within minutes) and late phase (manifesting after 12–16 h). The early phase happens due to release of histamine, prostaglandins, cytokines, TNF- $\alpha$ , Chemotactic factors etc resulting in sneezing, nasal itch, rhinorrhea. On the other hand late phase is shown due to elaboration, adhesion and infiltration of circulating leukocytes, T cells and eosinophils evoking nasal congestion, obstruction due to the exacerbation of inflammation of the nasal, sinus and other tissue of the upper airway.

#### ➤ **Pain**

Pain control is one of the most important therapeutic priorities. Although numerous clinical practice guidelines for pain management have been published, inadequate pain relief remains a significant health care issue. It was reported that the highest threshold occurred at the end of the resting period, while the least threshold was seen at the end of the activity period. In arthritis there is circadian rhythm in the plasma concentration of C-reactive protein and interleukin-6 of patient with rheumatoid arthritis. Besides, different opioid peptides like 5-hydroxytryptamine, bradykinin, glutamate, NO, substance P, cytokines and prostanoids are involved in the activation of receptors. Brain concentration of substance P in rat model is highest in night with compared to daytime. It was reported that levels of endogenous opioid peptides are higher at the starting point of the day and lower in the evening both in neonate and adult human volunteers. Patients with osteoarthritis tend to have less pain in the morning and more at night. While patients with rheumatoid arthritis have pain that usually peaks in the morning and decreases throughout day. The symptoms are swelling of finger and pain at joint.<sup>26</sup> Patients with gastro-esophageal reflux disease feel night time pain. But renal colic shows morning peak independent of gender and presence or absence of visible kidney stones. The choice of analgesics and the route of their administration depend on the nature and duration of the pain. Aspirin, paracetamol, NSAIDs and morphinomimetics are indicated against nociceptive pain, while anticonvulsants, tricyclic antidepressants and local anesthetics are used against neurogenic pain.<sup>27</sup>

#### ➤ **Cardiovascular diseases**

In cardiovascular disease capillary resistance and vascular reactivity are higher in the morning and decrease later in the day. Platelet aggregability is increased and fibrinolytic activity is decreased in the morning, leading to a state of relative hypercoagulability of the blood. Because of this reason the frequencies of myocardial infarction and of sudden cardiac death are more prone during from morning to noon. Ambulatory blood pressure measurements show a significant circadian variation to characterize blood pressure. This variation is affected by a variety of external factors such as ethnicity, gender, autonomic nervous system tone, vasoactive hormones, hematologic and renal variables. Increased heart rate, blood pressure, imbalanced autonomic tone, and circulating level of catecholamine controlling the cardiac arrhythmias show important circadian variation and trigger the genesis of the circadian pattern of cardiac arrhythmias.<sup>28</sup> Atrial arrhythmias appear to exhibit circadian pattern usually with a higher frequency in the daytime and lower frequency in the night time with the abnormal foci under the same long-term autonomic regulation as normal pacemaker tissue. According to study ventricular tachyarrhythmia show late morning peak in the patients with myocardial infarction sometime in the distant past morning peak and afternoon peak in patients with recent myocardial infarction. Myocardial ischemia, angina pectoris, acute myocardial infarction, and sudden cardiac death are also unevenly distributed during the 24 h with greater than expected events during the initial hours of the daily activity span, in the late afternoon or early evening.<sup>29</sup> Both pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of some oral nitrates, calcium channel blocker and  $\beta$ -adrenoceptor antagonist medications have been shown to be influenced by the circadian time of their administration.

#### ➤ **Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA)**

The Chronobiology, chronopharmacology and Chronotherapeutics of pain have been extensively reviewed. For instance, there is a circadian rhythm in the plasma concentration of C-reactive protein 26 and interleukin-627 of patients with rheumatoid arthritis. Patients with osteoarthritis tend to have less pain in the morning and more at night, while those with rheumatoid arthritis, have pain that usually peaks in the morning and decreases throughout the day. Chronotherapy for all forms of arthritis using NSAIDs such as Ibuprofen should be timed to ensure that the highest blood level of

the drug coincide with peak pain.

### ➤ Sleep disorder

Many biological signaling e.g. sleep disorder occurring in the central and autonomous nervous systems show complex time structure with rhythm and pulsatile variations in multiple frequencies. The time of sleep required by each person is usually constant, although there is a wide variation among individuals.<sup>30</sup> Sleep consists of a rhythmic (circadian) combination of the changes in physiological, biochemical and psychological processes. When the circadian rhythm is disturbed, or when the individual processes are abnormal during sleep, it may result in a variety of disorders. One such example is delayed sleep-phase syndrome which is characterized by severe sleep-onset insomnia) normally, sleep is impossible until 3 a.m. or later until there is great difficulty in awakening in the mornings at the normal time. The ability to cope up with circadian rhythm disturbances also differs from person to person. Identification of the individual variation would be of importance in dealing with certain sleep disorders.

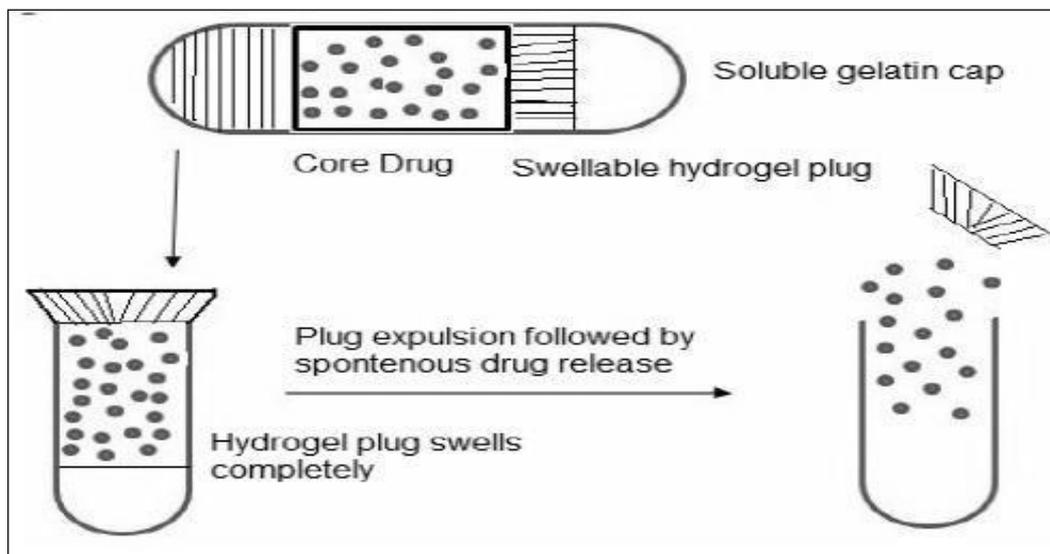
### 1.3.3 Classification of PDDS depending on Target release.

From technology point of view pulsatile drug delivery systems are further divided to single and multiple units system

#### a) Single unit system

##### ➤ Capsular system:

Different single-unit capsular PDDS have been developed (Fig 5). A general design of such systems consists of an insoluble capsule body housing a drug and a plug. The plug is removed after a predetermined time lag due to swelling, erosion or dissolution. The Pulsincap® system is an example of such a system that is made up of a water-insoluble capsule body filled with drug formulation.<sup>33</sup> The body is closed at the open end with a swellable hydrogel plug. Upon contact with dissolution medium or gastrointestinal fluids, the plug swells, pushing itself out of the capsule after a time lag. This is followed by a spontaneous release of the drug (Fig 5).



**Figure 5: Schematic diagram of capsular system**

The time lag can be controlled by manipulating the dimension and the position of the plug. For water insoluble drugs, a spontaneous release can be ensured by inclusion of effervescent agents or disintegrants. The plug material consists of insoluble but permeable and swellable polymers<sup>34</sup> (e.g. polymethacrylates) erodible compressed polymers (e.g. hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene oxide), congealed melted polymers (e.g. saturated polyglycolated glycerides, glyceryl monooleate and enzymatically controlled erodible polymers e.g. pectin). These formulations are well tolerated in animals and healthy volunteers, and there have been no reports of gastro-intestinal irritation. However, there was a potential problem of variable gastric residence time, which was overcome by enteric coating the system to allow its dissolution only in the higher pH region of small intestine.<sup>35</sup>

##### ➤ Port systems

The Port System consists of a gelatin capsule coated with a semipermeable membrane (e.g. cellulose acetate) housing an insoluble plug (e.g. lipidic) and an osmotically active agent along with the drug formulation. When it comes in contact with the aqueous medium, water diffuses across the semipermeable membrane, resulting in increased inner pressure that ejects the plug after a lag time. The lag time is controlled by the thickness of semi permeable membrane. The system showed good correlation in lag times of *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* experiments in humans. In order to deliver drug in liquid form, an osmotically driven capsular system was developed. In this system, liquid drug is absorbed into highly porous particles, which release the drug through an orifice of a semi permeable capsule supported by an expanding osmotic layer after the barrier layer is dissolved. The capsular system delivers drug by the capsule's osmotic infusion of moisture from the body. The capsule wall is made up of an elastic material and possesses an orifice. As the osmosis proceeds, the pressure within the capsule rises, causing the wall to stretch. The orifice is small enough so that when the elastic wall relaxes, the flow of the drug through the orifice

essentially stops, but when the elastic wall is distended beyond threshold value, the orifice expands sufficiently to allow drug release at a required rate. Elastomers, such as styrene-butadiene copolymer have been suggested.<sup>36</sup>

➤ **Osmotic based pump capsule**

Osmotic delivery capsules ("osmotic pumps") function by virtue of walls which selectively pass water into the capsule reservoir. Absorption of water by the capsule through these walls is driven by a water-attracting agent in the capsule interior which creates osmotic pressure across the capsule wall. The water-attracting agent may be the beneficial agent itself whose controlled release is sought, but in most cases, it is a separate agent specifically selected for its ability to draw water, and this separate agent is being isolated from the beneficial agent at one end of the capsule. In either case, the structure of the capsule wall does not permit the capsule to expand, and as a result, the water uptake causes discharge of the beneficial agent through an orifice in the capsule at the same rate that water enters by osmosis.

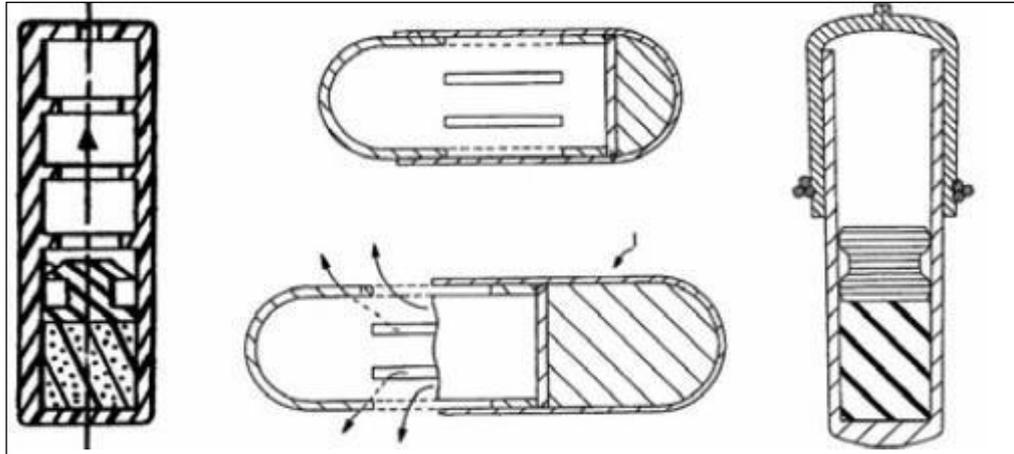


Figure 6: Different type of osmotic pumps used for PDDS

Linkwitz and co-workers proposed a drug delivery capsule where drug delivery is driven by the osmotic infusion of moisture from a physiological environment. The capsule has a delivery orifice which opens intermittently to achieve a pulsatile delivery effect. The wall in which the orifice is formed is constructed of an elastic material (Elastomers) which stretches under a pressure differential caused by the pressure rise inside the capsule as the osmotic infusion progresses. The orifice is so small that when the elastic wall is relaxed, the flow rate of drug through the orifice is substantially zero, but when the elastic wall is stretched due to the pressure differential across the wall exceeding a threshold, the orifice expands sufficiently to allow the release of the drug at a physiologically beneficial rate. The selection of the materials from which the device is constructed and the configuration of the device and its dimensions controls the length of time between pulses.<sup>37</sup>

➤ **Drug delivery system with eroding or soluble barrier coating**

In this system drug reservoir surrounded a soluble barrier layer that dissolves with time, and the drug releases at once after this lag time. Chronotropic system consists of a core containing drug reservoir coated by a hydrophilic polymer HPM<sup>38,39</sup>. An additional enteric coated variability in gastric emptying this layer to overcome intrasubject variability in gastric emptying rates. The lag time and the onset of action are controlled by the thickness and the viscosity grade of HPMC. The time clock system is a delivery device based on solid dosage form that is coated by a aqueous dispersion.

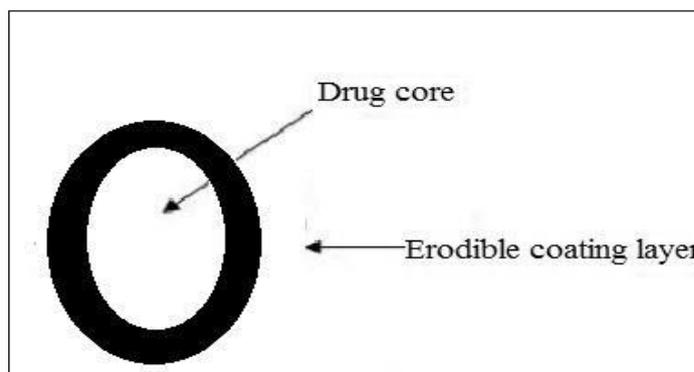


Figure 7: Schematic diagram of delivery system of erodible coating layer

This coating is a hydrophobic surfactant layer which a water-soluble polymer is added to improve adhesion to the core. Contact with the dissolution fluid, the dispersion rehydrates and redisperses. The lag time could be controlled by the thickness of the film. After the lag time, i.e., the time required for rehydration, the core immediately releases the drug. This system has shown reproducible results in vitro and in vivo. The effect of low calorie and high calorie meal on the lag time was studied using gaggamanscinintigraphy. The mean lag time of drug releases was 345 and 333 min respectively. Midha et al developed a pulsatile delivery system for d-threomethyl phenidate an additional CNS stimulant in a dosage form comprising at least two individual drugs containing dosage limit housed in a closed capsule. The dosage units are designed in the form of compressed tablets<sup>40</sup>

The first drug release pulse occurs within 1-2h, followed by a lag period during which no release occurs. Second dose is released in 3-5h of ingestion. Second dose is released in 3-5h of ingestion. This is again followed by a second no-release interval. Release of third dose occurs within 7-9 h of ingestion. To provide such delayed-released dosage units, coating is done without bioerodible gradually hydrolysable polymers. The release amount of coating material per dosage unit decides the time interval between interval and drug release. Dittigen et. al. invented a multiple unit dosage form comprising of compressed compositions having different amounts of ingredients and combination.<sup>41</sup> Hormones, viz., progesterone, testosterone, dehydroepiandrosterone, their concentration in blood varies over 24h. of the analogues and inhibitory substances for these hormones also follow circadian rhythm. Examples of such classes include antihistamines. Glucocorticoids, mineral corticoids and antihistamines. The formulation comprises of four compressed in a capsule. The first composition is formed to provide rapid releases in a capsule. In which at least 75% of the effective ingredients are delivered within 45 min the second compressed combination provides a uniformly maintained release profile in which 100% of effective ingredient is released within 3 of ingestion. Third compressed combination delivers at least 75% of effective ingredient within 45 min of reaching duodenum and intestine at a pH of 6 to 7.5 Coating is given by gastric-resistant agents (PMMA or shellac). Fourth compressed composition releases 100% of the effective ingredient 3 h after reaching pH of 6-7.<sup>42</sup>

#### ➤ Drug delivery system with rupturable layer:

A novel formulation for once daily administration (prior to sleeping) that provides an initial delay followed by controlled release of the drug. A method for preparing a time specific delayed, controlled release formulation of dosage is also provided which method includes coating a single pellet with at least one dosage layer, which is coated by at least one seal coat and at least one outer rate controlling layer of a water soluble polymer coat.

By that way, it is possible to maintain drug plasma concentrations in a desired, effective range in a circadian fashion while simplifying the administration of the drug to only once daily.

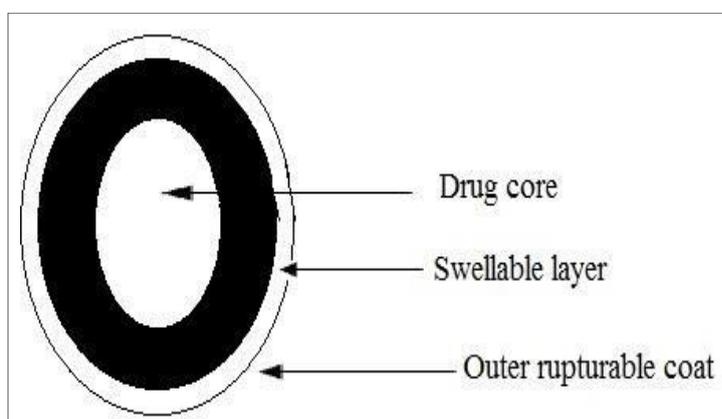
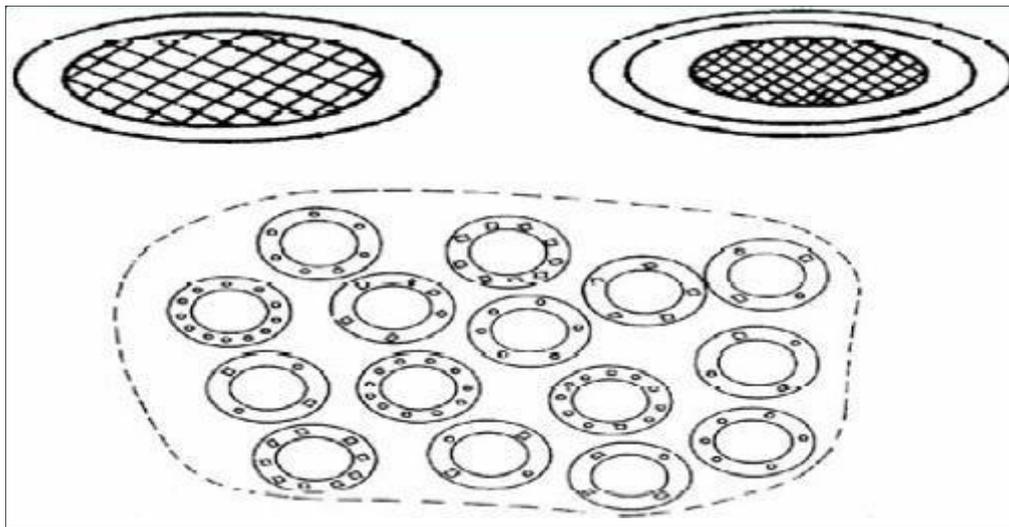


Figure 8: Schematic diagram of delivery system with rupturable coating layer

#### b) Multiple Units

##### ➤ Systems Based on Change in Membrane Permeability

Numerous pharmaceutical forms with available. As already mentioned the delayed release for oral administration are release of the drug must be controlled according to therapeutically purpose and the pharmacological properties of the active ingredient. In consequence, it is not always desirable the blood levels to be constant. On the contrary, in order to avoid any habituation and in order to limit the side effects provoked by the active ingredient, it would be absolutely advantageous for the plasma concentration to follow the metabolic rhythm and the specific needs of the patient during certain periods. For instance, in order to diminish the nocturnal symptoms or the symptoms upon awakening in the case of certain chronic diseases such as ischemic heart disease, asthma and arthritis, the drugs should be administered in such a way that the desired therapeutic plasma level is reached only at the desired moment, i.e. during sleep or at the moment of awakening. Dosage form for Pulsatile release proposed by Chen containing a plurality of different pellets composed with a core and several coating layers. Chen described a dosage form for delivering drugs into the body in a series of sequential, pulsatile releasing events. This system can be used with drugs which cannot be released by diffusion through a porous coating, such as water insoluble drugs. A plurality of populations of pellets is provided within a unit dosage form such as a capsule or tablet Fig. (9) Dosage form for pulsatile release proposed by Chen containing a plurality of different pellets composed with a core and several coating layers. The pellets are composed of a core containing the drug and a swelling agent which expands in volume when exposed to water. The core is enclosed within a membrane or coating which is permeable to water. The membrane is composed of a water insoluble and permeable film forming polymer, a water soluble film forming polymer and a permeability reducing agent. When the unit dose releases the pellets into the digestive tract, water diffuses through the coating and into the core. As water is taken up by the swelling agent, the core expands, exerting force on the coating until it bursts, releasing the drug. The permeability reducing agent reduces the rate at which water reaches the swelling agent, thereby delaying release time.



**Figure9: Pulsatile release dosage form proposed by Chen**

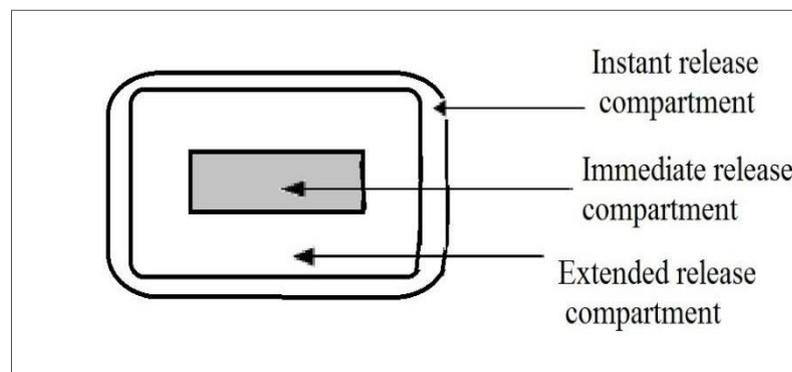
The water-soluble polymer dissolves, weakening the coating so that it bursts sooner. By varying the proportions of the three coating ingredients and/or coating thickness from one pellet population to another, the release timing of the pellets can be very effectively controlled.<sup>43</sup>

**1.3.4 Approaches of Pulsatile Drug Delivery Depending on Target Release**

• **Time controlled delivery system:**

The principle of time controlled drug delivery systems is that the release of the drug happens according to a predetermined rate so to achieve maximum therapeutic and minimum toxic effect. Systems having a lag phase (delayed release systems) and systems where the release is following a biological circadian rhythm are the most commonly used controlled release systems. As already mentioned the delayed drug release for meeting chronotherapeutic needs provides optimum drug delivery for a number of widespread chronic pathologies. Most delayed release delivery systems are reservoir devices covered with a barrier coating, which dissolves, erodes or ruptures after a lag phase. Well known coating techniques are applied to pellets and tablets to delay drug's release. Conventional coatings dissolve slowly to release drugs into the intestine. Another well-known coating technique employs a water-permeable but insoluble film which encloses the active ingredient and an osmotic agent. As water from the gut slowly diffuses through the film into the core, the core swells until the film bursts, releasing the drug. The film coating may be adjusted for selecting suitable rates of water permeation, and thereby, release time. Alternatively, the tablet coating may be impermeable, and water enters through a controlled aperture in the coating until the core bursts. When the tablet bursts, the content is released immediately or over a longer period of time. These and other techniques may be employed to formulate tablets or capsules with the requisite time interval before drug release.

Ting described a press-coated, pulsatile drug delivery system suitable for oral administration, having an immediate-release compartment, made by a compressed blend of an active agent and one or more polymers, enveloped by an extended-release compartment, made by a compressed blend of the active agent and hydrophilic and hydrophobic polymers, able to provide a first order delivery of the active agent, interrupted by a timed, pulsed delivery of an increased amount of the active agent. When the extended release compartment is enveloped by an optional instant release compartment, it can provide a dose sufficient to exceed the liver's metabolic capacity and to maintain therapeutic levels, preferably throughout a 24-hour period.<sup>44</sup>



**Figure10: Press Coated drug delivery system described by Ting**

• **pH sensitive drug delivery system**

This type of PDDS contains two components. The first is fast release type while the other is pulsed release which releases the drug in response to change in pH. In case of pH dependent system, advantage has been taken of the fact that there exists different pH environment at different parts of the gastrointestinal tract. By selecting the pH dependent polymers drug release at specific location can be obtained. Examples of pH

dependent polymers include cellulose acetate phthalate, polyacrylates, and sodium carboxymethyl cellulose. These polymers are used as enteric coating materials so as to provide release of drug in the small intestine.<sup>45</sup>

- **Enzymes Present in the Intestinal Tract**

Several prodrugs rely on colonic bacteria for release. In these systems, colonic bacteria are utilized to degrade the substrate. The bacterial amount has been estimated about 10<sup>11</sup> per gram in the colon. The bacterial species in the colon have been estimated to be around 400 (anaerobic in nature). In the past, polymers cross linked with azo-aromatic groups have been used to achieve colonic drug delivery. The first such compound that came out in the market was sulphasalazine, a prodrug consisting by 5-aminosalicylic acid linked by an azo bond to sulphapyridine. When the chemical entity was reaching the site of action (colon) a reduction reaction was taking place and the 5-aminosalicylic acid was becoming available. However, due to potential carcinogenic activity azo-aromatic compounds have now been replaced with natural polysaccharides. Natural polysaccharides such as amylose, chitosan, dextran, guar gum, and pectin are currently investigated for colonic delivery. To overcome problems of premature release due to their hydrophilic nature they are usually mixed with water insoluble polymers. Nevertheless, no granted patents on enzymatic drug delivery have been found.<sup>46</sup>

- **Inflammation-induced pulsatile release**

On receiving any physical or chemical stress, such as injury, fracture etc., inflammation takes place at the injured sites. During inflammation, hydroxyl radicals are produced from these inflammation-responsive cells. Yui and co-workers focused on the inflammatory induced hydroxyl radicals and designed drug delivery systems, which responded to the hydroxyl radicals and degraded in a limited manner. They used hyaluronic acid (HA) which is specifically degraded by the hyaluronidase or free radicals. Degradation of HA via the hyaluronidase is very low in a normal state of health. Degradation via hydroxyl radical however, is usually dominant and rapid when HA is injected at inflammatory sites. Thus, it is possible to treat patient with inflammatory diseases like rheumatoid arthritis; using anti-inflammatory drug incorporated HA gels as new implantable drug delivery systems.<sup>47</sup>

- **Glucose-responsive insulin release devices**

In case of diabetes mellitus there is rhythmic increase in the levels of glucose in the body requiring injection of the insulin at proper time. Several systems have been developed which are able to respond to changes in glucose concentration. One such system includes pH sensitive hydrogel containing glucose oxidase immobilized in the hydrogel. When glucose concentration in the blood increases glucose oxidase converts glucose into gluconic acid which changes the pH of the system. This pH change induces swelling of the polymer which results in insulin release.<sup>48</sup>

- **Externally regulated systems**

For releasing the drug in a pulsatile manner, another way can be the externally regulated systems in which drug release is programmed by external stimuli like magnetism, ultrasound, electrical effect and irradiation. Magnetically regulated system contains magnetic beads in the implant. On application of the magnetic field, drug release occurs because of magnetic beads.<sup>49</sup>

### 1.3 Drug and Excipients Profile

#### 1.4.1 Drug profile

Name:

NIZATIDINE<sup>50,51,52</sup>

Structural Formula:

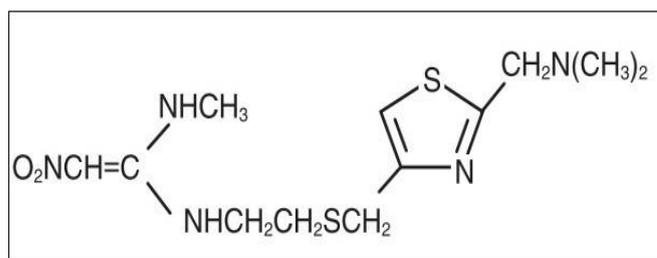


Figure 11: structure of Nizatidine

Molecular Formula:

C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>

Molecular weight (M<sub>r</sub>):

331

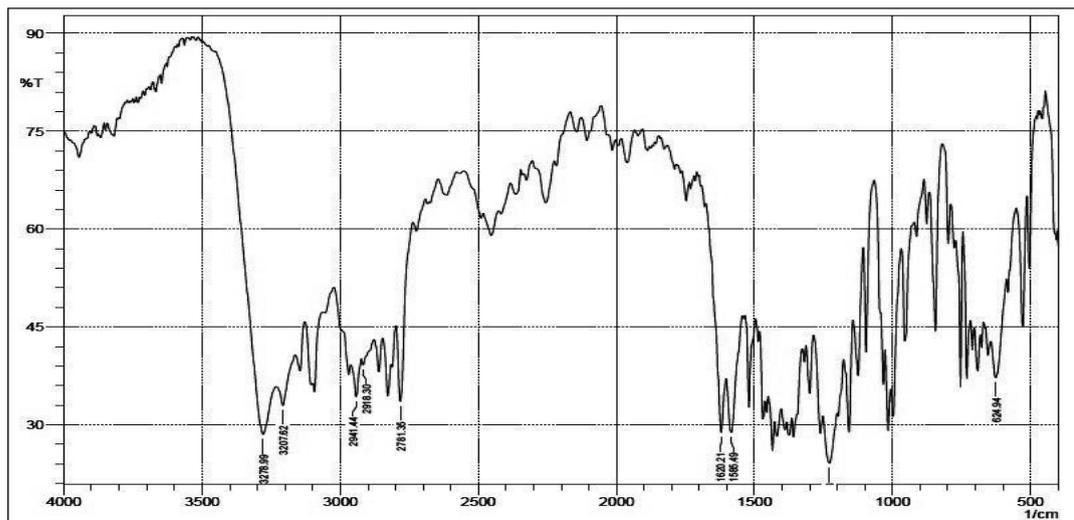
CAS number:

76963-41-2

1,1-Ethenediamine, N-[2-[[[2-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-4-thiazolyl]methyl]thio]ethyl]-N-methyl-2-nitro

Melting Range:

131°C to 134°C

**IR spectra:****Figure 12: IR spectra of Nizatidine**

Nizatidine occurs as a pale yellow to light brown, crystalline powder.

**Solubility:** Nizatidine is freely soluble in chloroform, soluble in methanol, soluble in water and buffered solutions, slightly soluble in ethyl acetate and isopropyl alcohol.

Nizatidine is essentially insoluble in benzene, diethyl ether and octanol.

$\lambda_{\text{Max}}$ : 314 nm.

**Half life:** The elimination half-life is 1 to 2 hours. **Volume of Distribution:** The volume of distribution is 0.8 to 1.5 L/kg. **Protein Binding:** 35%

**Bioavailability:** 70-80%

The recommended oral dosage for adults is 300 mg once daily at bedtime. An alternative dosage regimen is 150 mg twice daily.

**Pharmacokinetics:** The absolute oral bioavailability of Nizatidine exceeds 70%. Peak plasma concentrations occur from

0.5 to 3 hours following the dose. Plasma concentrations 12 hours after administration are less than 10 mcg/L. The elimination half-life is 1 to 2 hours, plasma clearance is 40 to 60 L/h, and the volume of distribution is 0.8 to 1.5 L/kg. Because of the short half-life and rapid clearance of Nizatidine, accumulation of the drug would not be expected in individuals with normal renal function who take either 300 mg once daily at bedtime or 150 mg twice daily. Nizatidine exhibits dose proportionality over the recommended dose range. The oral bioavailability of Nizatidine is unaffected by concomitant ingestion of Propanthelene. Antacids consisting of aluminum and magnesium hydroxides with simethicone decrease the absorption of Nizatidine by about 10%. With food, the AUC and  $C_{\text{max}}$  increase by approximately 10%. In humans, less than 7% of an oral dose is metabolized as N<sub>2</sub>-monodesmethyl Nizatidine, an H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonist, which is the principal metabolite excreted in the urine. Other likely metabolites are the N<sub>2</sub>-oxide (less than 5% of the dose) and the S-oxide (less than 6% of

the dose). More than 90% of an oral dose of Nizatidine is excreted in the urine within 12 hours. About 60% of an oral dose is excreted as unchanged drug. Renal clearance is about 500 mL/min, which indicates excretion by active tubular secretion. Less than 6% of an administered dose is eliminated in the feces. Moderate to severe renal impairment significantly prolongs the half-life and decreases the clearance of Nizatidine. In individuals who are functionally anephric, the half-life is 3.5 to 11 hours, and the plasma clearance is 7 to 14 L/h. To avoid accumulation of the drug in individuals with clinically significant renal impairment, the amount and/or frequency of doses of Nizatidine should be reduced in proportion to the severity of dysfunction.

Approximately 35% of Nizatidine is bound to plasma protein, mainly to  $\alpha_1$ -acid glycoprotein. Warfarin, diazepam, acetaminophen, propanthelene, phenobarbital, and propranolol did not affect plasma protein binding of Nizatidine in vitro.

**Mechanism of Action:** Nizatidine (H<sub>2</sub> receptor antagonist) inhibits acid production by reversibly competing with histamine for binding to H<sub>2</sub> receptors on the basolateral membrane of parietal cells. These drugs are less potent than proton pump inhibitors but still suppress 24-hour gastric acid secretion by about 70%. Nizatidine is predominantly inhibiting basal acid secretion, which accounts for their efficacy in suppressing nocturnal acid secretion. Because the most important determinant of duodenal ulcer healing is the level of nocturnal acidity, evening dosing of

Nizatidine is adequate therapy in most instances. Nizatidine also may stimulate GI motility.

Nizatidine is an H<sub>2</sub> antagonist used in the management of benign gastric and duodenal ulcers and NSAID-associated ulceration. In gastroesophageal reflux disease, an oral dose of 150 to 300 mg twice daily for 12 weeks for the short-term symptomatic relief of dyspepsia, an oral dose of 75 mg

The major therapeutic indications for Nizatidine (H<sub>2</sub> receptor antagonist) is to promote healing of gastric and duodenal ulcers, to treat

uncomplicated GERD, and to prevent the occurrence of stress ulcers.

**Contraindications:** Nizatidine is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to the drug. Because cross-sensitivity in this class of compounds has been observed, H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists, including Nizatidine, should not be administered to patients with a history of hypersensitivity to other H<sub>2</sub>-receptor antagonists.

Headache, dizziness, drowsiness, constipation, diarrhea, stomach pain, runny nose, sneezing, coughing, sweating  
Nizatidine should be used with caution in: patients with kidney or liver problems, women who are pregnant or who are breastfeeding, and care should be taken in those whose symptoms change and who are middle-aged or older as this drug can mask the symptoms of gastric cancer.

**Dosage Form:** Tablet, capsule, solution.

Store in a tightly closed container at room temperature between 59-86 degrees F (15-30 degrees C) away from moisture and light.

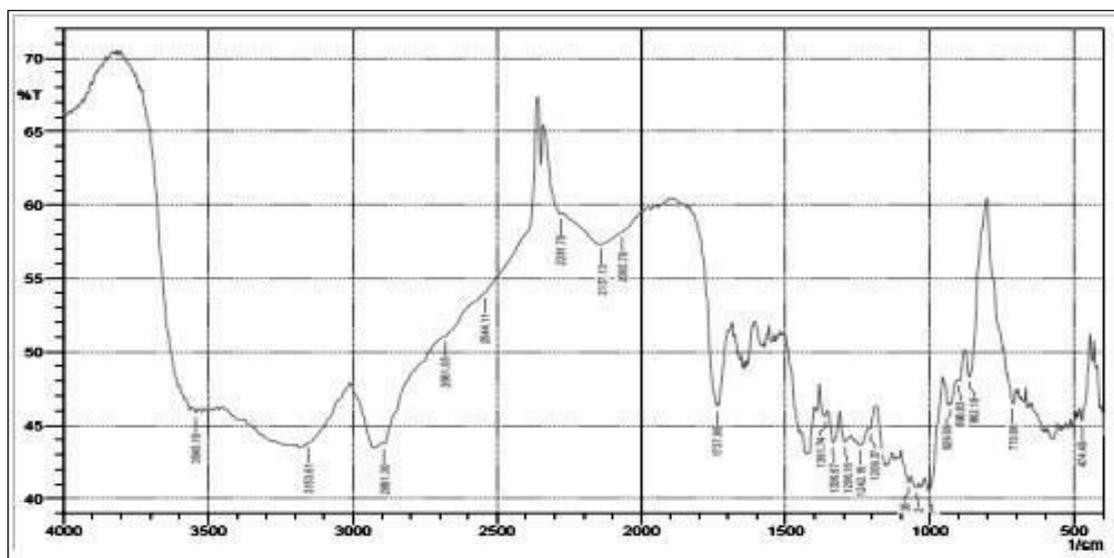
**1.4.2 Name:** CROSCARMELOSSESODIUM<sup>53</sup>

**Synonyms:** Ac-di-sol, Modified cellulose gum

**CAS Registry Number:** 74811-65-7

**Functional Category:** Tablet and capsule disintegrant.

**IR Spectra:**



**Figure 13: IR Spectra of croscarmellose sodium**

Croscarmellose sodium is used in oral pharmaceutical formulations as a disintegrant for capsules, tablets, and granules. In tablet formulations, croscarmellose sodium may be used in both direct-compression and wet-granulation processes. When used in wet granulations, the croscarmellose sodium should be added in both the wet and dry stages of the process (intra- and extra granularly) so that the wicking and swelling ability of the disintegrant is best utilized. Croscarmellose sodium at concentrations up to 5% w/w may be used as a tablet disintegrant, although

normally 2% w/w is used in tablets prepared by direct compression and 3% w/w in tablets prepared by a wet-granulation process. Croscarmellose sodium is used in oral pharmaceutical formulations as a disintegrant for capsules, and granules,

Disintegrant in tablets in 0.5-5.0% concentration, Disintegrant in capsule in 10-25% concentration

Croscarmellose sodium occurs as an odorless, white or grayish white powder.

Insoluble in water, although croscarmellose sodium rapidly swells to 4-8 times its original volume on contact with water. Practically insoluble in acetone, ethanol and toluene.

**Stability and Storage:** Croscarmellose sodium is a stable though hygroscopic material. A model tablet formulation prepared by direct compression, with croscarmellose sodium as a disintegrant, showed no significant difference in drug dissolution after storage at 30°C for 14 months. Croscarmellose sodium should be stored in a well-closed container in a cool, dry place.

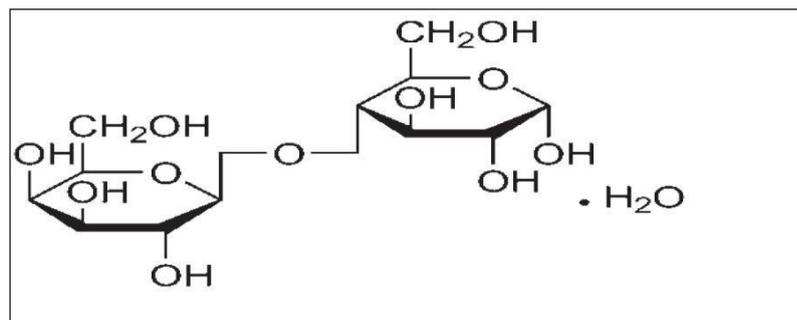
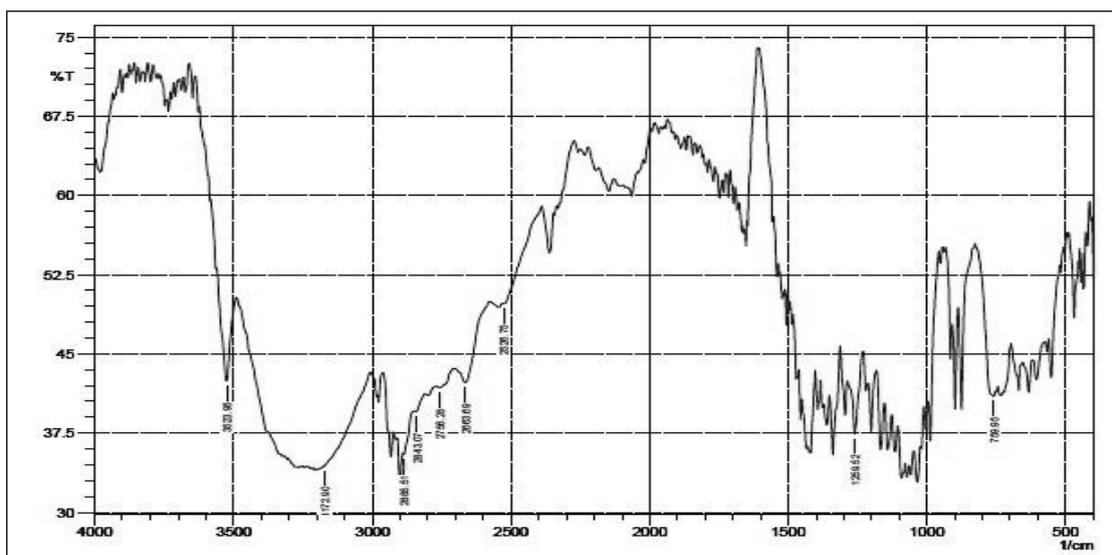
**Incompatibilities:** The efficacy of disintegrants, such as croscarmellose sodium, may be slightly reduced in tablet formulations prepared by either the wet-granulation or direct-compression process that contain hygroscopic excipients such as sorbitol. Croscarmellose sodium is not compatible with strong acids or with soluble salts of iron and some other metals such as aluminum, mercury, and zinc.

**1.4.3 Name:** LACTOSE<sup>53</sup>

Lactochem, lactosum monohydricum, Monohydrate Pharmatose.

**Molecular Weight:** 360.31

**CAS Registry Number:** 64044-51-5

**Structure:****Figure14:Structureof lactose****EmpiricalFormula:** $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11} \cdot H_2O$ **IRspectra:****Figure15:IR spectraof lactose****FunctionalCategory:**

Binding agent, diluents for dry-powder inhalers,

tablet binder, tablet and capsule diluents.

Lactose is widely used as filler or diluents in tablets and capsules, and to a more limited extent in lyophilized products and infant formulas. Lactose is also used as a diluent in dry-powder inhalation. Various lactose grades are commercially available that have different physical properties such as particle size distribution and flow characteristics. This permits the selection of the most suitable material for a particular application; for example, the particle size range selected for capsules is often dependent on the type of encapsulating machine used. Usually, fine grades of lactose are used in the preparation of tablets by the wet-granulation method or when milling during processing is carried out, since the fine size permits better mixing with other formulation ingredients and utilizes the binder more efficiently.

In the solid state, lactose appears as various isomeric forms, depending on the crystallization and drying conditions, i.e.  $\alpha$ -lactose monohydrate,  $\beta$ -lactose anhydrous, and  $\gamma$ -lactose anhydrous. The stable crystalline forms of lactose are  $\alpha$ -lactose monohydrate,  $\beta$ -lactose anhydrous and stable  $\gamma$ -lactose anhydrous. Lactose occurs as white to off-white crystalline particles or powder. Lactose is odorless and slightly sweet-tasting;  $\alpha$ -lactose is approximately 20% as sweet as sucrose, while  $\beta$ -lactose is 40% as sweet.

**Stability and Storage:**

Mold growth may occur under humid conditions

(80% relative humidity and above). Lactose may develop a brown coloration on storage, the reaction being accelerated by warm, damp conditions. The purities of different lactose can vary and color evaluation may be important, particularly if white tablets are being formulated. The color stabilities of various lactose salts differ. Solutions show mutarotation; Lactose should be stored in a well-closed container in a cool, dry place.

**Incompatibilities:**

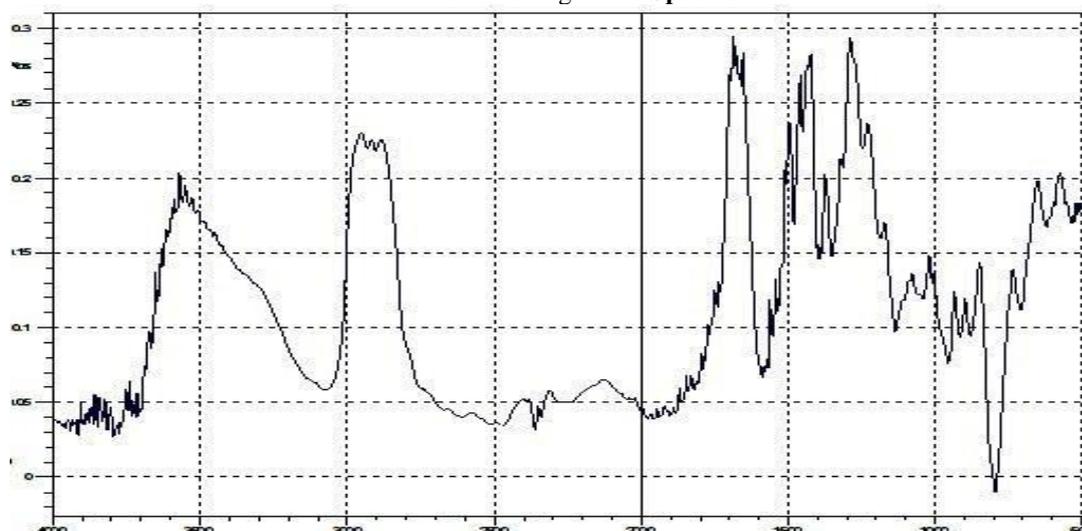
A Maillard-type condensation reaction is likely to

occur between lactose and compounds with a primary amine group to form brown, or yellow-brown-colored products. Lactose is also incompatible with amino acids, aminophylline, amfetamines and lisinopril.

**Related Substances:**

Lactose anhydrous

**1.4.4 Name** **CROSSPOVIDONE**<sup>53</sup>  
**Synonym:** Crosspovidonum, Crosphophar,  
**CASRegistryNumber:** 9003-39-8  
**EmpiricalFormula:** (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NO)<sub>n</sub>  
**FunctionalCategory:** Tablet disintegrant.  
**IR Spectra:**



**Figure 16: IR spectra of crosspovidone**

**Applications:** Crosspovidone is a water-insoluble tablet disintegrant and dissolution agent used at 2–5% concentration in tablets prepared by direct compression or wet-and

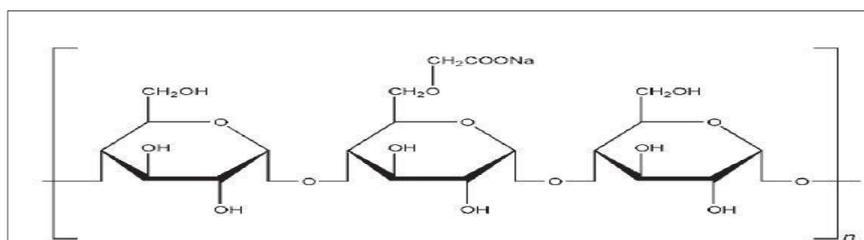
dry-granulation methods. It rapidly exhibits high capillary activity and pronounced hydration capacity, with little tendency to form gels. Studies suggest that the particle size of crosspovidone strongly influences disintegration of analgesic tablets. Larger particles provide a faster disintegration than smaller particles. Crosspovidone can also be used as a solubility enhancer. With the technique of co-evaporation, crosspovidone can be used to enhance the solubility of poorly soluble drugs. The drug is adsorbed on crosspovidone in the presence of a suitable solvent and the solvent is then evaporated. This technique results in a faster dissolution rate.

**Description:** Crosspovidone is a white to creamy-white, finely divided, free-flowing, practically tasteless, odorless or nearly odorless, hygroscopic powder.

**Stability and Storage:** Crosspovidone is hygroscopic; it should be stored in an airtight container in a cool, dry place.

**Incompatibilities:** Crosspovidone is compatible with most organic and inorganic pharmaceutical ingredients. When exposed to a high water level, crosspovidone may form a molecular adduct with some materials.

**1.4.5 Name** **SODIUM STARCH GLYCOLATE**<sup>53</sup>  
**Synonyms:** Carboxymethyl starch.  
**Structure:**

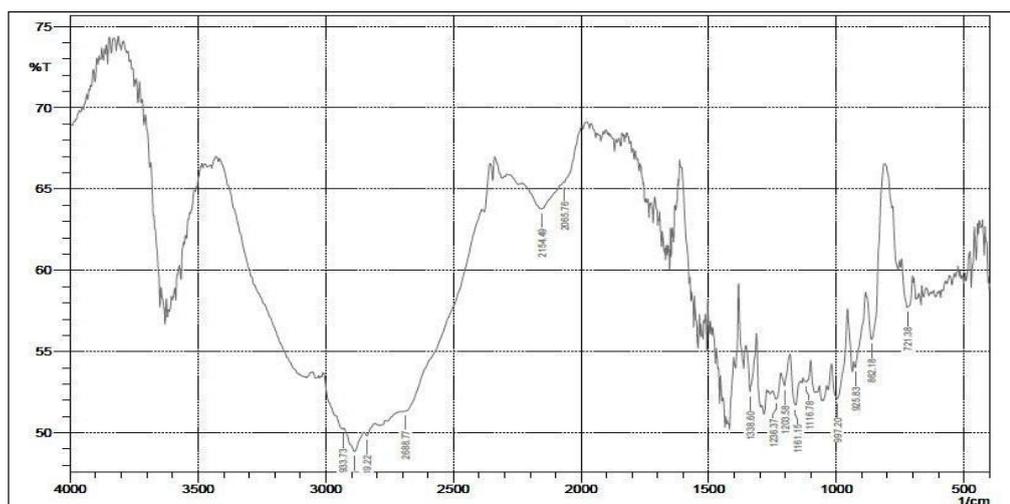


**Figure 17: structure of sodium starch glycolate**

**CASRegistryNumber:** 9063-38-1  
**Description:** Sodium starch glycolate is a white to off-white, odorless, tasteless, free-flowing powder.

**Functional Category:** Tablet and capsule disintegrant.

**IR Spectra:**



**Figure 18: IR spectra of sodium starch glycolate**

**Applications:**

Sodium starch glycolate is widely used in oral pharmaceuticals as a disintegrant in capsule and tablet formulations. The usual concentration employed in a formulation is between 2% and 8%, with the optimum concentration about 4%, although in many cases 2% is sufficient. Disintegration occurs by rapid uptake of water followed by rapid and enormous swelling. Although the effectiveness of many disintegrants is affected by the presence of hydrophobic excipients such as lubricants, the disintegrant efficiency of sodium starch glycolate is unimpaired.

**Stability and Storage:**

Sodium starch glycolate is stable and should be stored in a well-closed container in order to protect it from wide variations of humidity and temperature,

which may cause caking. The physical properties of sodium starch glycolate remain unchanged for up to 3–5 years if it is stored at moderate temperatures and humidity.

**Incompatibilities:**

Sodium starch glycolate is incompatible with ascorbic acid.

**1.4.6 Name**

**Synonyms:**

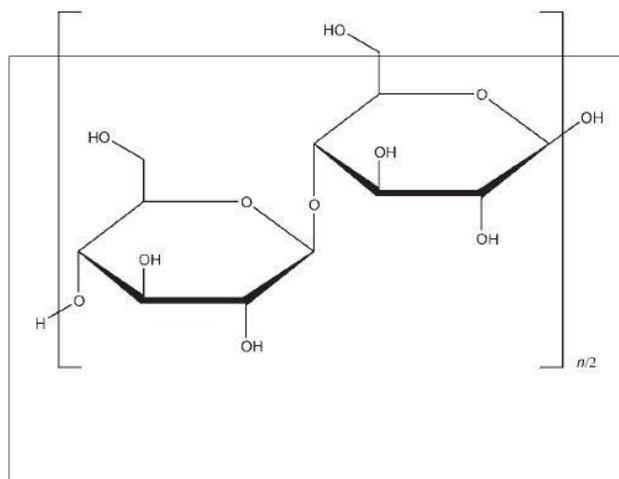
**Chemical Name:**

**MICROCRYSTALLINE CELLULOSE**<sup>53</sup>

Avicel PH, Cellets, Celex, Celphere, crystalline cellulose; Emcocel.

Cellulose

**Structure:**



**Figure19:StructureofMicrocrystallinecelluloseCASRegistryNumber:**

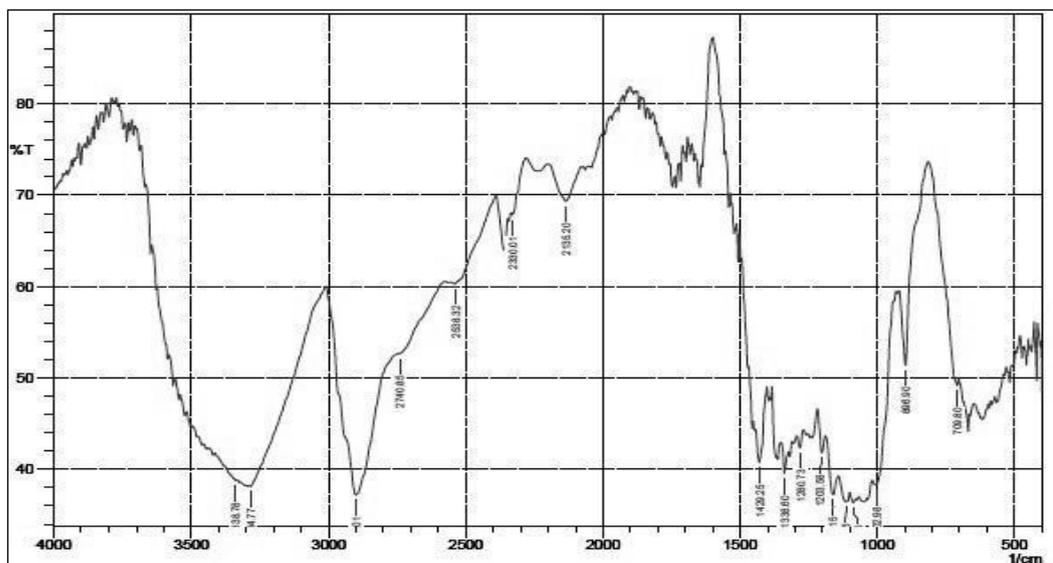
9004-34-6

**EmpiricalFormula:** $(C_6H_{10}O_5)_n$ .**FunctionalCategory:**

Adsorbent;suspendingagent;tabletandcapsule diluents;tabletdisintegrant.

**Description:**

Microcrystallinecelluloseis purified, partially depolymerized cellulose that occurs as a white, odourless, tasteless, crystalline powder composed of porous particles. It is commercially available in different particle sizes and moisture grades that have different properties and applications.

**IR Spectra:****Figure20:IR spectra of microcrystalline cellulose****Applications:**

Microcrystalline cellulose is widely used in pharmaceuticals, primarily as a binder/diluents in oral tablet and capsule formulations where it is used in both wet-granulation and direct-compression processes. In addition to its use as a binder/diluents, microcrystalline cellulose also has some lubricant and disintegrant properties that make it useful in tableting.

**Solubility:**

Slightly soluble in 5% w/v sodium hydroxide solution; practically insoluble in water, dilute acids, and most organic solvents.

**Stability and Storage:**

Microcrystalline cellulose is a stable though hygroscopic material. The bulk material should be stored in a well-closed container in a cool, dry place.

**Incompatibilities:**

Microcrystalline cellulose is incompatible with strong oxidizing agents.

**1.4.7 Name:****MAGNESIUM STEARATE**<sup>53</sup>**Synonyms:**

Dibasic magnesium stearate; magnesium distearate.

**CAS Registry Number:**

557-04-0

**Molecular weight:** $C_{36}H_{70}MgO_4$ **Functional category:**

591.34

**Application:**

Tablet and capsule lubricant.

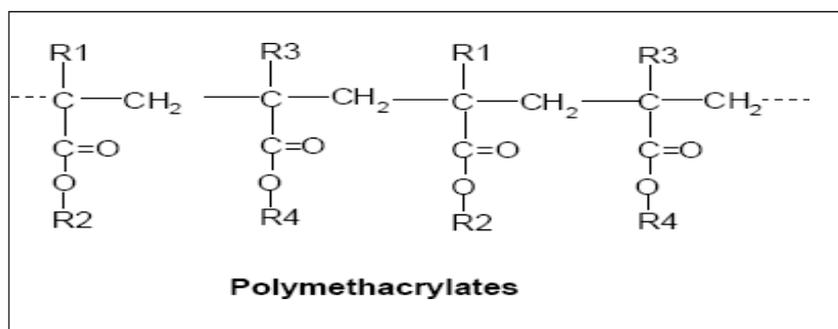
Magnesium stearate is widely used in cosmetics, foods, and pharmaceutical formulations primarily used as a lubricant in capsule and tablet at a concentration between 0.25% - 5.0% w/w.

**Description:**

Magnesium stearate is very fine, light white, precipitated or milled impalpable powder of low bulk density having a faint odor of stearic acid and characteristic taste.

<b>Stability and Storage:</b>	Magnesium stearate is stable and should be stored in a well-closed container in a cool, dry place.
<b>Incompatibility:</b>	Incompatible with strong acids, alkalis and iron salts. Avoid mixing with strong oxidizing materials. Magnesium stearate cannot be used in products containing aspirin, some vitamins and most alkaloidal salts.
<b>Related Substances:</b>	Calcium stearate; magnesium aluminum silicate; stearic acid; zinc stearate
<b>1.4.8 Name</b>	<b>COLLOIDAL SILICON DIOXIDE</b> <sup>53</sup>
<b>Synonyms:</b>	Aerosil, colloidal silica; fumed silica, fumed silicon dioxide.
<b>CAS Registry Number:</b>	7631-86-9
<b>Empirical Formula:</b>	SiO <sub>2</sub>
<b>Molecular Weight:</b>	60.08
<b>Functional Category:</b>	Adsorbent, Anticaking agent, Emulsion stabilizer; glidant, suspending agent, tablet disintegrant, thermal stabilizer, viscosity-increasing agent.
<b>Applications:</b>	Colloidal silicon dioxide is widely used in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and food products. Its small particle size and large specific surface area give it desirable flow characteristics that are exploited to improve the flow properties of dry powders in a number of processes such as tableting and capsule filling. Colloidal silicon dioxide is also used to stabilize emulsions and as a thixotropic thickening and suspending agent in gels and semisolid preparations. With other ingredients of similar refractive index, transparent gels may be formed. The degree of viscosity increase depends on the polarity of the liquid (polar liquids generally require a greater concentration of colloidal silicon dioxide than nonpolar liquids). Viscosity is largely independent of temperature. However, changes to the pH of a system may affect the viscosity.
<b>Description:</b>	Colloidal silicon dioxide is sub microscopic fumed silica with a particle size of about 15 nm. It is a light, loose, bluish-white colour, odourless, tasteless, amorphous powder.
<b>Stability and Storage:</b>	Colloidal silicon dioxide is hygroscopic but adsorbs large quantities of water without liquefying. When used in aqueous systems at a pH 0–7.5, colloidal silicon dioxide is effective in increasing the viscosity of a system. However, at a pH greater than 7.5 the viscosity-increasing properties of colloidal silicon dioxide are reduced; and at a pH greater than 10.7 this ability is lost entirely since the silicon dioxide dissolves to form silicates. Colloidal silicon dioxide powders should be stored in a well-closed container.
<b>Incompatibilities:</b>	Incompatible with diethylstilbestrol preparations.
<b>1.4.9 Name</b>	<b>TALC</b> <sup>53</sup>
<b>Synonyms:</b>	Hydrous magnesium calcium silicate, hydrous magnesium silicate, purified French chalk, Pur talc, soapstone, steatite.
<b>CAS Registry Number:</b>	14807-96-6
<b>Molecular Weight:</b>	Mg <sub>6</sub> (Si <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> (OH) <sub>4</sub> .
<b>Functional Category:</b>	Anticaking agent, glidant, tablet and capsule diluents, tablet and capsule lubricant.
<b>Applications:</b>	Talc was once widely used in oral solid dosage formulations as a lubricant and diluent, although today it is less commonly used. However, it is widely used as a dissolution retardant in the development of controlled-release products. Talc is also used as a lubricant in tablet formulations; in a novel powder coating for extended-release pellets; and as an adsorbent. In topical preparations, talc is used as a dusting powder, although it should not be used to dust surgical gloves; Talc is a natural material; it may therefore frequently contain microorganisms and should be sterilized when used as a dusting powder. Talc is additionally used to clarify liquids and is also used in cosmetics and food products, mainly for its lubricant properties.
<b>Description:</b>	Talc is a very fine, white to grayish-white, palpable, unctuous, crystalline powder. It adheres readily to the skin and is soft to the touch and free from grittiness.
<b>Solubility:</b>	Practically insoluble in dilute acids, alkalis and water.
<b>Stability and Storage:</b>	Talc is a stable material and may be sterilized by heating at 160°C for not less than 1 hour. It may also be sterilized by exposure to ethylene oxide or gamma irradiation. Talc should be stored in a well-

	closed container in a cool, dry place.
<b>Incompatibilities:</b>	Incompatible with quaternary ammonium compounds.
<b>Safety:</b>	Talc is not absorbed systemically following oral ingestion and is therefore regarded as an essentially nontoxic material. However, intranasal or intravenous abuse of products containing it can cause granulomas in body tissues, particularly the lungs. Although talc has been extensively investigated for its carcinogenic potential, and it has been suggested that there is an increased risk of ovarian cancer in women using talc, the evidence is inconclusive. However, talc contaminated with asbestos has been proved to be carcinogenic in humans, and asbestos-free grades should therefore be used in pharmaceutical products. Also, long-term toxic effects of talc contaminated with large quantities of hexachlorophen caused serious irreversible neurotoxicity in infants accidentally exposed to the substance.
<b>1.4.10 Name</b>	<b>POLYMETHACRYLATES</b> <sup>53</sup>
<b>Synonyms:</b>	Methacrylic acid, Eudragit
<b>Description:</b>	White powders with a faint characteristic odour
<b>Molecular Weight:</b>	Average approx. 135,000.
<b>Structural Formula:</b>	EUDRAGIT® is anionic copolymers based on Methacrylic acid and methyl methacrylate
<b>Structure:</b>	



**Figure 21: structure of polymethacrylates** Functional Category: Film former, tablet binder.

<b>Solubility:</b>	1 g of EUDRAGIT® dissolves in 7 g methanol, ethanol, in aqueous isopropyl alcohol and acetone (containing approx. 3 % water), as well as in 1 N sodium hydroxide to give clear to slightly cloudy solutions. EUDRAGIT® is practically insoluble in nethylacetate, methylene chloride, petroleum ether and water.
<b>Stability:</b>	Minimum stability dates are given on the product labels and batch-related Certificates of Analysis. Storage Stability data are available upon request.
<b>Storage:</b>	Store at controlled room temperatures (USP, General Notices). Protect against moisture. Any storage between 8°C and 25°C fulfils this requirement.
<b>Incompatibilities:</b>	Incompatibilities occur with acid and/or alkaline condition depending upon which polymer is being used.
<b>Application:</b>	Eudragit L, S types are used as enteric coating agents because they are resistant to gastric fluid. Different types are available that are soluble at different pH values: e.g. Eudragit L is soluble at pH > 6; Eudragit S is soluble at pH > 7. While Eudragit RS is used to form water-insoluble film coats for sustained-release products. Binder – Eudragit E (concentration between 5 to 20%). Film former – Eudragit L form acid-insoluble film coats for enteric purpose.
<b>1.4.11 Name</b>	<b>HYDROXYPROPYL METHYLCELLULOSE</b> <sup>53</sup>
<b>Synonyms:</b>	Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, HPMC, Methocel, methyl hydroxypropylcellulose
<b>CAS Registry Number:</b>	9004-65-3
<b>Functional Category:</b>	Coating agent; film-former; rate-controlling polymer for sustained release; stabilizing agent; suspending agent; tablet binder; viscosity-

increasing agent.

<b>Applications:</b>	Hypromellose is widely used in oral, ophthalmic and topical pharmaceutical formulations. In oral products, it is primarily used as a tablet binder, in film-coating, and as a matrix for use in extended-release tablet formulations. Concentrations between 2% and 5% w/w may be used as a binder in either wet- or dry-granulation processes. High-viscosity grades may be used to retard the release of drugs from a matrix at levels of 10–80% w/w in tablets and capsules.
<b>Description:</b>	Hypromellose is an odorless and tasteless, white or creamy-white fibrous or granular powder.
<b>Solubility:</b>	Soluble in cold water, forming a viscous colloidal solution; practically insoluble in chloroform, ethanol (95%), and ether, but soluble in mixtures of ethanol and dichloromethane, mixtures of methanol and dichloromethane, and mixtures of water and alcohol. Certain grades of hypromellose are soluble in aqueous acetone solutions, mixtures of
<b>Stability and Storage:</b>	dichloromethane and propan-2-ol, and other organic solvents. Hypromellose powder is a stable material, although it is hygroscopic after drying. Solutions are stable at pH 3–11. Increasing temperature reduces the viscosity of solutions. It undergoes a reversible sol-gel transformation upon heating and cooling, respectively. The gel point is 50–90°C, depending upon the grade and concentration of material. This powder should be stored in a well-closed container, in a cool, dry place.
<b>Incompatibilities:</b>	Hypromellose is incompatible with some oxidizing agents. Since it is nonionic, it will not complex with metallic salts or ionic organic salts to form insoluble precipitates.
<b>Safety:</b>	Hypromellose is widely used as an excipient in oral and topical pharmaceutical formulations. It is also used extensively in cosmetics and food products. It is generally regarded as a non-toxic and non-irritant material, although excessive oral consumption may have a laxative effect. The WHO has not specified an acceptable daily intake for hypromellose since the levels consumed were not considered to represent a hazard to health.
<b>1.4.12 Name</b>	<b>POLYVINYLPIRROLIDONE K30</b> <sup>53</sup>
<b>Synonyms:</b>	Kollidon, Plasdone, Poly[1-(2-oxo-1-pyrrolidinyl)ethylene], Polyvidone, PVP, 1-vinyl-2-pyrrolidinone polymer.
<b>Nonproprietary names:</b>	BP-povidone, JP-Povidone, PHEur-povidonum, USP-povidone.
<b>Chemical name:</b>	1-Ethenyl-2-pyrrolidone homopolymer.
<b>Category:</b>	Disintegrant, dissolution aid, suspending agent, tablet binder.
<b>Structure</b>	

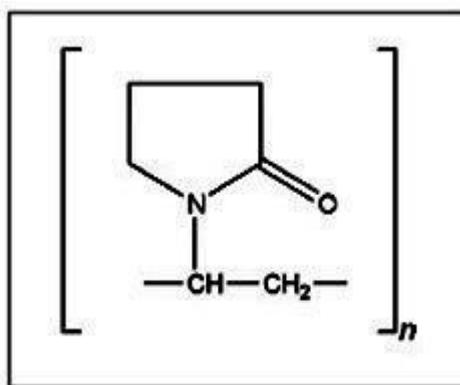
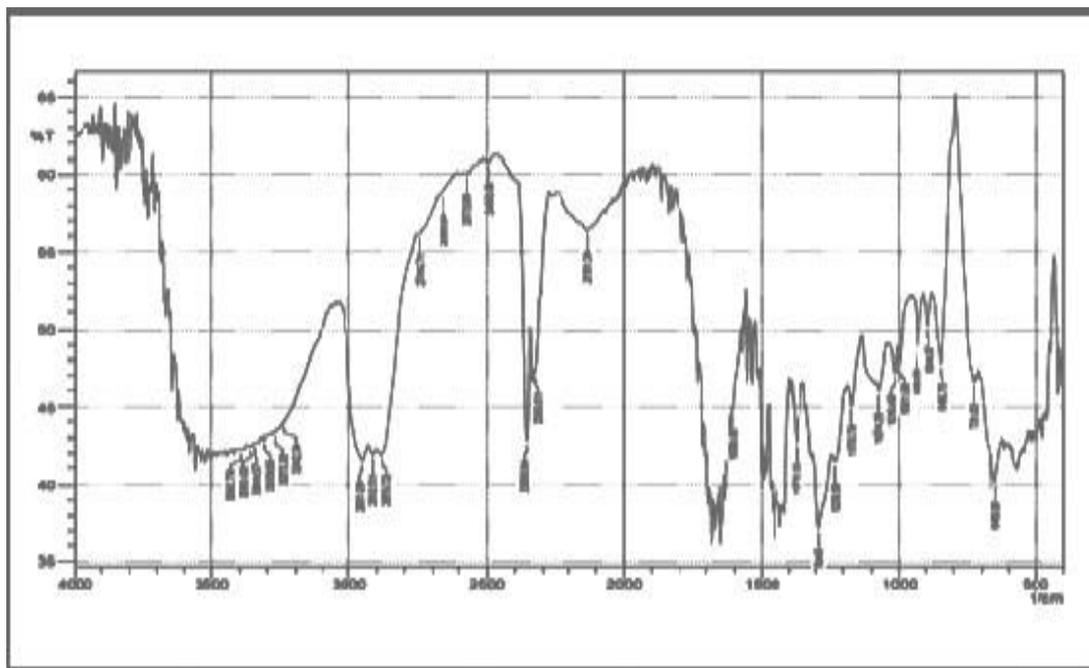


Figure 22: structure of vinylpolyvinylpyrrolidone K30

**Molecular weight:** 50,000  
**FTIR-spectra**



**Figure 23: FTIR-spectra of PVPK-30**

**Description:**

It occurs as a fine, white to creamy white colored, odorless, hygroscopic powder.

**Solubility:**

Freely soluble in acids, chloroform, ethanol, ketones, methanol and water. Practically insoluble in ether, hydrocarbons and mineral oil.

5.5 to 8.5 m Pas (aqueous solution)

**Stability:**

Darkens to some extent on heating at 150 °C, with a reduction in aqueous solubility. It is stable to a short cycle of heat exposure around 110-130 °C.

It should be stored in an airtight container in a cool, dry place.

**Safety:**

Generally regarded as non-toxic, non-irritant but adverse reactions may take place if taken intramuscularly or subcutaneously.

It is incompatible with sulfathiazole, sodium salicylate, salicylic acid, Phenobarbital, tannin.

**1.4 Review of Literature**

**Akhter, et al. 2011.**<sup>54</sup> A time controlled two pulse dosage form of Amoxicillin was developed. The compression coating inlay tablet approach was used to deliver the drug in two pulses to different parts of the GIT after a well-defined lag time between the two releases. This was made possible by formulating a core containing one of the two drug fractions, which was spray coated with a suspension of ethyl cellulose and a hydrophilic but water insoluble agent as a pore former (microcrystalline cellulose). Coating of up to 5% (m/m) was applied over the core tablet, giving a corresponding lag of 3, 5, 7 and 12 h.

**Bauskar, et al. 2011.**<sup>55</sup> A tablet system consisting of cores coated with two layers of swelling and erodible coatings was prepared and evaluated as pulsatile drug delivery system. Cores containing Doxofylline were prepared by direct compression of lactose, microcrystalline cellulose and containing a superdisintegrant (croscarmellose sodium, croscopolvidone) and an outer erodible layer of Hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (Methocel E 50). The effect of core composition and magnesium stearate in erodible layer was investigated. Eroding and dissolution tests were performed using the paddle method at 50 rpm in Simulated Gastric Fluid and Simulated Intestinal Fluid. The lag time of the pulsatile release tablets decreased with increasing amount of microcrystalline cellulose in the cores and increased with increasing level of erodible Hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (Methocel E 50) coating. Increasing levels of the Hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (Methocel E 50) coating retarded the water uptake or erodes in presence of aqueous environment and thus prolonged the lag time.

**Gami, et al. 2011.**<sup>56</sup> prepare pulsatile drug delivery system of Metoprolol succinate. In this work pulsatile drug delivery system was prepared by using swellable and rupturable polymer. The polymers like Ac-di-sol and croscopolvidone were selected as swellable polymer while ethyl cellulose was selected as rupturable polymer. In present work, core tablet (150 mg) containing 100 mg Metoprolol succinate was prepared by wet granulation technique. This prepared core tablet was coated by using 2.5% ethyl cellulose containing triethyl citrate as plasticizer. This coating solution was sprayed to core tablet to achieve different percentage of weight

gain into the core tablet. The prepared film coated tablet was evaluated for in vitro drug dissolution study to get desirable immediate release of drug after lag time of 6 hours.

**Naik and Zine, 2011.**<sup>57</sup> Chronopharmaceutics is a branch of pharmaceuticals devoted to the design and evaluation of drug delivery systems that release bioactive agents at a rhythm that ideally matches the biological requirement of a given disease therapy. A major objective of chronotherapy in the treatment of several diseases is to deliver the drug in higher concentrations during the time of greatest need according to the circadian onset of diseases or symptoms. The main objective of the present study was to develop single-unit floating-pulsatile drug delivery system for obtaining no drug release during floating and in the proximal small intestine followed by pulsed drug release in distal small intestine to achieve Chronotherapeutic release of Aceclofenac for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, spondylitis and to improve the patient compliance.

**Shirsagar, et al. 2011.**<sup>58</sup> Developed hollow calcium alginate beads for floating pulsatile release of valsartan intended for chronopharmacotherapy. Floating pulsatile concept was applied to increase the gastric residence of the dosage form having lag phase followed by a burst release. To overcome the limitations of various approaches for imparting buoyancy, hollow porous beads were prepared by simple process of acid-base reaction during ionotropic cross linking by low viscosity sodium alginate and calcium chloride as a cross linking agent. In this study, investigation of the functionality of the sodium alginate to predict lag time.

**Latha, et al. 2011.**<sup>59</sup> To develop an optimized press-coated tablets of losartan potassium using an admixture of a hydrophilic polymer, Hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC) and microcrystalline cellulose (MCC) in order to achieve a predetermined lag time for chronotherapy. The press-coated tablets (PCT) containing losartan potassium in the inner core were prepared by compression-coating with HPMC 100KM alone and admixed with MCC as the outer layer in different ratios. The effect of the outer layer on the lag time of drug release was investigated.

**Reddy, et al. 2011.**<sup>60</sup> The purpose of this research study was to develop and optimize a controlled-release floating tablet of highly water-soluble drug Nizatidine in an effort to increase its gastric retention time in the stomach. The tablets were prepared by direct compression method and Hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC) of different viscosity grades, Carboxymethylcellulose Sodium (NaCMC) were incorporated as retarding polymers. Sodium bicarbonate was incorporated as an effervescent agent. Formulations were evaluated for weight variation, thickness, hardness, percentage swelling, friability, and in vitro drug release, and floating lag time, total duration of floating, dissolution efficacy and in vivo Mean Residence Time (MRT) in the stomach.

**Pannala and Rathnanand, 2011.**<sup>61</sup> Prepare and evaluate (in vitro) Nizatidine immediate release tablets. The developed drug delivery system delivers a programmed dose of drug intended for excessively secreted gastric acid and for promoting healing of duodenal ulcers thereby spontaneously delivering the drug when exposed into GIT for producing an anti-ulcer effect. Accordingly, immediate release drug-containing core tablets of Nizatidine were prepared by wet granulation method.

**Patil, et al. 2011.**<sup>62</sup> Prepared and evaluated a press-coated pulsatile drug delivery system intended for treatment of early morning stiffness and symptomatic relief from pain in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. The formulation involved press coating of a rupturable coat around a rapidly disintegrating core tablet of Aceclofenac. A three-factor, two-level, full factorial design was used to investigate the influence of amount of glyceryl behenate, amount of sodium chloride in the coating composition, and the coating level on the responses, i.e., lag time to release and amount of Aceclofenac released in 450 minutes. Glyceryl behenate and the coating level had a significant influence on lag time, while sodium chloride helped in the rupture of the coat by acting as a channeling agent.

**Jagdale, et al. 2010.**<sup>63</sup> A tablet system consisting of cores coated with two layers of swelling and rupturable coatings was prepared and evaluated as a pulsatile drug delivery system. Cores containing Atenolol as model drug were prepared by direct compression of different ratios of lactose and microcrystalline cellulose and were then coated sequentially with an inner swelling layer containing a superdisintegrant KYRON T 314 and an outer rupturable layer of ethyl cellulose. The effect of level of swelling layer and rupturable coating was investigated. Rupture and dissolution tests were performed using the USP Type II paddle method at 50 rpm in 0.1N HCl. The lag time of the pulsatile release tablets decreased with increasing amount of microcrystalline cellulose in the cores and increased with increasing levels of both swelling layer and rupturable ethyl cellulose coating. Increasing level of the ethyl cellulose coating retarded the water uptake and thus prolonged the lag time.

**Shah, et al. 2010.**<sup>64</sup> Advancement in drug delivery could come from innovative improvement to existing drug delivery system. Because of reduced frequency of administration, sustain release dosage form, enjoy convenience and ambulatory patient compliance. Developed formula is a multiple unit based pulsatile delivery of Salbutamol Sulphate which can offer a solution for exhibiting chronopharmacological behavior of asthma, extensive first-pass metabolism and necessity of night-timed dosing. So we can conclude that it can underlie the chronokinetics of nocturnal asthma. Among five batches, specific amount 4% CAP and 2% EC batch gives later release than predetermined time. They release their higher dose after 6 hours. So that batch SF2 is accurate batch for Nocturnal Asthma according to pulsatile drug delivery system.

**Roy and Shahiwala, 2009.**<sup>65</sup> Present work conceptualizes a specific technology, based on combining floating and pulsatile principles to develop drug delivery system, intended for chronotherapy in nocturnal acid breakthrough. This approach will be achieved by using a programmed delivery of ranitidine hydrochloride from a floating tablet with time-lagged coating. In this study, investigation of the functionality of the outer polymer coating to predict lag time and drug release was statistically analyzed using the response surface methodology (RSM).

**Zou, et al. 2008.**<sup>66</sup> The objective of this work was to develop and evaluate a floating pulsatile drug delivery system intended for chronopharmacotherapy. Floating pulsatile concept was applied to increase the gastric residence of the dosage form having lag phase followed by a burst release. To overcome limitations of various approaches for imparting buoyancy, we generated the system which consisted of three different parts, a core tablet, containing the active ingredient, an erodible outer shell and a top cover buoyant layer. The dry coated tablet consists in a drug-containing core, coated by a hydrophilic erodible polymer which is responsible for a lag phase in the onset of pulsatile release. The buoyant layer, prepared with Methocel® K4M, Carbopol® 934P and sodium bicarbonate, provides buoyancy to increase the retention of the

oral dosage form in the stomach. The effect of the hydrophilic erodible polymer characteristic on the lag time and drug release was investigated.

**Shaji and Patole, 2007.**<sup>67</sup> Preparation of a multiple-unit, floating-pulsatile drug delivery system for obtaining no drug release during floating and in the proximal small intestine followed by pulsed, rapid drug release in distal small intestine to achieve Chronotherapeutic release of indomethacin. The system developed consists of drug containing core pellets prepared by extrusion-spheronization process, which were coated with an inner pH-dependent layer of Eudragit S100 and outer effervescent layer of sodium bicarbonate and HPMCK100M. Pellets showed instantaneous floating with no drug release in acidic medium followed by pulsed drug release in basic medium. Concentration of HPMCK100M and layering level of effervescent agent significantly affected performance of pellets. The system showed excellent lag phase followed by burst release in the distal small intestine which gives site and time specific delivery of indomethacin acting as per chronotherapy of rheumatoid arthritis.

**Gothoskar, et al. 2004.**<sup>68</sup> Reviewed Disease like Bronchial asthma, Myocardial infarction, angina pectoris, Rheumatic disease, Ulcer, & Hypertension display time dependence. In Asthmatic disease reported sharp increase in asthmatic attack during early morning hours. Such a condition demands consideration of diurnal progress of disease rather than maintaining constant plasma drug level, a drug delivery system administered at bed time, but releasing drug well after the time of administration, would be ideal in this case

**Lin, et al. 2004.**<sup>69</sup> An oral press-coated tablet was developed by means of direct compression to achieve the time-controlled disintegrating or rupturing function with a distinct predetermined lag time. This press-coated tablet containing sodium diclofenacin the inner core was formulated with an outer shell by different weight ratios of hydrophobic polymer of micronized ethyl-cellulose (EC) powder and hydrophilic excipients such as spray-dried lactose (SDL) or hydroxypropyl methylcellulose (HPMC). The effect of the formulation of an outer shell comprising both hydrophobic polymer and hydrophilic excipients on the time lag of drug release was investigated.

**Sungthongjeen, et al. 2004.**<sup>70</sup> A tablet system consisting of cores coated with two layers of swelling and rupturable coatings was prepared and evaluated as a pulsatile drug delivery system. Cores containing buflomedil HCl as model drug were prepared by direct compression of different ratios of spray-dried lactose and microcrystalline cellulose and were then coated sequentially with an inner swelling layer containing a superdisintegrant (croscarmellose sodium) and an outer rupturable layer of ethyl cellulose. The effect of core composition, level of swelling layer and rupturable coating, and magnesium stearate in rupturable layer was investigated. Mechanical properties of ethyl cellulose films in the dry and wet state were characterized with a puncture test. Rupture and dissolution tests were performed

**Bodmeier, et al. 2003.**<sup>71</sup> Investigate the swelling characteristics of various swellable polymers in swelling layers that induce the rupturing of an outer polymer coating in pulsatile drug delivery systems. An apparatus was designed to measure simultaneously the swelling energy/force and water uptake of discs, made of polymers. The swelling energy of several excipients decreased in the following order: croscarmellose sodium. Low-substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose. sodium starch glycolate. Crosspovidone. hydroxypropyl methylcellulose. A linear correlation existed between the swelling energy and the water uptake.

**Fan, et al. 2001.**<sup>72</sup> To develop new pulsatile release tablets, which can suppress drug release in stomach and release the drug rapidly after a predetermined lag time of about 3 h in intestine, the use of tablets with ethyl cellulose/Eudragit L as a coating film and cross-linked polyvinylpyrrolidone in the core tablets was investigated. The release of diltiazem hydrochloride as a model drug in the core tablets was investigated *in vitro*.

**Fukui, et al. 2001.**<sup>73</sup> In this study Dissolution profiles of diltiazem hydrochloride contained in core tablets from press-coated (PC) tablets with Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose acetate succinate (HPMCAS) and plasticizers-adsorbent in the outer shell were investigated.

**Ping, et al. 1999.**<sup>74</sup> Non-cross linked and cross linked chitosan microspheres were prepared by a spray drying method. The microspheres so prepared had a good sphericity and a smooth but distorted surface morphology. They were positively charged. The particle size ranged from 2 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ . The size and zeta potential of the particles were influenced by the cross linking level. With decreasing amount of crosslinking agent (either glutaraldehyde or formaldehyde), both particle size and

zeta potential were increased. Preparation conditions also had some influence on the particle size. DSC studies revealed that the  $\text{H}_2$  antagonist drug Cimetidine, as well as

Famotidine was molecularly dispersed inside the microspheres, in the form of a solid solution. The release of model drugs (Cimetidine, Famotidine and Nizatidine) from these microspheres was fast, and accompanied by a burst effect.

## RESEARCH ENVISAGED

Oral drug delivery has been known for decades. The most widely utilized route of administration among all the routes that have been explored for the systemic delivery of different dosage form. Pulsatile drug delivery systems are gaining a lot of interest and attention these days. These systems have a particular mechanism of delivering the drug rapidly and completely after a "lag time," i.e., a period of "no drug release." Though most delivery systems are designed for constant drug release over a prolonged period of time, pulsatile delivery systems are characterized by a programmed drug release, as constant blood levels of a drug may not always be desirable. Pulsatile systems are designed in a manner that the drug is available at the site of action at the right time in the right amount.<sup>75</sup>

Circadian rhythm regulates many body functions in humans, viz., metabolism, physiology, behavior, sleep patterns, hormone production, etc. Ulcer is one such disease where pulsatile drug delivery system can be useful. Because pH of the gastric juice decreases in midnight hours.<sup>76,77</sup> Delivery of  $\text{H}_2$  antagonist through PDDS is very effective, but because study reveals that up to 70% patients appear to be resistant to even high doses of PPIs taken twice daily; and thus brings failure of PPI in providing necessary nocturnal acid suppression.<sup>78,79</sup> It is demonstrated that adding a bed-time dose of  $\text{H}_2$  antagonist to an evening dose of proton pump inhibitor provides nocturnal

recovery of gastric acid secretion. Hence the present study, the Pulsatile drug delivery system of tablets will be adapted to achieve time-controlled drug delivery system using selective Anti ulcer drug (Nizatidine) with suitable polymer.<sup>80,81</sup> Nizatidine is a potent histamine H<sub>2</sub> receptor antagonist, has been a market leader for symptoms like erosive esophagitis and active gastric ulcers; until when proton pump inhibitors came to replace it. However, the recent failure of PPIs to prevent night-time gastric acid surge (which is associated with high nocturnal histamine concentration) brings open a new door for delivery of Nizatidine at specific times in relation to onset of symptoms.<sup>65</sup>

The oral absolute bioavailability of Nizatidine more than 70% peak plasma concentration occurs from 0.5 to 3 hours. Elimination half life is 1 to 2 hours and volume of distribution is 0.8 to 1.5L/kg. The aim of this study was to design a pulsatile release Nizatidine tablets, intended for chronotherapy in nocturnal acid breakthrough. This approach will be achieved by using a programmed delivery of Nizatidine from a core tablet with time-lagged coating. The prepared tablet will not give release of drug for desired period of time after its administration after meal and then will release the drug when the acid secretion is higher in midnight hours after the lag time of three to four hours improving the efficacy of drug and hence improved patient compliance.

#### PLAN OF WORK

- Literature Survey
- Selection of Drug and Excipients
- Characterization of Drug
- Preformulation Studies
- Selection of UV Spectroscopic Method For Estimation of Nizatidine and Preparation of Calibration Curve
- Formulation of Core Tablets of Nizatidine
  - Preparation of Powder Blend
  - Evaluation of Powder Blend
- Evaluation of Core Tablets of Nizatidine
  - Thickness
  - Hardness
  - Weight Variation
  - Friability
  - Drug Content
  - Disintegration Time
  - Dissolution Study
- Formulation of Pulsatile Release Tablet
- Evaluation of Pulsatile Release Tablet
  - Thickness
  - Hardness
  - Weight Variation
  - Lag Time.
  - Drug Content
  - Dissolution Study
- Kinetic Modelling
- Stability Testing

### 2.1. Preformulation studies

Preformulation testing is the first step in the rationale development of dosage forms of a drug substance. It can be defined as an investigation of physical and chemical properties of a drug substance alone and when combined with excipients. The overall objective of preformulation testing is to generate information useful to the formulator in developing safe and stable dosage forms.

The Preformulation studies performed include the study of organoleptic properties, melting point, solubility etc. It also includes the UV spectroscopy, IR characterization, DSC, Construction of Beer-Lambert's plot and drug-excipients interaction.

#### 2.1.1. Analysis of Nizatidine<sup>51</sup>

The obtained drug sample was used without further purification. Characterization of drug was done by physicochemical methods. The details are given below.

##### 2.1.1.1. Organoleptic Properties and Description<sup>51</sup>

The sample of Nizatidine was studied for organoleptic characters and it was found to be,

**Table 2: Organoleptic Characteristics of Nizatidine**

Test	Specification	Observation
Colour	Yellowish	Yellowish
Taste	Bitter	Bitter
Odour	Sulphur-mercaptan	Sulphur-mercaptan

### 2.1.1.2. Melting Point determination<sup>51</sup>

It is one of the parameters to judge the purity of drugs. In case of pure chemicals or photochemical, melting points are very sharp and constant. Since the drugs contain the mixed chemicals, they are described with certain range of melting point. Melting point was determined using capillary method; it is an essential parameter for an identification of drug. It is a temperature at which substance from solid to liquid. The melting point was determined by open capillary method and the uncorrected melting point found in range of 131<sup>o</sup>c to 134<sup>o</sup>c.

### 2.1.1.3. Solubility Analysis:<sup>51</sup>

The solubility of Nizatidine was determined by adding excess amount of drug in the solvent (supersaturated) at 37 °C and kept for 24 hrs for equilibrium with occasional shaking. Equilibrium solubility was determined by taking supernatant and analyzing it on Shimadzu UV-1700, double beam spectrophotometer. Nizatidine is freely soluble in chloroform; soluble in methanol; soluble in water and buffered solution slightly soluble in ethyl acetate and isopropranolol. Nizatidine is essentially insoluble in benzene, diethyl ether and octanol

**Table 3: Solubility of Nizatidine**

Solvent	Solubility (mg/ml)
Water	25.11
0.1N HCl	30.75
pH 6.8 phosphate buffer	32.11
pH 7.4 phosphate buffer	30.19

### 2.1.1.4. UV Spectroscopy<sup>51</sup>

#### Determination of Wavelength ( $\lambda_{max}$ )

- A stock solution of Nizatidine 100  $\mu$ g/ml was prepared in 0.1N HCl. Recorded the UV spectrum was recorded over the wavelength range of 200-400 nm by Shimadzu -1700 as shown in Figure 24. The wavelength of maximum absorption ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) was found to be 314 nm.
- A stock solution of Nizatidine 100  $\mu$ g/ml was prepared in pH 6.8 phosphate buffer. Recorded the UV spectrum was recorded over the wavelength range of 200-400 nm by Shimadzu -1700 as shown in Figure 25. The wavelength of maximum absorption ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) was found to be 314 nm.
- A stock solution of Nizatidine 100  $\mu$ g/ml was prepared in pH 6.8 phosphate buffer. Recorded the UV spectrum was recorded over the wavelength range of 200-400 nm by Shimadzu -1700 as shown in Figure 26. The wavelength of maximum absorption ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) was found to be 314 nm.

**Table 4:  $\lambda_{max}$  of Nizatidine at different pH conditions**

Solvent	$\lambda_{max}$ (nm)
0.1N HCl	314
pH 6.8 phosphate buffer	314
pH 7.4 phosphate buffer	314

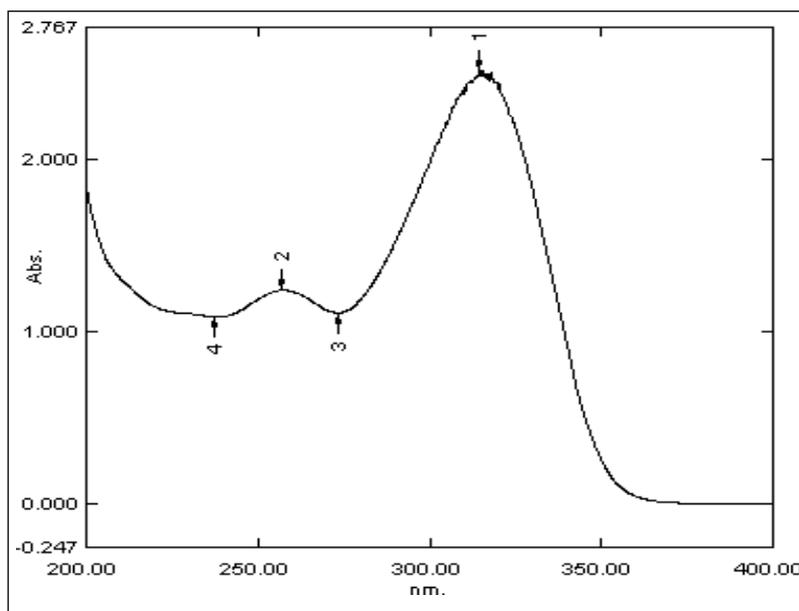


Figure24: UV spectrum of Nizatidine solution in 0.1N HCl

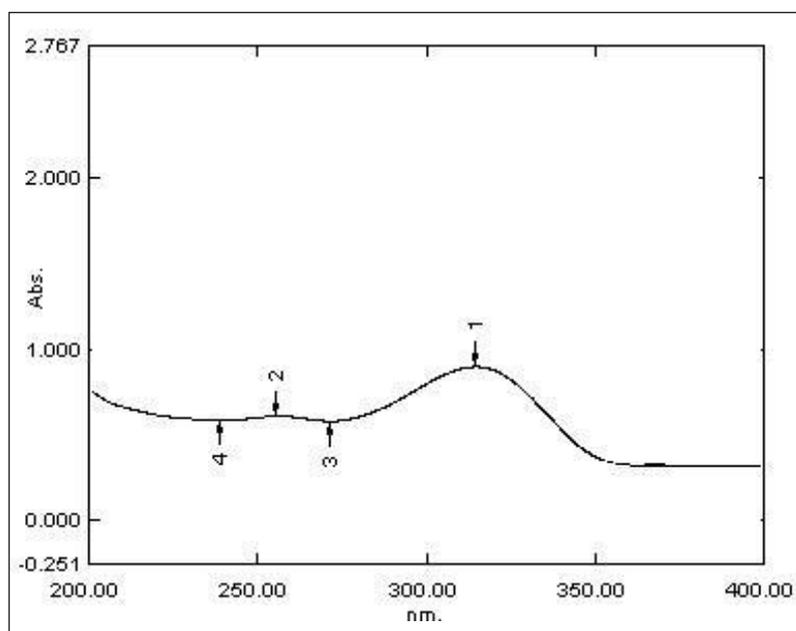


Figure25: UV spectrum of Nizatidine solution in pH 6.8 phosphate buffer

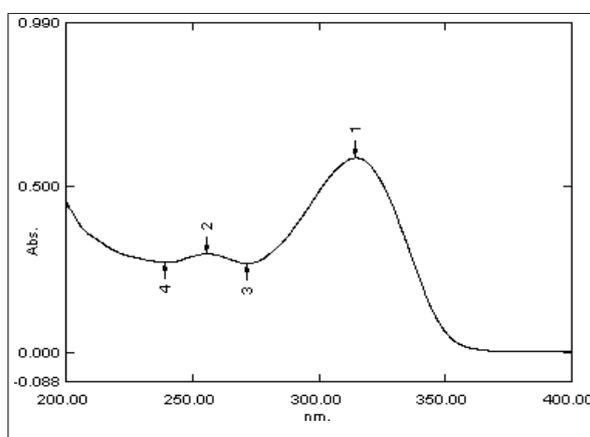


Figure26: UV spectrum of Nizatidine solution in pH 7.4 phosphate buffer

**2.1.1.5. FTIR Spectrophotometric Characterization:<sup>82</sup>**

To identify the drug Nizatidine IR spectrometric analysis was carried out by using [Affinity 01 Shimadzu] FTIR spectroscopy and the spectrum was recorded in the region of 4000-400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The procedure

consists of dispersing a sample in potassium bromide powder [1:100] and placed into sample holder in the light path and the spectrum was obtained.

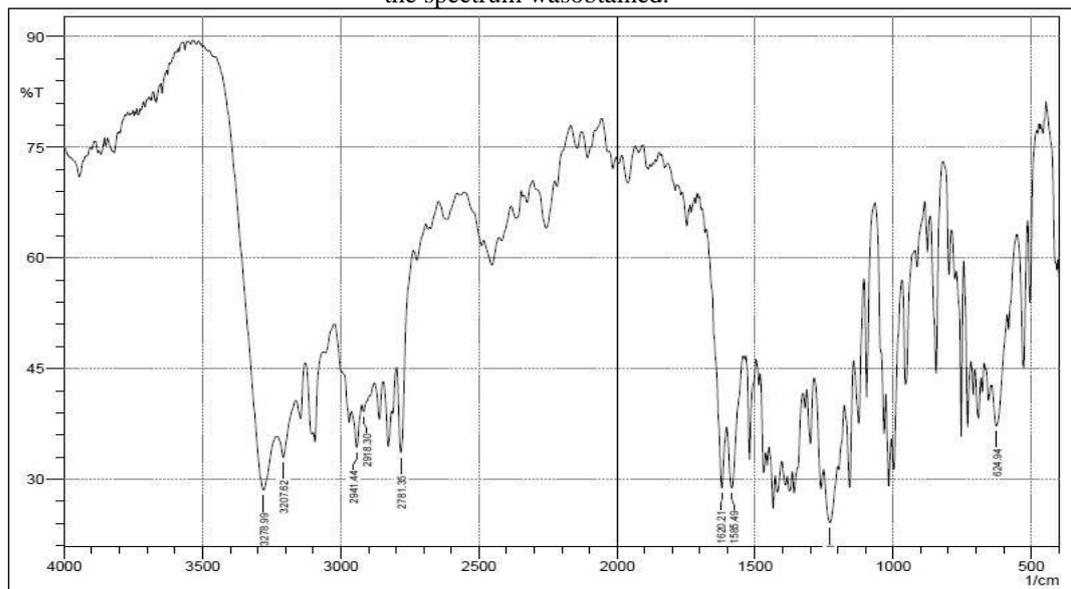


Figure 27: IR Spectra of Nizatidine

Table 5: IR Peaks of Nizatidine

IR signals (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Remark
3280, 3210	NH stretch,
3107	CH stretch in NO <sub>2</sub> -CH
3094	CH stretch in thiazolering
2945, 2860	CH stretch in NCH <sub>3</sub> , CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>
1521	Thiazolering
1435, 1422	CH deformation in NCH <sub>3</sub> , CH <sub>2</sub> CN stretch
1377, 1359	Thiazole ring for one frequency is sym NO <sub>2</sub> , H-bonded, conjugated

#### 2.1.1.1. Construction of Beer-Lambert's Plot<sup>83</sup>

##### Linearity in 0.1 N HCl:

Nizatidine (10 mg) was dissolved in 100 ml of 0.1 N HCl to obtain working standard of 100 µg/ml. A series of solution of Nizatidine in HCl buffer (pH 1.2) concentration of 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 µg/ml was prepared. The absorbance of all the solution was measured using 0.1 N HCl as blank at 314 nm using UV spectrophotometer (Shimadzu 1700). A standard plot of absorbance v/s concentration of drug was plotted. Correlation coefficient and regression equation were obtained from the calibration curve.

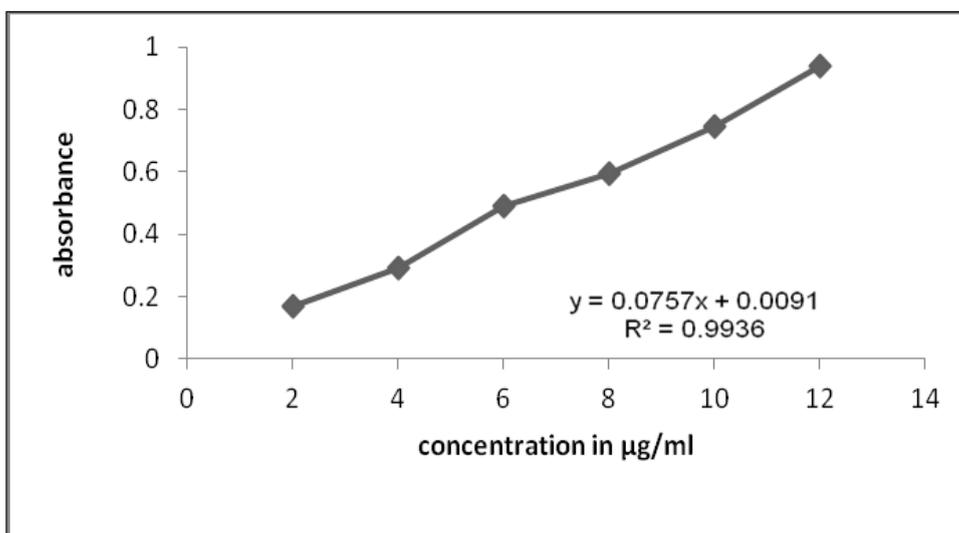
Table 6: Beer-Lambert plot in pH 1.2 buffer for Nizatidine.

Sr.No	Concentration (µg/ml)	Absorbance
1	2	0.171
2	4	0.294
3	6	0.491
4	8	0.594
5	10	0.745

6

12

0.94



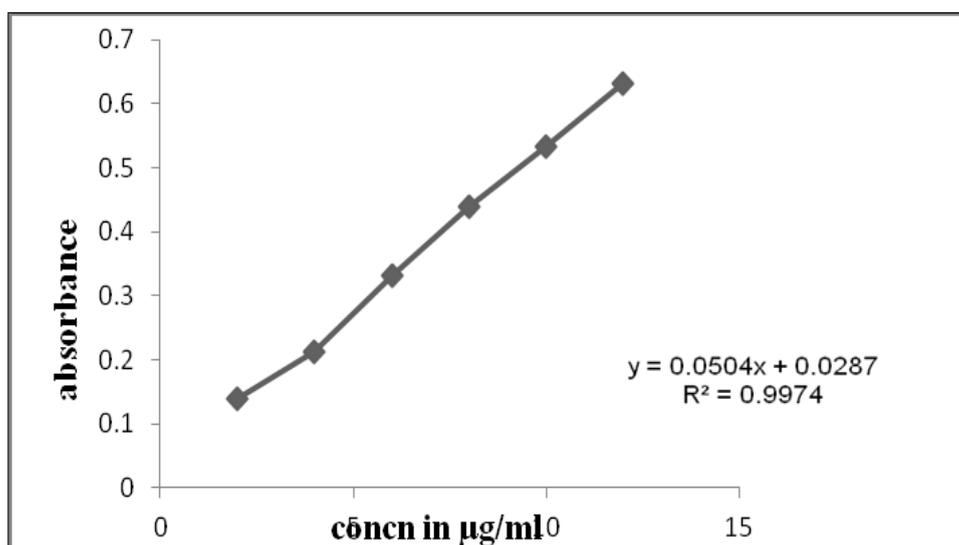
**Figure 28: Beer-Lambert plot of Nizatidine in 0.1 N HCl**

**Linearity in Phosphate Buffer 6.8:**

Nizatidine (10mg) was dissolved in 100 ml of phosphate buffer (pH 6.8) to obtain working standard of 100µg/ml. A series of solution of Nizatidine in phosphate buffer (pH 6.8) concentration of 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12µg/ml was prepared. The absorbance of all the solution was measured using phosphate buffer 6.8 as blank at 314 nm using UV spectrophotometer (Shimadzu 1700). A standard plot of absorbance v/s concentration of drug was plotted. Correlation coefficient and regression equation were obtained from the calibration curve.

**Table 7: Beer-Lambert plot in pH 6.8 phosphate buffer for Nizatidine.**

Sr.No	Concentration (µg/ml)	Absorbance
1	2	0.14
2	4	0.213
3	6	0.331
4	8	0.439
5	10	0.534
6	12	0.631



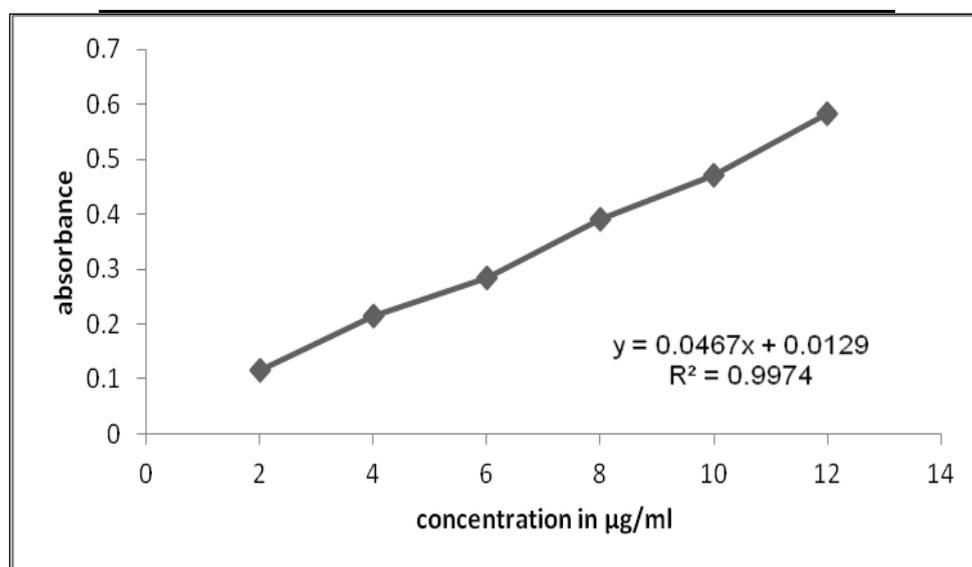
**Figure 29: Beer-Lambert plot of Nizatidine in pH 6.8 phosphate buffer**

### Linearity in Phosphate Buffer 7.4

Nizatidine (10mg) was dissolved in 100 ml of phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) to obtain working standard of 100 µg/ml. A series of solution of Nizatidine in phosphate buffer (pH 7.4) concentration of 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 µg/ml was prepared. The absorbance of all the solution was measured using phosphate buffer 7.4 blank at 314 nm using UV spectrophotometer (Shimadzu 1700). A standard plot of absorbance v/s concentration of drug was plotted. Correlation coefficient and regression equation were obtained from the calibration curve.

**Table 8: Beer-Lambert plot in pH 7.4 phosphate buffer for Nizatidine.**

Sr.No	Concentration (µg/ml)	Absorbance
1	2	0.117
2	4	0.215
3	6	0.284
4	8	0.391
5	10	0.472
6	12	0.582



**Figure 30: Beer-Lambert plot of Nizatidine in pH 7.4 phosphate buffer**

#### 2.1.1.6. Drug-excipients compatibility study

The proper design and the formulation of a dosage form require consideration of the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of the drug and excipients used in fabricating the product. The drug and excipients must be compatible with one another to produce a product that is stable, efficacious, attractive, easy to administer and safe. The compatibility studies provide the framework for the drug combination with excipients in the fabrication of the dosage form. The study was carried out to establish that the therapeutically active drug has not undergone any changes, after it has been subjected to processing steps during formulation of tablets.

Prepared powder mixture in 1:1 ratio for bulk excipients and in 1:10 for lubricants or for trace excipients. Ground excipients in mortar and screen through suitable screen for thorough mixing. Fill in vial and seal. Keep samples at 55°C for 10 days. Remove samples after every two days and analyze for drug content, TLC, UV spectra for drug content,  $R_f$  value and  $\lambda_{max}$ .

**Table 9: Codes of mixture for drug-excipients compatibility study**

Name	Code
Nizatidine	N
Nizatidine+MCC	NM
Nizatidine+Lactose	NL
Nizatidine+crosspovidone	NC
Nizatidine+SSG	NS

Nizatidine+Mg.stearate	NM
Nizatidine+Talc	NT
Nizatidine+Aerosil	NA
Nizatidine+allexipients	NAE
Nizatidine+croscarmellose sodium	NCS

**Table10:DataforRrvalueofdrugexcipientscompatibilitystudy**

Code	Rrvalue			
	0days	2Days	5Days	10Days
N	0.73	0.728	0.729	0.728
NM	0.73	0.731	0.73	0.729
NL	0.73	0.73	0.732	0.028
NC	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73
NCS	0.73	0.725	0.729	0.729
NS	0.73	0.728	0.728	0.73
NM	0.73	0.73	0.731	0.728
NT	0.73	0.73	0.729	0.729
NA	0.73	0.734	0.73	0.728
NAE	0.73	0.732	0.727	0.728

**Table 11: Data for □max value in 01.N HCl of drug excipients compatibilitystudy**

□max(nm)

Code	□max(nm)			
	0days	2Days	5Days	10Days
N	314	314	314	314
NM	314	314	315	315
NL	314	314	314	314
NC	315	314	315	314
NCS	314	314	314	314
NS	314	314	312	314
NM	315	314	314	314
NT	314	314	313	315

NA	314	313	315	314
NAE	315	314	314	313

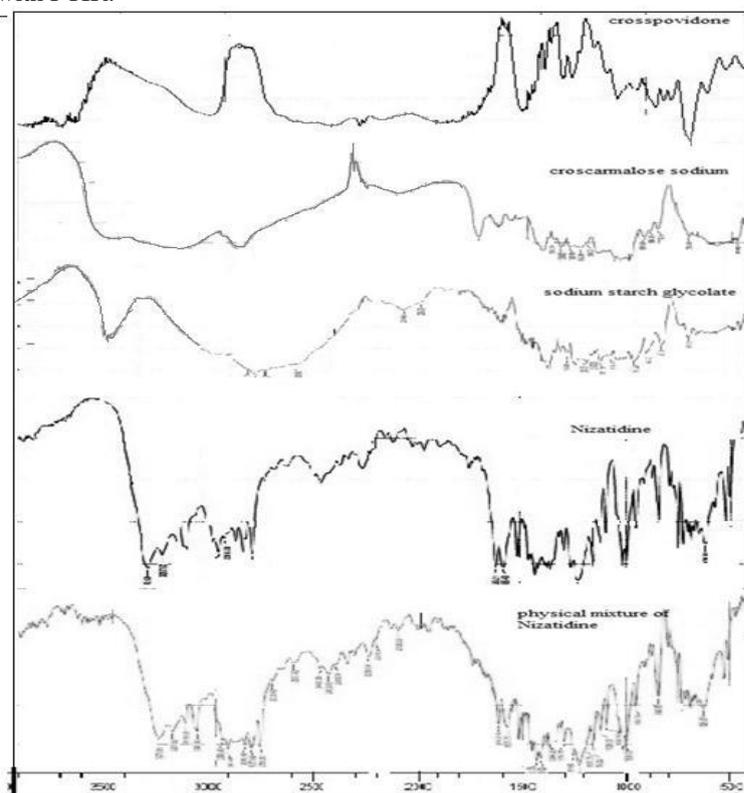
**Table12: Data for assay value of drug in drug-excipients compatibility study**

Code	Drug content (%)			
	0days	2Days	5Days	10Days
N	99.93	99.48	99.27	98.97
NM	99.76	99.18	99.12	98.86
NL	99.68	99.18	99.01	98.86
NC	99.46	99.16	98.86	98.74
NCS	99.18	99.10	98.58	98.48
NS	99.16	99.10	98.86	98.51
NM	99.28	99.20	98.89	98.68
NT	99.33	99.28	99.11	98.58
NA	99.18	99.11	98.72	98.18
NAE	99.28	99.18	98.91	98.58

**2.1.1.1. FTIR Studies:**

Drug excipients compatibility study was performed by mixing drug with polymer in equal proportion and the mixture was kept under accelerated stability condition (i.e. 40°C and 75% R.H.) for a period of 21 days in a glass vial. It was hermetically sealed with rubber stopper using carnauba wax. Same mixture under control condition (i.e. 5% H<sub>2</sub>O) was kept. IR spectrum was noted for mixture after 21 days.

The I.R. Spectrum of previously dried samples were recorded by KBr dispersion technique. 2-3 mg of samples was mixed with previously dried IR grade potassium bromide and kept in sample cell, the cell was then fitted on sample holder and spectrum were recorded with FTIR.



**Figure31: IR spectra of pure crosspovidone, crosscarmaolse sodium, sodium starch glycolate, pure Nizatidine and physical mixture of Nizatidine**

**2.1.1.9 Differential Scanning Calorimetry**

Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) was performed using Shimadzu DSC 60 instrument. The samples were hermetically sealed in aluminum pans and heated over the temperature range 35°C to 300°C with heating rate of 10°C/min. Inert atmosphere was provided by purging nitrogen gas flowing at 10 ml/min.

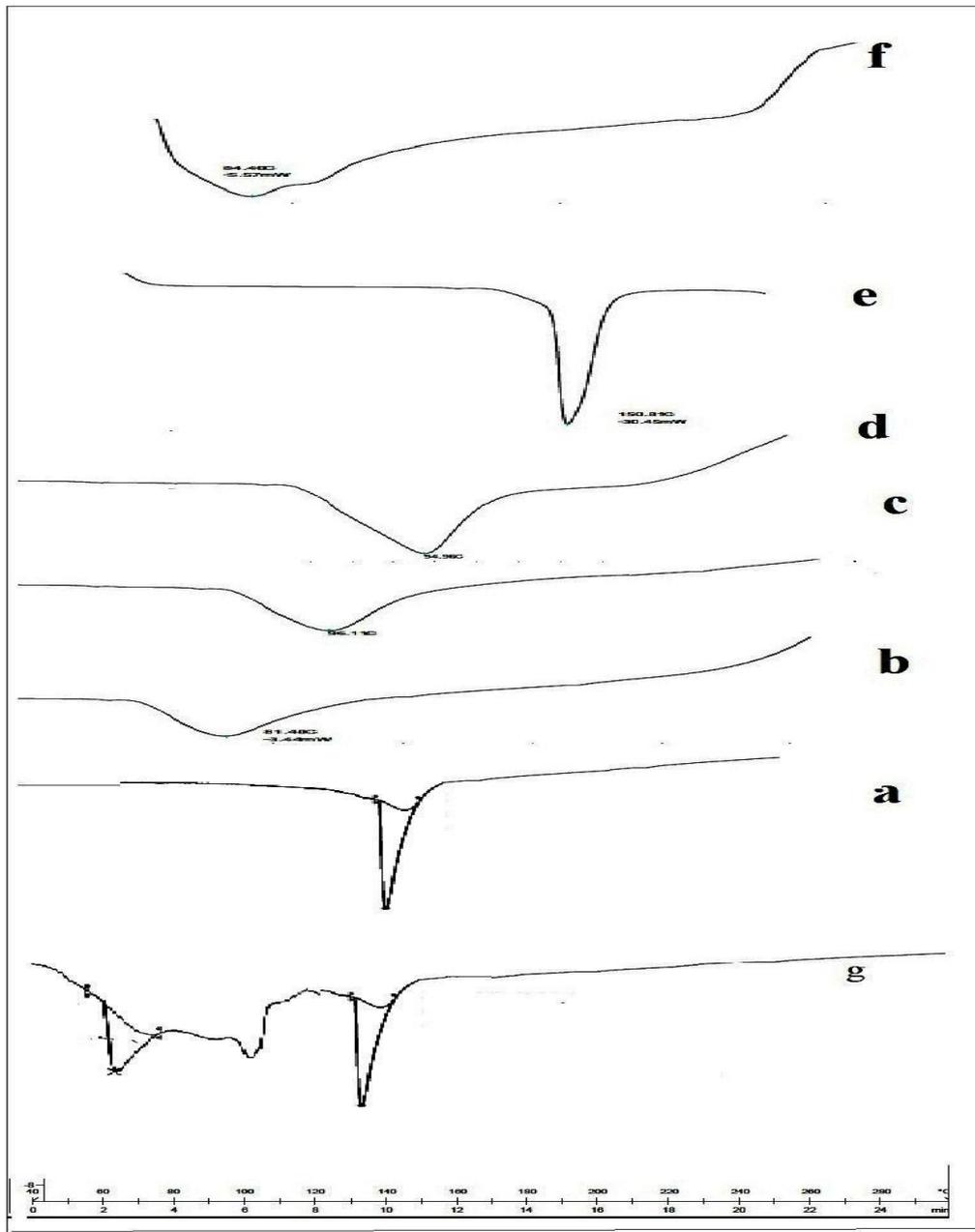


Figure 32: DSC thermogram of (a) pure Nizatidine, (b) pure microcrystalline cellulose, (c) pure croscarmellose sodium, (d) pure crosspovidone, (e) pure lactose, (f) pure sodium starch glycolate, (g) physical mixture of Nizatidine with all excipients

**2.2 Development of formulation**

During the past several decades, conventional drug dosage forms have been widely used for treatment of various conditions. These drug dosage forms typically provide an immediate or rapid medication release, and supply a given concentration or quantity of the drug to the body's systemic circulatory system without any rate control. To maintain the effective plasma drug concentration, frequent administration is required. Due to poor drug efficacy, the incidence of side effects, frequency of administration and patient compliance of these conventional drug preparations, many traditional drug dosage forms are undergoing replacement by modified drug-released dosage forms. Treatments of numerous diseases using traditional drug products are often inconvenient and impractical if disease symptoms occur during the night or early morning. During the early 1990s, modified-release drug preparations achieved continuous and constant-rate drug delivery, in which constant or sustained drug output minimized drug concentration "peak and valley" levels in the blood, so promoting drug efficacy and reducing adverse effects. Modified-release drug preparations are expected to provide reduced dosing frequency and improved patient compliance compared to conventional release preparations. Several controlled-

release preparations present numerous problems such as resistance and drug tolerance. Controlled-release medications deliver continuous treatment, rather than providing relief of symptoms and protection from adverse events solely when necessary, the development of advanced drug delivery systems (DDSs) i.e. pulsatile drug delivery system to optimize and create new innovative DDS which provide a defined dose, at a chosen rate, at a selected time, to a targeted site is now a growing challenge.

### 2.2.1 Formulation of core tablets of Nizatidine

The core tablets containing Nizatidine (150 mg per tablet), lactose, microcrystalline cellulose (Avicel® PH101), polyvinyl pyrrolidone (PVP k30) and superdisintegrant like croscarmellose sodium (Ac-Di-Sol®) sodium starch glycolate, were prepared by direct compression. Initially, the core tablet excipients were dryblended in polybags for 10 min, followed by the addition of Talc, magnesium stearate and Aerosil® 200. The powder components were further blended for 5 min. The core tablets (diameter, 9mm; biconvex; average tablet weight, 360mg) were compressed using an Eight station tablet machine (Karnavati, Ahmadabad, India).

Ingredients	CT1	CT2	CT3	CT4	CT5	CT6	CT7	CT8	CT9
Nizatidine	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
Lactose	86.8	83.2	79.6	86.8	83.2	79.6	86.8	83.2	79.6
Avicel	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Ac-Di-Sol	7.2	10.8	14.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croscarmellose sodium	-	-	-	7.2	10.8	14.4	-	-	-
SSG	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.2	10.8	14.4
PVPk 30	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Mgst.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Talc	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Aerosil	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Wt of core tablets in (mg)	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360

Table 13: Formulation Code for Core Tablets

Material	% weight ratio									
Ethylcellulose	90	75	60	90	75	60	90	75	60	90
Eudragit NE30D	10	25	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methocel	-	-	-	10	25	40	-	-	-	-
Eudragit S100	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	25	40	-
Triethylcitrate	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20

Talc 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5

**2.2.2 Time-Lagged Coating of Core Tablets for Pulsatile Release of Nizatidine**

Coating solutions of ethyl cellulose (erodible polymer) combined with hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose (erodible polymer) were prepared in isopropyl alcohol. The weight ratios of ethyl cellulose (Aqualon ECN 10) to hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose (Methocel E15), ethyl cellulose to eudragit 100 (erodible polymer) and ethyl cellulose to eudragit NE 30 D (erodible polymer) were 60:40%, 75:25% and 90:10% (w/w) based on the trial batches. The solution was plasticized with triethyl citrate (20%, w/w, with respect to dry polymer), and then talc was added as glidant (5%, w/w, related to dry polymer). The homogeneous dispersion was gently stirred throughout the coating process. The polymer solution was sprayed onto the core tablets in a conventional pan coating apparatus till the desired weight gain (5%, w/w). Coating conditions are listed in Table . At each stage the coated tablets were further dried in the coating pan for 15 min at 40°C. The tablets were then placed in the oven at 40°C for 2h to remove the residual solvent.

**Table 14: Coating solution**

**\*Triethyl citrate and Talc used in %w/w with respect to dry polymer Coating of the tablets**

The polymer solution was sprayed onto the core tablets in a conventional coating pan. Fixed numbers of tablets were coated each time by atomizing the polymeric coating solution through coating gun. The coating pan operated at fixed RPM (35) for all polymeric solution. The coating solution was applied when the tablet bed in the coating pan reached up to 60°C.

**Table 15: The process condition for coating**

The process condition for coating	
Inlet temperature	50°-60°c
Product temperature	35-40°c
Spray rate	4-8ml min <sup>-1</sup>
Spray nozzle diameter	1mm
Distance in between tablet bed Spray gun	10-15cm
Pan speed	35 RPM
The level of coating	5%

**3.1 Evaluation of Powder Blend**

Tablet powder blends of core were evaluated for various pre compression parameters such as Angle of repose, loose bulk density, Tapped bulk density, Compressibility index and Hausner's ratio.

□ **Angle of repose**

The frictional forces in a loose powder or granules can be measured by the angle of repose. This is the maximum angle possible between the surfaces of a pile of powder or granules and the horizontal plane. Angle of repose is to be measured by following method: A funnel was filled to the brim and the test sample was allowed to flow smoothly through the orifice under gravity. From the cone formed on a graph sheet was taken to measure the area of pile, thereby evaluating the flow ability of the granules. Height of the pile is then measured.

Angle of repose is calculated by formula:

$$r = (\text{area}/\pi)^{1/2} \dots\dots\dots (a)$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}(h/r) \dots\dots\dots (b)$$

□ **Bulk density**

Bulk density is defined as the mass of powder divided by the bulk volume. The bulk density of a powder depends primarily on particle size distribution, particle shape and the tendency of the particles to adhere to one another. Both loose bulk density and tapped bulk density were determined. A quantity of 10 g of powder from each formula, previously lightly shaken to break any agglomerates formed, was introduced into measuring cylinder. After the initial volume was observed, the cylinder was allowed to fall under its own weight onto a hard surface from the height of 2.5 cm at 2-second intervals. The tapping was continued until no further change in volume was noted. LBD and TBD were calculated using the following formulas.

$$\text{LBD} = \frac{\text{Weight of the Powder}}{\text{Volume of the packing}}$$

$$\text{TBD} = \frac{\text{Weight of the Powder}}{\text{Tapped volume of the packing}}$$

#### □ Compressibility Index

The compressibility index of the powder or granules was determined by Carr's compressibility index.

$$\text{Carr's Index (\%)} = \frac{(\text{TBD} - \text{LBD})}{\text{TBD}} \times 100$$

This is a simple index that can be determined on small quantities of powder

□ **Hausner's Ratio:** Hausner's ratio can be defined as 'it is the ratio of tapped density by the loose density'

$$\text{Hausner Ratio} = \frac{\text{Tapped Density}}{\text{Loose density}}$$

### 3.2 Evaluation of Core Tablets

The result of evaluation of core tablets for thickness, weight variation, hardness, and friability and drug content were shown in table from these tables it is concluded that all core tablets prepared and pass the official evaluation test criteria.

#### □ Thickness

The thickness of the individual tablets is measured by use of the Vernier Calipers, which provides accurate information on the variation of thickness between the tablets. Tablets thickness should be controlled with in a  $\pm 5\%$  variation of the average thickness. In addition thickness must be controlled to get uniform tablet weight in the lot. From six tablets from each batches of formulation of core tablets were used and mean thickness value and standard deviation were calculated for each formulation.

#### □ Hardness

The hardness which is called the crushing strength for tablet is measured to determine its strength and endurance during transport. The hardness also has an indirect effect on the disintegration of the tablets as more hardness delays the disintegration time. The hardness or the crushing strength of the tablets are determined by using Monsanto hardness tester. For each formulation, the hardness of six tablets was measured using Monsanto hardness tester and mean value and standard deviation was calculated.

#### □ Weight variation

To study weight variation, 20 tablets of each formulation were weighed using an electronic digital balance. The average weight of each tablet was calculated and from the percentage deviation in weight was calculated.

#### □ Friability

It is the phenomenon whereby tablet surfaces are damaged and/or show evidence of lamination or breakage when subjected to mechanical shock or attrition. The friability of tablets was determined using Roche Friabilator. It is expressed in percentage (%). Twenty tablets were initially weighed (Initial Wt) and transferred into friabilator. The friabilator was operated at 25 rpm for 4 minutes or run up to 100 revolutions. The tablets were weighed again (Final Wt). The % friability was then calculated by,

$$F (\%) = \frac{\text{Initial Wt} - \text{Final Wt}}{\text{Initial Wt}} \times 100$$

#### □ Drug content

Five tablets were weighed accurately and powdered. The drug content was determined by following procedure.

Standard solution: 10  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  of Nizatidine solution in 0.1N HCl

Sample solution: an accurately weighed amount of powder equivalent to 100 mg of Nizatidine was extracted with 100 ml 0.1N HCl to get final concentration of 10  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ . Measure the absorbance of standard and sample solution at 314 nm using 0.1N HCl solution as blank.

The drug Nizatidine that belongs to the  $\text{H}_2$  antagonist class has been reported in the monograph to have 'Nizatidine contains not less than 97.0 percent and not more than the equivalent of 101.0 per cent of stated amount of the drug.

#### □ Disintegration test

It is determined by using USP device which consist of 6 glass tubes that are 3 inches long, open at one end and held against 10 mesh screen at the bottom end of basket rack assembly. To test for disintegration time, one tablet is placed in each tube and the basket arch is positioned in a 900 ml beaker of water at  $37^\circ\text{C} \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ . A standard motor driven device is used to move the

basket assembly up and down. To be in compliance with the USP standard, all tablets must disintegrate and all particles must pass through the 10 mesh in the time specified.

#### □ Dissolution of core tablets

The test was carried out in USP dissolution basket assembly (Model TDL Electrolab, India) in 900ml medium at  $37 \pm 0.5$  °C at a rotation speed of 100rpm using pH 6.8 phosphate buffer for 1 Hr. The aliquots of dissolution fluid were removed at specific time intervals and assayed for the amount of Nizatidine released by spectrometer (model Shimadzu-UV1700, Japan) at wavelength 314nm.

### 3.3 Evaluation of coated tablets for pulsatile release of Nizatidine

Prepared pulsatile release tablet was evaluated for official parameters like, Thickness, Hardness, and weight variation, Lag time of coating tablets and content uniformity and In-vitro dissolution studies.

#### □ Thickness

The thickness of the individual tablets is measured by use of the Vernier Calipers, which provides accurate information on the variations of thickness between the tablets. Tablets thickness should be controlled within a  $\pm 5\%$  variation of the average thickness. In addition, thickness must be controlled to get uniform tablet weight in the lot. From six tablets from each batch of formulation of core tablets were used and mean thickness value and standard deviation were calculated for each formulation.

#### □ Hardness

The hardness which is called the crushing strength for tablet is measured to determine its strength and endurance during transport. The hardness also has an indirect effect on the disintegration of the tablets as more hardness delays the disintegration time. The hardness or the crushing strength of the tablets are determined by using Monsanto hardness tester. For each formulation, the hardness of six tablets was measured using Monsanto hardness tester and mean value and standard deviation was calculated.

#### □ Weight variation

To study weight variation, 20 tablets of each formulation were weighed using an electronic digital balance. The average weight of each tablet was calculated and from the percentage deviation in weight was calculated.

#### □ Lag time of coating tablets:

Coating tablets were placed into USP dissolution paddle apparatus at rotation speed 50 rpm with phosphate buffer IP pH 6.8,  $37 \pm 0.5$  °C and observed visually. The lag time was defined as the point, when the outer coating ruptured due to swelling.

#### □ Drug content

Twenty coated tablets were weighed accurately and powdered. The drug content was determined by following procedure.

Standard solution: 10 µg/ml of Nizatidine solution in 0.1N HCl

Sample solution: an accurately weighed amount of powder equivalent to 100 mg of Nizatidine was extracted with 100 ml 0.1N HCl to get final concentration of 10 µg/ml. Measure the absorbance of standard and sample solution at 314 nm using 0.1N HCl solution as blank

#### □ Dissolution methodology for coated tablets for pulsatile release of Nizatidine

To verify how the composition of the core and the barriers interfere with the drug release profile from the cores, in vitro dissolution studies were carried out using USP type I dissolution apparatus I (basket method; Electrolab India Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, India) in 900ml medium at  $37 \pm 0.5$  °C at a rotation speed of 100rpm. To mimic gastric pH conditions, test was carried out in 0.1N hydrochloric acid (pH 1.2) for 2 hr. Simulated intestinal fluid pH 6.8 for 3 hr and simulated colonic fluid pH 7.4. The buffer system having pH 6.8 and pH 7.4 was selected to simulate the condition in small intestine and colon. 5ml sample was withdrawn every 1h, filtered through and immediately replaced by the fresh dissolution medium. All the dissolution samples were filtered through filter paper and analyzed immediately after the completion of dissolution test by UV-Visible spectrophotometer (Shimadzu UV-1700, UV-vis scanning spectrophotometer, Japan). Nizatidine released in 0.1N HCl was estimated at  $\lambda_{max}$  314 nm. In this dissolution studies the USP type I dissolution apparatus I was quite suitable for carrying the samples in the next medium and dissolution is continued without disturbing and touching the surface of coated tablets

#### □ Drug Release kinetics

In model dependent approaches released data were fitted to five kinetics models including zero order, first order, Higuchi equation, Korsmeyer-Peppas equation and Hixon-Crowell release equation to find the higher correlation ( $r^2 > 0.98$ ), release exponent (n) and rate constant ( $k_1$ )

### Stability Testing of the Best Formulation

Stability studies are an integral part of the drug development program and are one of the most important areas in the registration of pharmaceutical products. The purpose of

stability testing is to provide evidence on how the quality of a drug substance or drug product varies with time under the influence of a variety of environmental factors such as temperature, humidity and light and enables recommended storage conditions, retest periods and shelf life to be established. Stability assessments started with studies on the substance to determine degradation products and degradation pathway. Temperature dependent stability studies were carried out on the best batches. They were packed in Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE) bags enclosed in High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) container. And stored under the following conditions for a period as prescribed by ICH guidelines for accelerated studies.

(I)  $40 \pm 2$  °C and RH 75%  $\pm$  5%

Tablets were withdrawn after a period of initial, 1, 2, 3 months and analyzed for Hardness, Drug content (%), Lag time and Dissolution study.

**Table 16: Physical parameters of powder blend**

Batch no	Parameters				
	Angle of Repose (°)	Bulk Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Tapped Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Hausner's Ratio (H <sub>R</sub> )	Carr's index (%)
CT1	25.54	0.539	0.668	1.24	19.33
CT2	26.59	0.585	0.675	1.22	13.33
CT3	24.70	0.537	0.662	1.23	18.88
CT4	25.65	0.541	0.668	1.24	19.01
CT5	27.73	0.539	0.663	1.23	18.70
CT6	26.28	0.521	0.645	1.24	19.22
CT7	29.66	0.537	0.660	1.23	18.63
CT8	27.40	0.518	0.645	1.24	19.69
CT9	28.20	0.535	0.660	1.23	18.94

Table 17: Evaluation parameters of coretablets

Batch no	Thickness (mm)	Friability (%)	Hardness (Kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	Weight Variation (mg)	Drug content %	Disintegration time (Sec)
CT1	3.43±0.05	0.60	4.8±0.4	0.362±0.7	98.28	140
CT2	3.46±0.03	0.48	4.9±0.5	0.358±0.5	98.48	128
CT3	3.55±0.02	0.57	5.1±0.8	0.354±0.4	99.20	108
CT4	3.61±0.02	0.51	4.8±0.2	0.364±0.3	98.22	134
CT5	3.42±0.05	0.61	5.2±0.12	0.359±0.5	98.97	114
CT6	3.51±0.04	0.26	5.4±0.3	0.359±0.7	99.86	101
CT7	3.42±0.05	0.39	5.1±0.8	0.362±0.4	98.15	135
CT8	3.45±0.03	0.42	4.9±0.5	0.357±0.6	98.89	121
CT9	3.45±0.04	0.58	4.7±0.3	0.356±0.6	98.98	110

**Table18:Dissolutiontestdataforcoretablets**

Time (min)	CT1	CT2	CT3	CT4	CT5	CT6	CT7	CT8	CT9
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	22.48 ±0.04	25.18 ±0.12	30.45 ±0.05	43.59 ±0.11	47.73 ±0.02	49.97 ±0.21	23.48 ±0.8	24.18 ±0.05	29.45 ±0.04
10	45.3 ±0.08	46.53 ±0.13	51.51 ±0.04	63.3 ±0.24	65.69 ±0.06	67.48 ±0.03	39.3 ±0.22	40.53 ±0.05	49.51 ±0.11
15	66.24 ±0.25	67.47 ±0.08	68.29 ±0.01	71.95 ±0.08	78.25 ±0.04	79.25 ±0.18	61.24 ±0.14	65.47 ±0.09	66.29 ±0.07
20	78.08 ±0.07	78.09 ±0.17	83.54 ±0.05	78.16 ±0.01	88.25 ±0.10	89.28 ±0.06	72.08 ±0.04	77.09 ±0.13	80.54 ±0.23
25	81.15 ±0.12	87.24 ±0.04	95.54 ±0.8	87.16 ±0.21	92.25 ±0.02	93.54 ±0.11	84.77 ±0.05	85.24 ±0.12	91.54 ±0.04
30	85.75 ±0.05	91.51 ±0.23	97.51 ±0.13	94.87 ±0.04	96.75 ±0.03	97.11 ±0.10	85.26 ±0.09	90.51 ±0.21	96.51 ±0.18
45	94.94 ±0.14	96.02 ±0.12	97.85 ±0.04	97.45 ±0.16	97.48 ±0.23	98.48 ±0.14	94.04 ±0.15	97.02 ±0.13	96.85 ±0.01
60	95.02 ±0.03	96.6 ±0.05	98.66 ±0.1	97.45 ±0.09	98.42 ±0.06	99.68 ±0.02	95.02 ±0.12	97.56 ±0.05	98.98 ±0.08

**Table19:Evaluationparametersof pulsatile release Nizatidine tablets:**

Batch no.	Thickness (mm)	Hardness(Kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	WeightVariation(mg)	Lag time(Hr)	Drugcontent%
F1	3.63±0.04	5.1±0.4	0.382±1.6	5.39±0.03	98.28
F2	3.66±0.02	5.3±0.5	0.378±1.4	6.18±0.06	98.48
F3	3.75±0.03	5.2±0.8	0.374±0.4	7.17±0.07	99.20
F4	3.81±0.06	5.0±0.2	0.382±3.5	2.27±0.07	98.22
F5	3.62±0.07	5.5±0.12	0.377±1.6	3.12±0.02	98.97
F6	3.71±0.06	5.6±0.3	0.377±2.8	3.28±0.04	99.86
F7	3.62±0.05	5.3±0.8	0.380±0.3	3.38±0.06	98.15
F8	3.55±0.03	5.2±0.5	0.375±1.5	4.24±0.04	98.89
F9	3.65±0.04	5.1±0.3	0.376±2.4	4.35±0.05	98.98

**Table20:Dissolutiontestdataforpulsatile release Nizatidine tablets**

Time (hr)	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0.87 ±0.02	0.53 ±0.07	0.48 ±0.07	0.69 ±0.07	0.45 ±0.09	0.15 ±0.08	0.87 ±0.01	0.53 ±0.12	0.48 ±0.02
2	1.47 ±0.02	1.12 ±0.04	0.64 ±0.06	1.20 ±0.13	0.97 ±0.04	1.58 ±0.10	1.47 ±0.03	1.12 ±0.07	0.64 ±0.07
3	1.96 ±0.11	0.34 ±0.01	1.00 ±0.01	84.59 ±0.02	2.72 ±0.10	8.16 ±0.03	8.16 ±0.10	2.99 ±0.02	0.99 ±0.13
4	2.71 ±0.03	0.77 ±0.06	1.14 ±0.06	87.14 ±0.01	58.69 ±0.13	83.00 ±0.11	84.26 ±0.09	6.15 ±0.08	7.16 ±0.10
5	9.31 ±0.10	1.40 ±0.07	2.42 ±0.01	88.78 ±0.03	96.13 ±0.06	97.13 ±0.02	93.26 ±0.12	85.16 ±0.03	70.13 ±0.08
6	79.61 ±0.02	10.07 ±0.10	3.94 ±0.03	90.35 ±0.11	96.66 ±0.08	98.92 ±0.10	94.21 ±0.06	93.48 ±0.01	82.13 ±0.04
7	85.78 ±0.08	91.13 ±0.13	14.74 ±0.08	96.58 ±0.06	97.16 ±0.09	98.95 ±0.11	95.15 ±0.08	95.87 ±0.07	90.15 ±0.07
8	93.80 ±0.13	92.72 ±0.08	87.87 ±0.06	96.58 ±0.03	97.16 ±0.02	98.95 ±0.08	98.13 ±0.07	96.26 ±0.09	95.75 ±0.09
9	93.80 ±0.04	94.72 ±0.04	92.51 ±0.07	96.58 ±0.10	97.16 ±0.12	99.58 ±0.13	98.13 ±0.04	97.13 ±0.07	96.13 ±0.11
10	93.80 ±0.07	94.72 ±0.09	92.50 ±0.13	96.58 ±0.51	97.16 ±0.03	99.62 ±0.10	98.13 ±0.02	97.18 ±0.01	96.14 ±0.13

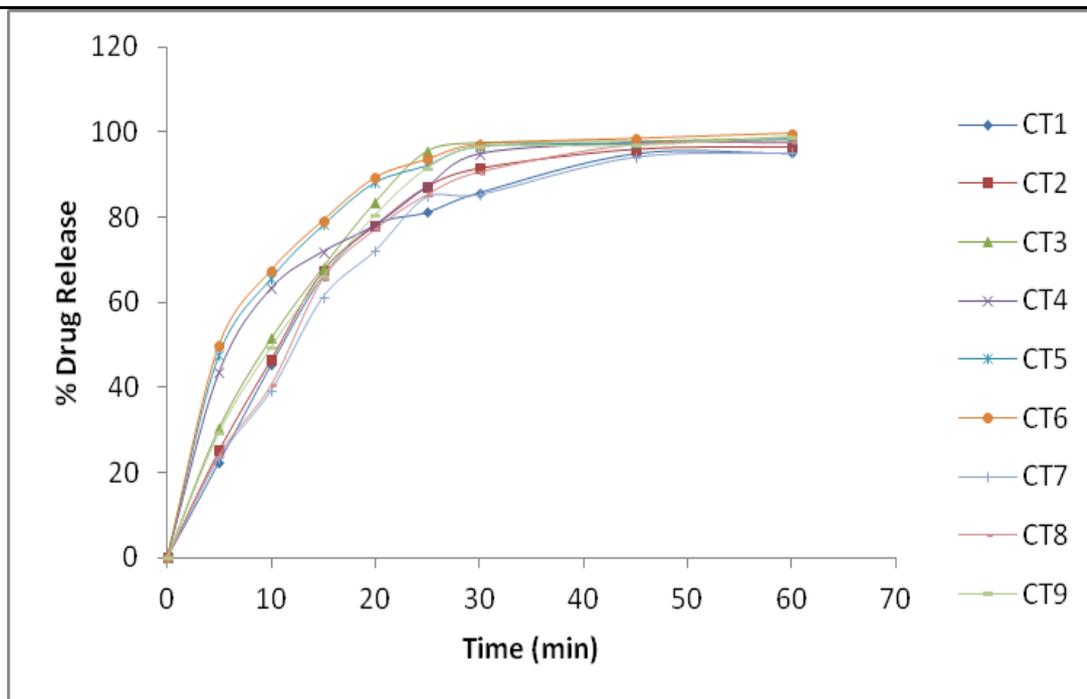
Table 21: Kinetic Release Data for Pulsatile Release Nizatidine Tablets

Batch	Zero order	First order	Hixon	Higuchi	Korsmeyer-Peppas	n value
	$r^2$	$r^2$	$r^2$	$r^2$	$r^2$	
F1	0.819	0.837	0.835	0.750	0.818	0.328
F2	0.719	0.713	0.713	0.621	0.636	0.338
F3	0.613	0.568	0.581	0.503	0.722	0.767
F4	0.627	0.876	0.788	0.725	0.762	0.253
F5	0.862	0.803	0.845	0.828	0.877	0.259
F6	0.751	0.810	0.852	0.803	0.928	0.243
F7	0.753	0.824	0.862	0.804	0.868	0.288
F8	0.806	0.888	0.858	0.748	0.892	0.279

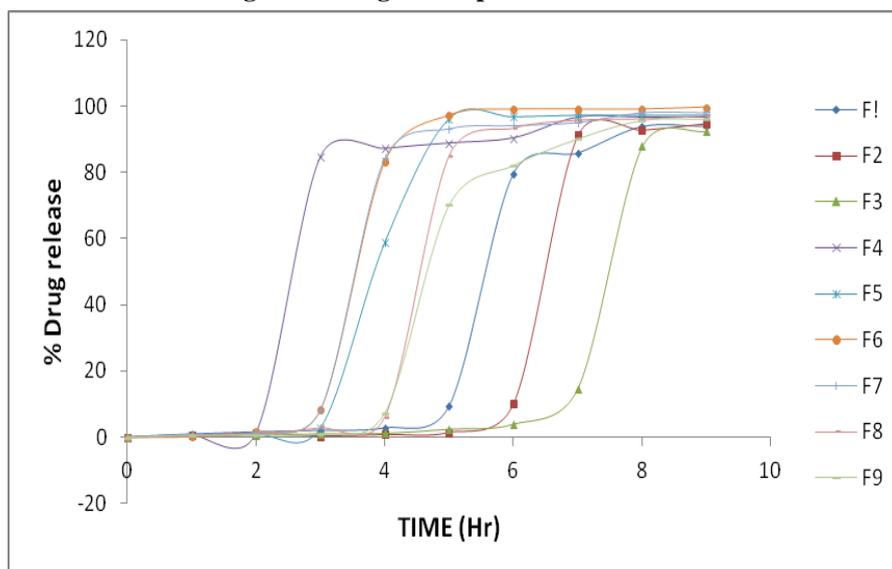
F9 0.863 0.815 0.914 0.835 0.856 0.249

**Table 22: Evaluation parameters of the best batch F6 after stability**

Parameter	Initial	1Month	2Month	3Month
Hardness(kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	5.6	5.4	54	5.6
Drugcontent(%)	99.86	99.12	99.15	99.54
LagTime(h)	3.28	3.21	3.30	3.25
% DrugRelease	99.62	99.05	98.90	98.81



**Figure 33: Drug release profile of coretablets.**



### Figure 34: Drug release profile of pulsatile release Nizatidine tablets.

#### 4.1 Preformulation studies for Nizatidine

- Nizatidine was observed to be almost white buff crystalline powder, sulphur mercapton odour with metallic bitter test. The results are shown in Table 2.
- The melting point was found to be 131-134°C.
- The solubility studies of Nizatidine were performed in various solvents.
- The drug was found to be freely soluble in chloroform; soluble in methanol; soluble in water and buffered solution slightly soluble in ethyl acetate. The solubility studies of Nizatidine were performed in various solvents summarized in Table 3.
- The UV spectrum was recorded in the range of 200-400 nm as shown in Figure 24, 25, 26.
- Maximum absorption of wavelength was determined in 0.1 N HCl, pH 6.8 phosphate buffer, pH 7.4 phosphate buffer. The results are shown in Table 4.
- IR spectrum of Nizatidine is shown in Figure 27. The principal peaks of maximum absorbance along with interpretation are shown in Table 5.
- A linear relationship was obtained in Beer-Lambert's plot of Nizatidine. The absorbance values are shown in Table 6, 7, 8 using absorbance concentration data. Beer-Lambert's plot was plotted in Figure 28, 29, 30.
- Drug excipients compatibility studies show no interaction between Nizatidine and selected excipients as there was no significant shift of  $\lambda$  max and  $R_f$  value. The drug content was also good. The results are shown in Table 10, 11, 12.

#### FTIR Spectroscopy Study:

The IR spectra measurements were performed as shown in Figure 31. The infrared spectra of pure Nizatidine exhibited IR signals showing characteristic peaks at 3280  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (N-H stretching), 3107  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C-H stretching in  $\text{NO}_2\text{CH}$ ), 3094  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (CH stretch in thiazole ring), 1521  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Thiazole ring), 2945  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 2860  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C-H stretching in  $\text{NCH}_3$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1377  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , 1359  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Thiazole ring for one frequency is sym  $\text{NO}_2$ , H-bonded, conjugated).

The infrared spectra of physical mixture of Nizatidine exhibited IR signals showing characteristic peaks at 1359  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Thiazole ring for one frequency is sym  $\text{NO}_2$ , H-bonded, conjugated), 2860  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C-H stretching in  $\text{NCH}_3$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 3094  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (CH stretch in thiazole ring), 3280  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (N-H stretching).

#### Differential Scanning Calorimetry study

The DSC thermogram obtained of pure drug and excipients are shown in Figure 32. The DSC curve of pure Nizatidine exhibited a single endothermic curve corresponding to the melting of drug. Onset of melting was obtained at 135°C, shown in Figure 30a. The superdisintegrant croscarmellose sodium, croscopolidone, sodium starch glycolate shows broad endothermic fusion peaks at 96.11°C, 94.96°C and 84.48°C respectively shown in Figure 30c, 30d, 30e which is due to glass transition state. The DSC spectrum of physical mixture of Nizatidine and mixture of other excipients has also shown same endothermic peaks like pure drug shown in Figure 30. These observations of DSC study indicate absence of significant interactions between drug and excipients used in tablet formulations and coating materials.

#### Evaluation of Powder Blend

Powder characteristics for all batches were evaluated for various precompression parameters such as angle of repose, loose bulk density (LBD), Tapped bulk density (TBD), Compressibility index and Hausner's ratio. The results are shown in Table 16. All prepared batches exhibited good flow properties and compression characteristics as compared to pure drug. The angle of repose for batches CT1 to CT8 exhibited angle of repose between 24.70 to 29.66 indicating good flow properties for the powder blend ready to compress. Carr's index for all the prepared batches varied from 13.33 to 19.69 indicating good compression characteristics for the granules ready for compression. Hausner's Ratio for all the batches was found to be between 1.22 to

18.63 indicating good compression characteristics.

#### 4.2 Evaluation of Core Tablets

Routine pharmacopoeial physical evaluation tests for uncoated tablets were performed like tablet thickness, weight variation, tablet hardness, friability and drug content. Results obtained for these tests are summarized in Table 17. Thickness of all uncoated tablets varied from 3.42 ± 0.05 mm to 3.61 ± 0.02 mm. Friability for all batches ranged between 0.26 % to 0.61 %. Tablet hardness varied from 4.7 ± 0.3  $\text{Kg/cm}^2$  to 5.4 ± 0.3  $\text{Kg/cm}^2$ . Weight Variation for all batches was between 0.354 ± 0.4 mg to 0.364 ± 0.3 mg. Drug content from all batches was 98.28 % to 99.86%. While the disintegration time for uncoated tablets varied from 101 seconds to 140 seconds. All the prepared batches passed the routine physical evaluation tests as per limits of pharmacopoeia.

From these results it is observed that all core tablets prepared and passes the official evaluation test criteria. The thickness of the individual tablets is measured by use of

the Vernier Calipers, which provides accurate information on the variations of thickness between the tablets. (Tablet thickness should not less and not more than in a  $\pm 5\%$  variation of the average thickness.)

Batch CT6 contained Concentration 4% of crosspovidone giving lowest disintegration time. Results for disintegration time obtained for various batches are given in table 17.

#### Dissolution of core tablets:

Dissolution data of core tablet of Nizatidine tablets are reported in Table 18. Drug dissolved at specific time periods was plotted as percent drug release versus time (min). Release profile of core tablet of Nizatidine with different concentration of superdisintegrant is shown in Figure 33.

All the core tablets batches showed complete drug release within 60 min. The percent of the drug release versus time plot shows that the dissolution rate was directly proportional to the amount of superdisintegrant in the core tablet shown in Figure 33. A significant difference was observed in the percent of the drug release for different concentration of superdisintegrant in core tablet.

#### 4.2 Evaluation of pulsatile release tablets of Nizatidine

Pharmacopoeial physical evaluation tests for coated tablets were performed like tablet thickness, weight variation, tablet hardness, drug content and content uniformity.

Results are shown in Table 19 from these tests it is concluded that all core tablets prepared and pass the official evaluation test criteria. The tablet hardness of all the core tablet formulation was determined and it was found in the range 5.1-5.6 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>.

**Evaluation parameters of pulsatile release**  
Routine pharmacopoeial physical evaluation tests for coated tablets were performed like tablet thickness, weight variation, tablet hardness and drug content. Results obtained for these tests are summarized in Table 19. Thickness of all coated tablets varied from 3.63 $\pm$ 0.04 mm to 3.81 $\pm$ 0.06 mm. Tablets Hardness varied from 5.1 $\pm$ 0.3 kg/cm<sup>2</sup> to 5.6 $\pm$ 0.3. Weight Variation for all batches was between 0.374 $\pm$ 0.4 mg to 0.382 $\pm$ 3.5 mg. Drug content from all batches was 98.22% to 99.86%. While the lag time for coated tablets varied from 2.27 $\pm$ 0.07 hr to 7.17 $\pm$ 0.07 hr.

All the prepared batches passed the routine physical evaluation tests as per limits of pharmacopoeia. From these results it is observed that all core tablets prepared and pass the official evaluation test criteria. The thickness of the individual tablets is measured by use of the Vernier Calipers, which provides accurate information on the variations of thickness between the tablets. (Tablet thickness should not less and not more than in a  $\pm 5\%$  variation of the average thickness.) The weight variation test

was carried out as per official method and average percentage deviation of all the formulation were found to be within limit as per pharmacopoeia standard the deviation should not less than 5%. Drug content study of all formulation was carried out as per official method and the results are shown in Table 19. The content uniformity test was also carried out as per official method and it was found that all batches showed good content uniformity.

#### Lag time for coated tablets

The lag time for all prepared batches was found to be dependent on the ratio of coating component. Ethyl cellulose and Eudragit NE 30D was used in the ratio of 60:40%, 75:25% and 90:10% (w/w). The lag time of all batches was found to be in between 5.39 $\pm$ 0.03 to 7.17 $\pm$ 0.07. Ethyl cellulose and Methocel was used in the ratio of 60:40%, 75:25% and 90:10% (w/w). The lag time of all batches was found to be in between 2.27 $\pm$ 0.07 to 3.28 $\pm$ 0.04. Ethyl cellulose and Eudragit S100 was used in the ratio of 60:40%, 75:25% and 90:10% (w/w). The lag time of all batches was found to be in between 3.38 $\pm$ 0.06 to 4.35 $\pm$ 0.05. As the concentration of rupturable polymer increased proportionally increases the lag time. In this study formulation having F6 contained (60:40) w/w amount of coating ratio shows the lag time having a 3.28 $\pm$ 0.04.

#### Dissolution studies:

Dissolution data of pulsatile release Nizatidine tablet are reported in Table 20 drug dissolved at specific time periods was plotted as percent drug release versus time (hr) curve. Release profile of Nizatidine with different polymer coating is shown in Figure 34.

All polymers show no drug or small amount of drug release in the first two hours after which a different drug release profile was evident for each polymer in different ratio. The time at which rupture of the polymer layer in the dissolution medium was taken as indication for the beginning of the drug release into the medium. The lag time and drug release was directly related to concentration ratio to the polymer in coating solution and the coating level. Percent drug release Vs time plot shows that the dissolution rate was inversely proportional to the combination of polymer in coating solution shown in Figure 34.

A significant difference was observed in the percent of the drug release for different combination of polymer in coating solution. All the coated tablet with variable coating combination showed an early complete drug release in 6h-8h.

The percent of the drug release versus time plot shows that the dissolution rate was inversely proportional to the amount of film forming (erodible) polymer in the coating solution. The lag time and in vitro drug release profile for all three polymers combinations with ethyl cellulose in different ratio is different.

#### Kinetic modelling of drug release

To analyze the *in vitro* release data various kinetic models were used to describe the release kinetics. Data obtained from the *in vitro* release studies were subjected to Kinetic treatment to know the order of release. The 'r' values for zero order, first order, Higuchi and Peppas are given in table 21. From these tables it is observed that the release profiles were non-linear suggesting that the drug release from the formulations was not zero order that was confirmed by low 'r<sup>2</sup>' values of 0.613 – 0.8163. Higuchi plots of all the formulations were non linear because 'r<sup>2</sup>' values are not near about 1 in all the cases. The formulations were subjected to Peppas plots by taking log cumulative % drug released versus log time. The plots are found fairly linear and slope value was calculated (n value) which was ranges of 0.243 to 0.767 or F1 – F9 indicating the drug was released by Fickian diffusion mechanism.<sup>84</sup>

The zero order rates describe the systems where the drug release rate is independent of its concentration. The first order describes the

release from system where release rate is concentration dependent. According to Higuchi release of drugs from insoluble matrix as a square root of time dependent process based on Fickian diffusion. The Hixson-Crowell cube root law describes the release from systems where there is a change in surface area and diameter of particles or tablets<sup>85</sup>. Korsmeyer et al derived a simple relationship which described drug release from a polymeric system. To find out the mechanism of drug release, first 60% drug release data was fitted in Korsmeyer–Peppas model<sup>86</sup>

$$Q_t/Q_\infty = K_t t^n$$

Where  $M_t / M_\infty$  is fraction of drug released at time  $t$ ,  $k$  is the rate constant and  $n$  is the release exponent. The  $n$  value is used to characterize different release mechanisms as given in Table 23 for cylindrical shaped matrices.

**Table 23: Diffusion exponent and solute release mechanism for cylindrical shape<sup>88</sup>**

Exponent (n)	Overall solute diffusion mechanism
0.5	Fickian diffusion
0.5 < n < 0.89	Anomalous (non-Fickian) diffusion
1.0	Case-II transport
Higher than 1.0	Supercase-II transport

According to Korsmeyer where  $n$  is the release exponent, indicative of mechanism of drug release. Fickian diffusional release and a case-II relaxational release, are the limits of this phenomenon. Fickian diffusional release occurs by the usual molecular diffusion of the drug due to a chemical potential gradient. Case-II relaxational release is the drug transport mechanism associated with stresses and state-transition in hydrophilic glassy polymers which swell in water or biological fluids. This term also includes polymer disentanglement and erosion.<sup>87</sup> Table 23 describes the limits of this analysis for cylindrical shape, e.g. a tablet. The value of the release exponent in tablet formulation is 0.243 indicating Fickian diffusion.

#### Stability Study

The best batch F6 was stored at 40°C (±5°C) and 75% RH (±5%) for 3 months to analyze various physical parameters, results were shown in Table 22. No major differences were found between evaluated parameters before and after and all are in acceptable limits.<sup>89</sup>

#### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Nizatidine was to be freely soluble in chloroform, in methanol; soluble in water and buffered solution slightly soluble in ethyl acetate and isopropanol. The melting was observed at 131-134°C.

The DSC curve of pure Nizatidine exhibited a single endothermic response corresponding to the melting of drug. Onset of melting was obtained at 135°C. The superdisintegrant croscarmellose sodium, crosspovidone, sodium starch glycolate shows broad endothermic fusion peaks at 96.11°C, 94.96°C and 84.48°C respectively which is due to glass transition state. The DSC spectra of physical mixture of Nizatidine and mixture of other excipients has also shown same endothermic peak like pure drug. These observations of DSC study indicate absence of significant interaction between drug and excipients used in tablets formulation.

The Infrared Spectra of pure Nizatidine exhibited IR signals shows characteristic peaks on at 3280 cm<sup>-1</sup> (N-H stretching), 3107 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C-H stretching in NO<sub>2</sub>CH), 3094 cm<sup>-1</sup> (CH stretch in thiazole ring), 1521 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Thiazole ring), 2945 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 2860 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C-H stretching in NCH<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1377 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1359 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Thiazole ring for one frequency is sym NO<sub>2</sub>, H-bonded, conjugated). The Infrared Spectra of physical mixture of Nizatidine exhibited IR signals shows characteristic peaks on at 1359 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Thiazole ring for one frequency is sym NO<sub>2</sub>, H-bonded, conjugated), 2860 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C-H stretching in NCH<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 3094 cm<sup>-1</sup> (CH stretch in thiazole ring), 3280 cm<sup>-1</sup> (N-H stretching). The IR spectrum of physical mixture shows the major peaks of Nizatidine. These observations of IR spectra indicate that there was no chemical interaction between Nizatidine and other excipients.

Powder blends for all batches of core tablet were evaluated for various

precompression parameters such as Angle of repose, loose bulk density, Tapped bulk density, Compressibility index and Hausner's ratio so these observations concluded that, the core tablets powder blend shows good flow property and good compressibility index. The core tablets of Nizatidine were complied the official tests for thickness, weight variation, hardness, friability, drug content and dissolution studies. It was observed that the release from CT1 to CT9 was ranging between 95.02 to 99.08%

of the drug release within 60 min. The formulation contained 2-4% w/w of croscarmellose sodium (CT1-CT3) shows the disintegration time from 108 to 140 sec and drug release in the ranging between 95.02-98.66%. The formulation batches contained 2-4% crosspovidone (CT4-CT6) shows the disintegration time from 101 to 134 sec and drug release in the ranging between 97.45-99.08%. The formulation batches contained 2-4% sodium starch glycolate (CT7-CT9) shows the disintegration time from 110 to 135 sec and drug release in the ranging between 95.02-98.98%.

From results obtained from dissolution and disintegration time the best batch was found to be CT6. Core tablets prepared with 4% crosspovidone start disintegrating within few min. it shows 50% drug release in 5 min and 90% drug release in 20 min. as the amount of superdisintegrant decrease the release was decreased. Pulsatile drug delivery system required fast drug release after initial lag phase. Formulation containing 4% crosspovidone shows fast disintegration and dissolution and hence used as core for further lagged time coating formulation. The coated tablets of Nizatidine were evaluated for Thickness, Hardness, Weight variation, disintegration test, and content uniformity and In-vitro dissolution studies

It was observed that the release from F1 to F9 was ranging between 92.50 to 99.62% of the drug release upto 10 hr. The formulation coated with ethyl cellulose with the Eudragit NE30D in the ratio of 90:10%, 75:25%, 60:40% (w/w) (F1-

F3) show the lag time  $5.39 \pm 0.03$ ,  $6.18 \pm 0.06$  and  $7.17 \pm 0.07$  hr respectively and drug release in the ranging between 94.52-95.52%. The formulation coated with ethyl cellulose with the Methocel in the ratio of 90:10%, 75:25%, 60:40% (w/w) (F4-F6) show the lag time  $2.27 \pm 0.07$ ,  $3.12 \pm 0.02$  and  $3.28 \pm 0.04$  hr respectively and drug release in the ranging between 96.58-99.58%. The formulation coated with ethyl cellulose with the Eudragit S100 in the ratio of 90:10%, 75:25%, 60:40% (w/w) (F7-F9) show the lag time  $3.38 \pm 0.06$ ,  $4.24 \pm 0.04$  and  $4.35 \pm 0.05$  hr respectively and drug release in the ranging between 96.14-99.13%. The best batch selected on the basis of drug release after lag time. Formulation F6 could not release the drug in initial hours but gives the immediately burst release at time of midnight hours. To analyze the *in vitro* release data various kinetic models were used to describe the release kinetics. The zero order rates describe the systems where the drug release rate is independent of its concentration. The first order describes the release from system where release rate is concentration dependent. According to Higuchi release of drugs from insoluble matrix as a square root of time dependent process based on Fickian diffusion. The Hixson-Crowell cube root law describes the release from systems where there is a change in surface area and diameter of particles or tablets.

$$C = K_0 t$$

Where,  $K_0$  is zero-order rate constant expressed in unit of concentration/time and  $t$  is the time.

$$\log C = \log C_0 - Kt / 2.303$$

Where,  $C_0$  is the initial concentration of drug and  $K$  is first order constant.

$$Q = Kt^{1/2}$$

Where,  $K$  is the constant reflecting the design variables of the system.  $Q_0^{1/3} - Q_t^{1/3} = K_H C t$

Where,  $Q_t$  is the amount of drug released in time  $t$ ,  $Q_0$  is the initial amount of the drug in tablet and  $K_H C$  is the rate constant for Hixson-Crowell rate equation.

The following plots were made: cumulative % drug release vs. time (zero order kinetic model); log cumulative of % drug remaining vs. time (first order kinetic model); cumulative % drug release vs. square root of time (Higuchi model) log cumulative % drug release vs. log time (Korsmeyer model) and cube root of drug % remaining in matrix vs. time (Hixson-crowell cube root law).

#### Mechanism of drug release

Korsmeyer et al derived a simple relationship which described drug release from a polymeric system. To find out the mechanism of drug release, data was fitted in Korsmeyer-Peppas model:

$$M_t / M_\infty = K t^n$$

Where  $M_t / M_\infty$  are fraction of drug released at time  $t$ ,  $k$  is the rate constant and  $n$  is the release exponent. The  $n$  value is used to characterize different release mechanisms as given in table 21 for cylindrical shaped matrices.

According to various kinetic models, were giving linear relationship. In Zero order plot the  $r^2$  value obtained is 0.751 and first order gave 0.810 describing the drug release rate relationship with concentration of drug. The dissolution data was also plotted in accordance with Hixson-Crowell cube root law. Applicability of data ( $r^2 = 0.852$ ) indicates a change in surface area and diameter of tablets with the progressive dissolution of matrix as a function of time. According to Korsmeyer where  $n$  is the release exponent, indicative of mechanism of drug release. Fickian diffusional release and a case-II relaxation release, are the limits of this phenomenon. Fickian diffusional release occurs by the usual molecular diffusion of the drug due to a chemical potential gradient. Case-II relaxation release is the drug transport mechanism associated with stresses and state-transition in hydrophilic glassy polymers which swell in water or biological fluids. This term also includes polymer disentanglement and erosion. Table 21 describes the limits of this analysis for cylindrical shape, e.g. a tablet. The value of the release exponent in Nizatidine obtained as 0.243 which as per Table 23 is beyond the limits of Korsmeyer model so-called power law. The power law can only give limited insight into the exact release mechanism of the drug. Even if values of the exponent  $n$  are found that would indicate a diffusion controlled drug release mechanism.

The best batch F6 was stored at  $40^\circ\text{C}$  ( $\pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ ) and 75% RH ( $\pm 5\%$ ) for 3 months to analyze various physical parameters. No major differences were found between evaluated parameters before and after, and all are in acceptable limits. From the stability data for pulsatile release Nizatidine tablet it can be concluded that there were no change in any parameter tested in formulation so best batch F6 are said to be stable.

Conclusively the present study demonstrates the Nizatidine could be successfully delivered to provide night time relief of gastric acidity by designing time lagged coating chronopharmaceutical formulation (F6). It provided the delivery of drug at midnight hours. The formulation is to be taken after meal it gives burst release at midnight activity. This will provide an ideal therapeutic regimen with enhanced patient compliance.

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