(Research Article)

IJPSR (2018), Volume 9, Issue 10



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

Received on 10 February, 2018; received in revised form, 27 August, 2018; accepted, 02 September, 2018; published 01 October, 2018

FORMULATION AND EVALUATION OF SUSTAINED RELEASE MATRIX TABLETS OF BACLOFEN

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Keywords:

Sustained release, Matrix tablets, HPMC K4M, HPMC K15, Sodium alginate, Mannitol Correspondence to Author:

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ABSTRACT: The objective of the present study is to develop a pharmaceutically stable sustained release matrix tablets of Baclofen and perform the pre-compression, post compression and *in-vitro* evaluation studies of developed formulation. In this study sustained release matrix tablets of Baclofen were prepared by wet granulation method using mannitol, HPMC K4M, sodium alginate, HPMC K15 in various concentrations. All the formulations have showed acceptable Pharmacopeial standards. Formulation F9 have extended the release of Baclofen upto 12 h. Model fitting analysis for formulation F9 fitted in the zero order model and korsemeyer- peppas model. The "n" values obtained from the peppas-korsemeyer equation suggested that, drug release was non-fickian diffusion mechanism. Successful formulation was found stable after evaluation for physicochemical parameters when kept for 30 days at room temperature, 40 °C and 2-8 °C.

INTRODUCTION: ^{1, 2, 3, 4} Over the past 30 years, as the expense and complication involved in marketing new entities have increased with concomitant recognition of the therapeutics advantages of controlled drug delivery, greater attention has been focused on development of sustained or controlled drug delivery system. Sustained release technology is relatively new field and as a consequence, research in the field has been extremely fertile and has produced many discoveries. With many drugs, the basic goal is to achieve a steady state blood level that is therapeutically effective and non-toxic fir an extended period of time.



The design of proper dosage form is an important element to accomplish this goal. Sustained release, sustained action, prolonged action, controlled release, extended action, timed release and depot dosage form are term used to identify drug delivery system that are designed to achieve prolonged therapeutic effect by continuously releasing medication over an extended period of time after administration of a single dose.

In the case of oral sustained released dosage form, an effect is for several hours depending upon residence time of formulation in the GIT. Physician achieve several desirable can therapeutics advantages by prescribing sustained release dosage form. Since, the frequency of drug administration is reduced, patient's compliances can be improved and the drug administration can be made more convenient as well. The blood level oscillation characteristics of multiple dosing form of conventional dosage form is reduced, because more even blood level is maintained in the design of sustained release dosage form. The total amount of drug administered, thus maximum availability with a minimum dose. In addition, the safety margin of high potency drug can be increased and the incidence of both local and systemic adverse effects can be reduced in sensitive patients. Overall, increased administration of sustained release dosage form gives increased reliability.

Sustained Release: SRF's describes the slow release of a drug substance from a dosage form to maintain therapeutic response for extended period of time. Time depends on the dosage form. In oral form it is in hours, and in parenterals it is in days and months. *Ex*: Aspirin SR, Dextrin SR.

Advantages:

- Decreased local and systemic side effects.
- Better drug utilization.
- Improved efficiency in treatment.

Disadvantages:

- Decrease systemic availability in comparison to immediate release convention as dosage forms.
- Retrieval of drug is difficult in case of toxicity in case of toxicity, poisoning or hypersensitive reaction.
- Reduced potential for dosage adjustment of drug normally administered in varying strengths.

Potential Advantage of Sustained Release Dosage Form: ⁵

- ✓ Avoid patient's compliance problem due to reduced frequency of dosing.
- ✓ Blood level oscillation characteristics of multiple dosing of conventional dosage form is reduced because a more even blood level is maintained.
- \checkmark Employ a less total drug.
- ✓ Minimize or eliminate local or systemic side effects.
- ✓ Minimize drug accumulation with chronic dosing.
- ✓ Obtained less potential of reduction in drug activity with chronic use.

- ✓ Improved efficiency in treatment.
- Cure or control condition more promptly.
- Improved control of condition *i.e.* reduced fluctuation in drug level
- Improved bioavailability of some drugs.
- ✓ Make a use of special effects, sustained release aspect for relief of arthritis by dosing before bedtime.
- ✓ Economy.
- ✓ Overall, administrations of sustained release form enable increased reliability of therapy.

Recent Trends in Sustained Drug Delivery System: Sustained release dosage forms are categorized as:

- **1.** Single unit dosage form.
- **2.** Multiple unit dosage form.
- 3. Mucoadhesive system.

Matrix System: ^{5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11} The matrix system is most often used for a drug-controlled release from a pharmaceutical dosage form. Among the innumerable method used in controlled release drug from pharmaceutical dosage form, the matrix system is the most frequently applied; it is release system for delay and control of the release of the drug that is dissolved or dispersed in a resistant support to disintegration. To define matrix, it is necessary to know the characters that differentiate it from other controlled release dosage forms. Hence the following must be considered:

- The chemical nature of support (generally, the support are formed by polymeric net).
- The physical state of drug (dispersed under molecular or particulate form or both).
- The matrix shape and alteration in volume as a function of time.
- The route of administration (oral administration remains the most widely used but other route are adaptable).
- The release kinetic model.

Advantages of Matrix System:

• The interest awakened by matrix system in last few years is completely justified in view of the

major advantages. Among these, the following stand out.

- With proper control of manufacturing process, reproducible release profiles are possible.
- There is no risk of "dumping" of a large part of dose, through the structure makes the immediate release of a small amount of active principle unavoidable.
- Their capacity to incorporate active principle is large, which suits them to delivery of large dosage.

TABLE 1: CLASSIFICATION OF MATRIX SYSTEM

1	Mineral matrix	Drug retained in the support. Drug
		adsorbed on the support
2	Lipidic matrix	Delivery by diffusion. Delivery by
		surface erosion
3	Hydrophilic	Unlimited swelling, delivery by
	matrix	diffusion. Limited swelling controlled
		delivery through swelling
4	Inert matrix	Controlled delivery by diffusion
5	Biodegradable	Non-lipidic
	matrix	

Literature Review: ^{15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20} Literature search reveals that the usage of various excipients like HPMC, sodium alginate, carrageenan, xanthan gum, *etc.* has shown a sustained release of drug and thus increased the duration of action of required drug for long hours.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

TABLE 2: LIST OF CHEMICALS

Materials	Company Name
Baclofen	Micro Lab, Hosur
HPMC K4M & HPMC K15M	MSN Labs Ltd., Hyderabad
Lactose	MSN Labs Ltd., Hyderabad
Polyvinylpyrollidine-k-30	MSN Labs Ltd., Hyderabad
Talc & mannitol	Active Pharma Labs
Magnesium stearate	Active Pharma Labs

TABLE 3: LIST OF EQUIPMENTS

Equipment	Company name
UV/Vis double beam	Shimadzu 1800
spectrophotometer	
FTIR	Shimadzu
Compression machine	Cadmach
Tap density tester	Electro Lab
Tablet dissolution tester USP	Electro Lab
Hydraulic press	Kimaya Engineers
Hardness tester	Monsanto hardness tester
Friability tester	Roche friability tester
Melting point apparatus	Nutronics and Sisca
Tray dryer	Nutronics, DTC-201
Weighing balance	Amtiq
Dissolution test apparatus	Labindia-DT 1000

Formulation Procedure: ¹² Different formulations (F1-F12) were prepared by wet granulation method. **Table 4** shows composition of each formulation. The formulations are composed of polymers HPMC K4M, sodium alginate, HPMC K15 M in the ratio 0:0.5, 1:1, 1:1.5 and 1:2 in various percentages.

All powders were passed through 12-mesh sieve. Weigh accurate amounts of excipients, Baclofen and mix with diluent and polymer (HPMC K4 M) for five minutes. Add the binder PVP K 30 and water to above mixture. Dump mass was passed through sieve no.12 and going to dry by using tray dryer. After drying add magnesium stearate and talc to the granules and sieve through sieve no. 20. The resulting granules were then compressed.

Pre-compression Studies:

Angle of Repose: Flow property was determined by measuring the angle of repose.

$$Tan(\theta) = h / r$$

Where, θ = Angle of repose, h = Height of heap, r = Radius of pile.

Bulk Density: Bulk density is a ratio of given mass of powder and its bulk volume.

Bulk density =
$$M / V_0$$

M = Mass of the powder, $V_0 = Bulk$ volume of powder.

Tapped Density: it is generally given by the equation:

Tapped density =
$$M / V_r$$

M= Mass of powder, V_r = final tapping volume of powder.

Compressibility Index and Hausner Ratio: To measure the unsettled apparent volume, (V_0) and the final tapped volume, (V_f) of the powder after tapping the material until no further volume changes occur .given by the expression as follows.

Compressibility index = $\frac{1 - \text{Bulk density}}{\text{Tapped density}} \times 100$

Hausner ratio =
$$\frac{1 \text{ apped density}}{\text{Bulk density}}$$

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TABLE 4: VARIOUS FORMULATIONS	OF BACLOFEN MATRIX TABLETS

Ingredients (mg)	\mathbf{F}_1	\mathbf{F}_2	F ₃	F_4	F ₅	F ₆	\mathbf{F}_7	$\mathbf{F_8}$	F9	F ₁₀	F ₁₁	F ₁₂
Baclofen	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
Mannitol	154.5	141	129.5	116	154.5	141	129.5	116	154.5	141	129.5	116
HPMC K4	12.5	25	37.5	50.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sodium Alginate	-	-	-	-	12.5	25	37.5	50	-	-	-	-
HPMC K15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.5	25	37.5	50
PVP K 30	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Talc	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Magnesium stearate	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Avg. weight (mg)	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200

TABLE 5: FLOW PROPERTIES DETERMINATION

TABLE 5. FLOW TROTERTIES DETERMINATION									
Flow	Angle of	Carr's	Hausner						
properties	repose	index	ratio						
Excellent	25-30	<10	1.00-1.11						
Good	31-35	11-15	1.12-1.18						
Fair	36-40	16-20	1.19-1.25						
Passable	41-45	21-26	1.26-1.34						
Poor	46-55	26-31	1.35-1.45						
Very poor	56-65	32-37	1.46-1.49						
Very very poor	>66	>38	>1.6						

Post-compression Parameters:

Hardness: The hardness of the tablet was determined using a Monsanto hardness tester. It is expressed in kg/cm^2 .

Friability (**F**): This test is closely related to tablet hardness and designed to evaluate the ability of the to withstand abrasion is determined by the formula.

% friability = $(W_1-W_2) / W_1 \times 100$

 W_1 = Weight of tablets before test, W_2 = Weight of the tablets after the test.

Weight Variation Test: Comparison of the weight of the individual tablets (xi) of sample of tablets with an upper and lower percentage limit of the observed sample average (x-mean).

 TABLE 6: LIMIT FOR TABLET WEIGHT VARIATION

 TEST

Average weight of tablet (mg)	% Difference allowed
130 or less	10%
130-324	7.5%
>324	5%

Thickness: The thickness of the tablets was measured by screw gauge. It is expressed in mm.

Content Uniformity: Used to ensure that every tablet contains the amount of drug substances indeed with little variation among tablets with in batch.

In-vitro **Dissolution Test:** The USP type II rotating

paddle method was used to study the drug release from the tablet. The dissolution medium consisted of 900 ml of phosphate buffer pH 6.8. The release study was performed at 37 ± 0.5 °C with a rotation speed of 50 rpm. Aliquots were withdrawn at regular time intervals and replaced with fresh medium to maintain sink conditions. The samples were filtered with appropriate dilutions with phosphate buffer pH 6.8 and were analysed spectrophotometrically at 276 nm.

TABLE 7: DISSOLUTION STUDY OF BACLOFENMATRIX TABLETS

Bath temperature	37 °C ± 5
Dissolution media	6.8 p H phosphate buffer
Volume of dissolution	900 ml
Aliquot withdrawn	5 ml
Dissolution apparatus	USP paddle type II
Revolutions per minute	5

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Determination of λ_{max} **of Baclofen 6.8 pH Buffer: Stock Solution:** Baclofen in 6.8 phosphate buffer (100 mg in 100 ml). From the stock solution 100 µg/ml solution of Baclofen was prepared by doing suitable dilutions with the buffer and scanned between 200-400 nm. The absorption maxima of 220 nm was found and used for further studies.

Preparation of 6.8-pH Buffer Solution: Dissolve 6.8 g of potassium dihydrogen phosphate in 250 ml of water and stirred it for 5 min. Dissolve 2 gm of NaOH in 250 ml water. Take 250 ml of potassium dihydrogen phosphate and to it add 112 ml of NaOH solution in 1000 ml flask and make up a volume up to 1000 ml.

Preparation of Standard Curve of Baclofen in 6.8 pH Buffer: For the standard graph, Baclofen 100 mg was accurately weighed and dissolved in 100 ml of 6.8 pH buffer. From the working standard drug solution (1 mg/ml), different concentration of Baclofen *viz*, 2, 3, 4......up to 6mcg/ml were prepared and made up to volume with 6.8 pH buffer. The absorbance of the different concentration of Baclofen was measured at the 220nm against the reagent blank. The absorbances, which were found, are given in Table and the graph plotted of concentration *vs.* absorbance is shown in **Fig. 1**.



FIG. 1: STANDARD GRAPH OF BACLOFEN IN 6.8 pH BUFFER

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Pre-compression Parameters: Pre compression parameters of all formulations blend were conducted for angle of repose, bulk density, tapped density, compressability index and hausners ratio. The two most important attributes for the direct compression formula are good flow and good compressability. Inter particulate interactions that influence the bulking properties of a powder with powder flow. A comparison of bulk density and tapped density can give a measure of the relative importance of this interaction in given powder. The powder flow depends on three general areas. The physical property of particle (ex. shape, size, compressability), the bulk powder properties (ex. size distribution, compaction), and the processing environment (storage, humidity). Pre compression parameter are evaluated, these are mentioned in following Table 8.

Formulation	Bulk density	Tapped density	Carr's index	Hausner ratio	Angle of repose
F ₁	0.303	0.370	16.75	1.18	30
F_2	0.312	0.344	10	1.11	31
F_3	0.294	0.375	15.67	1.20	29
F_4	0.333	0.370	13.28	1.15	34
F_5	0.312	0.380	17.64	1.22	32
F_6	0.322	0.357	14.53	1.18	35
F_7	0.294	0.388	16.14	1.21	31
F_8	0.315	0.373	15.45	1.15	33
F ₉	0.323	0.355	17.55	1.20	30
F ₁₀	0.296	0.336	14.33	1.20	28
F ₁₁	0.325	0.363	17.45	1.18	29
F ₁₂	0.328	0.354	15.28	1.22	30

Post-compression Parameters: Evaluation of tablets was done by studying various parameters like weight variation, thickness, hardness, friability

and % drug content and the results were presented in **Table 9** and all the results were found to be within the Pharmacopeial standards.

TABLE 9: POST-COMPRESSION PARAMETERS OF BACLOFEN TABLETS

Formulation	rmulation Hardness (kg/cm ²)		Thickness (mm)	Wt. Var. (avg. wt) (mg)	Drug content%	
F ₁	6.93	0.64	2.43	203	96.72	
F_2	6.83	0.58	2.56	201	97.92	
F_3	6.66	0.62	2.53	202	98.42	
F_4	6.76	0.53	2.53	201	96.83	
F_5	6.83	0.56	2.50	202	97.65	
F_6	6.66	0.61	2.46	203	96.89	
F_7	6.83	0.59	2.43	201	98.22	
F_8	6.65	0.58	2.52	201	96.90	
F_9	6.85	0.56	2.52	201	98.80	
F ₁₀	6.91	0.62	2.45	202	97.60	
F ₁₁	6.89	0.65	2.55	200	95.20	
F ₁₂	6.95	0.60	2.71	201	96.50	

Spectra of Pure drug of FTIR Baclofen: The IR spectrum of pure drug were studied. The characteristic absorption peaks of Baclofen were

obtained at 2156.99 cm⁻¹, 1160.94 cm⁻¹, 1093.44 cm⁻¹, 1001.84 cm⁻¹, 945.91 cm⁻¹, 834.06 cm⁻¹. The peaks obtained in the spectra of each formulation

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correlates with the peaks of drug spectrum. This indicates that the drug was compatible with the formulation components.

Drug - Excipient Compatibility Study: Drugexcipient compatibility studies were carried out by FT-IR spectroscopy. The IR spectrum of pure drug and physical mixture of drug and polymer were studied. The peaks obtained in the spectra of each formulation correlates with the peaks of drug spectrum. This indicates that the drug was compatible with the formulation components shown in **Fig. 3** and **4**.



FIG. 3: SPECTRA OF PURE DRUG + SODIUM ALGINATE

In-vitro Dissolution Study and Kinetic Modeling of Drug Release: ^{13, 14} All the formulations of Baclofen were subjected to *in-vitro* release studies these studies were carried out using dissolution apparatus. The dissolution medium consisted of 900 ml of standard buffer pH 1.2 for the first 2 h, followed by pH 6.8 for remaining period of time. The release of Baclofen from sustained release tablet of the various formulations varied according to the ratio and degree of the different polymer. The formulation F9 having swellable polymer as

FIG. 4: SPECTRA OF PURE DRUG + HPMC K 15

HPMC K15. The optimized formulation F9 which releases the Baclofen in a sustained manner in 1st h it releases 31.63% but 98.83% release after 12 h. The polymer HPMC K15 M sustain the relax up to 12 h. The *in-vitro* drug release profile of Baclofen (F₁-F₄), Baclofen + sodium alginate (F₅-F₈) and Baclofen + HPMC K15 M (F₉-F₁₂) were shown in **Fig. 5**, **6** & **7** and **Table 10**. Formulation F₉ has shown the best dissolution profile which is represented in **Fig. 8**. The kinetic profile of all formulations were shown in **Table 11**.

	Time	\mathbf{F}_1	\mathbf{F}_2	F ₃	F_4	F ₅	F ₆	\mathbf{F}_7	F ₈	F9	F ₁₀	F ₁₁	F ₁₂
	30 min	21.69	29.14	24.84	19.31	24.77	20.97	14.75	20.16	16.58	18.2	29.3	15.23
	1 h	37.99	49.73	43.7	34.25	41.06	36.74	29.54	38.45	31.63	36.54	40.53	42.07
	2 h	58.56	71.65	63.12	51.67	60.47	54.68	46.83	55.5	49.45	50.35	55.23	56.44
	3 h	71.29	80.07	76.45	66.02	75.18	69.4	53.54	67.37	59.06	62.43	65.86	60.23
	4 h	79.16	89.29	83.21	73.56	83.96	75.17	61.63	73.96	67.4	70.23	78.2	65.88
	5 h	83.35	93.11	87.96	79.4	88.54	80.62	68.27	82.84	72.67	78.3	80.36	69.78
	6 h	86.05	96.68	92.04	82.17	92.88	84.54	72.31	87.67	79.87	85.3	82.56	73.35
	7 h	91.12	98.74	95.91	87.56	95.62	89.02	78.59	91.44	84.52	90.43	88.46	77.89
	8 h	93.47	-	97.45	91.42	97.05	94.46	83.08	95.83	89.96	93.55	91.11	80.63
	9 h	96.21	-	-	93.74	99.75	98.34	88.46	97.59	93.18	95.3	96.37	82.94
	10 h	97.33	-	-	96.32	-	-	92.67	98.47	95.04	98.88	98.53	98.46
	11 h	-	-	-	-	-	-	97.63	-	97.3	-	-	-
	12 h	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98.83	-	-	-



Formulation	Zero Order	First Order	Higuchi Matrix	Peppas plot R ² value	Peppas plot n value
F ₁	0.802	0.991	0.956	0.947	0.947
F_2	0.708	0.984	0.959	0.947	0.947
F ₃	0.816	0.993	0.965	0.953	0.953
F_4	0.833	0.974	0.970	0.960	0.960
F ₅	0.808	0.999	0.960	0.957	0.957
F_6	0.856	0.926	0.979	0.967	0.967
F ₇	0.901	0.896	0.992	0.969	0.969
F_8	0.840	0.980	0.973	0.958	0.958
F_9	0.878	0.963	0.986	0.968	0.968
F ₁₀	0.865	0.895	0.955	0.940	0.965
F ₁₁	0.901	0.886	0.980	0.956	0.956
F ₁₂	0.885	0.950	0.968	0.968	0.948

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION: The sustained release tablet containing Baclofen matrix were successfully prepared by wet granulation method. The physiochemical evaluation results for the granules blend of all trials pass the official limits in angle of repose, bulk density, compressibility index. The prepared tablets were also maintained the physiochemical properties such as thickness, hardness, weight variation, friability.

Increasing the amount of HPMC and sodium alginate in solid matrix tablet decreased the release rate of the drug. The formulation F9 having swellable polymer as HPMC K15 optimized formulation which releases the Baclofen in a sustained manner in first hour it released 31.63% but 98.83% released after 12 h. The polymer HPMC K15 M sustain the release upto 12h.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: We are thankful to the Active Pharma Labs, MSN Labs, Hyderabad and Micro Labs for providing required chemical samples. Also we sincerely thank our KLR pharmacy college for providing necessary equipments and their support in the fulfilment of this research work successfully.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: All persons who meet authorship criteria are listed as authors, and all authors certify that they have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for the content, including participation in the

concept, design, analysis, writing or revision of the manuscript. Furthermore, each author certifies that this material or similar material has not been and will not be submitted to or published in any other publication.

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How to cite this article:

Shankar KR, Madhan K and Swetha G: Formulation and evaluation of sustained release matrix tablets of Baclofen. Int J Pharm Sci & Res 2018; 9(10): 4402-09. doi: 10.13040/IJPSR.0975-8232.9(10).4402-09.

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