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Research Article

**DEVELOPMENT AND INVITRO EVALUATION OF NANOSUSPENSION GEL OF BENZOYL PEROXIDE****Ancheria R K \*, Jain S, Kumar D, Soni S L, Sharma M**

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**ABSTRACT**

Novel drug delivery systems are designed with an intend to deliver drugs to the specific site at a rate and extent directed by the needs of the body and it directs an active entity to specific site of action during the period of treatment. Acne vulgaris is a common skin disease, affecting about 70-80% of adolescents and young adults. It is a multifactorial disease of the pilosebaceous unit. it has been developed as possible carriers to deliver antifungal drugs to the target site and to enhance an epidermal permeation across the skin. this article we present benzoyl peroxide can increase solubility and permeability of topical used. when benzoyl peroxide is very widely used in the mild to moderate acne vulgaris and rosacea.

**KEYWORDS**-Benzoyl peroxide, Surfactant, Drug release kinetic, Polymer, Nanosuspension gel**ARTICLE INFO:** Received 18 April 2019; Review Completed 03 July 2019; Accepted 18 July 2019; Available online 15 August 2019**Cite this article as:**

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**INTRODUCTION**

Semi-solids establish a significant proportion of pharmaceutical dosage forms. They serve as transporters for drugs that are topically delivered by system of the skin, cornea, rectal tissue, nasal mucosa, vagina, buccal tissue, urethral membrane, and external ear lining. Acne vulgaris is a common skin disease, affecting about 70-80% of adolescents and young adults.

It is a multi factorial disease of the pilosebaceous unit. The influence of androgens at the onset of adolescence leads to an enlargement of the sebaceous gland and a rise in sebum production<sup>1</sup>.

Topical retinoid has been used in acne therapy since 1962. The first one was tretinoin, which remains in use today.

Novel drug delivery systems are designed with an intend to deliver drugs to the specific site at a rate and extent directed by the needs of the body and it directs an active entity to specific site of action during the period of treatment. It has been developed as possible carriers to deliver antifungal drugs to the target site and to enhance an epidermal permeation across the skin<sup>2</sup>.

**Gels**

Gel is a colloidal system that is mainly 99%(w/v) liquid, which is restrained by the surfactant tension, a gelation agent is used to form the consistency of the gel. Gel can be used for the topical delivery through skin, rectal, vaginal and ophthalmic routes<sup>1,2</sup>.

**Nanosuspension**

Nanosuspension is submicron colloidal dispersions of nanosized drug particles stabilized by surfactants. Nanosuspension consists of the poorly water-soluble drug without any matrix material suspended in dispersion. These can be used to enhance the solubility of drugs that are poorly soluble in water as well as lipid media. As a result of increased solubility, the rate of flooding of the active compound increases and the maximum plasma level is reached faster.

**Advantages of Nanosuspension**

- Enhance the solubility and bioavailability of drugs
- Suitable for hydrophilic drugs
- Higher drug loading can be achieved
- Dose reduction is possible
- Enhance the physical and chemical stability of

drugs

- Provides a passive drug targeting

### Objective

- Quick onset of action
- Fast absorption of drug
- To improve bioavailability
- Providing ease of use for consumers

### METHODOLOGY

#### Preformulation studies

Preformulation studies are the first step in the rational development of dosage form of a drug substance. The objective of Preformulation study is to investigate critical physiochemical factors which assure identity, purity and product performance and quality. These are various method used in Preformulation study Melting point determination, Development of calibrations curves of Benzoyl peroxide, Determination of absorbance maxima( $\lambda_{max}$ ), Partition coefficient, Solubility of drug, Drug and excipients compatibility studies<sup>3</sup>.

#### Preparation of Nanosuspension

Nanosuspension was prepared by media milling technique, glass beads were used as milling media. In 20 ml glass vial, weighed quantities of glass beads were taken and 3 ml distilled water was added in this vial, surfactant and drug were incorporated and combination was carried out on magnetic stirrer for particular period of time. Batch volume, vessel size, magnetic bead size and stirring speed were kept constant<sup>4</sup>.

### RESULT AND DISCUSSION-

#### Melting point determination<sup>5,6</sup>-

Table 1: Melting Point of Benzoyl Peroxide

| Observed melting point | Reported melting point |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 104.33°C±0.577°C       | 105 °C                 |

Value is expressed as mean ± SD; n = 3

**Discussion:** The melting point of drug was found to be range 104°C ± 0.75°C; hence drug sample was free from any type of impurities.

#### Partition coefficient of Benzoyl peroxide-

Table 2: Partition coefficient of Benzoyl peroxide

| Observed log P | Reported log P | Inference                             |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3.59±0.732     | 3.42           | Reveals the lipophilic nature of drug |

Value is expressed as mean ± SD; n = 3

**Discussion:** The partition coefficient of *Benzoyl peroxide* in n- Octanol: Water was found to be 3.59±0.732; this indicates that the drug is lipophilic in nature<sup>7</sup>.

### Solubility studies

Table 3: Solubility profile of Benzoyl peroxide

| Solvent         | Solubility (mg/ml) | Inference         |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| pH 7.4          | 1.27±1.095         | slightly soluble  |
| Ethanol         | 35.232±0.429       | Soluble           |
| Distilled water | 1.273±0.0143       | slightly soluble  |
| Diethyl ether   | 67.82±0.286        | Soluble           |
| DMSO            | 394.45±2.86        | freely soluble    |
| Chloroform      | 14.88±0.0429       | sparingly soluble |
| Methanol        | 43.43±0.248        | Soluble           |
| DCM             | 67.57±0.286        | Soluble           |
| Acetone         | 47.14±0.248        | Soluble           |

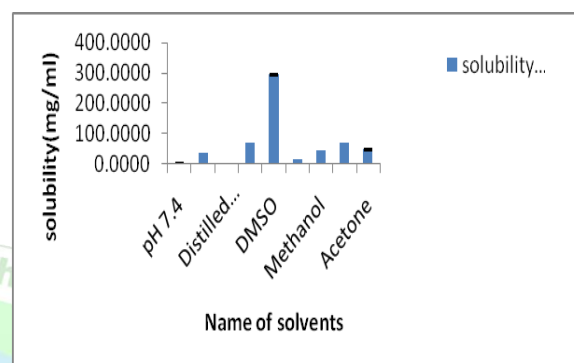


Figure 1: Solubility of Benzoyl peroxide in organic solvents

### Drug and excipients compatibility studies

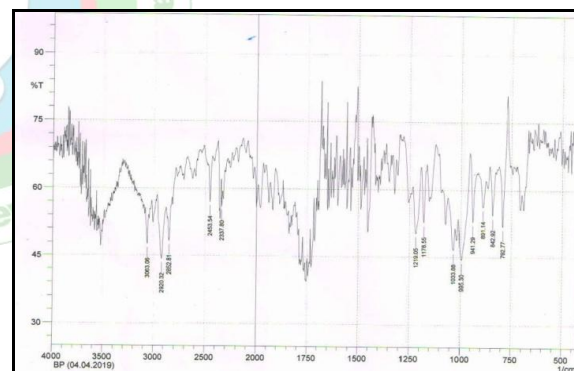


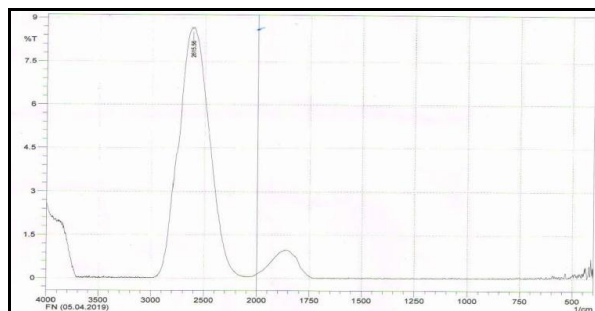
Figure 2: FT-IR spectrum of Benzoyl peroxide

Table 4: FT-IR interpretation data of Benzoyl peroxide

| Functional group               | Observed peak (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Reference Peak (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Aromatics (C-H)                | 792.77, 842.92, 891.14            | 900–675                            |
| Alkenes (=C–H bend)            | 941.29, 995.3                     | 1000–650                           |
| aliphatic amines (C–N stretch) | 1033.88, 1178.55, 1219.05         | 1250–1020                          |
| Aromatics(C-H)                 | 3063.06                           | 3100–3000                          |

**Discussion:** The principal IR absorption peaks of Benzoyl peroxide at 792.77, 842.92, 891.14cm<sup>-1</sup> (C-H stretching) Aromatic, 941.29, 995.3cm<sup>-1</sup> ((=C–H bend stretching) Alkenes, 1033.88, 1178.55, 1219.05cm<sup>-1</sup> (C–N stretch)aliphatic amines , 3063.06 cm-1 ( C-H) Aromatics

were all observed in the spectra of Benzoyl peroxide. These observed principal peaks. This observation confirmed the purity and authenticity of the Benzoyl peroxide<sup>8,9</sup>.



**Figure 3:** FT-IR spectrum of Physical Mixture (Benzoyl peroxide and Sodium dodecyl sulphate)

**Table 5:** Interpretation of FTIR of Physical Mixture

| Functional group               | Observed peak (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Reference Peak (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| aliphatic amines (C-N stretch) | 1076.32, 1251.84                  | 1033.88, 1178.55, 1219.05          |
| Aromatics (C-C stretch)        | 1450.52                           | 1500–1400                          |
| Carboxylic acids (C=O stretch) | 1693.56                           | 1760–1690                          |
| Alkenes (C=C stretch)          | 1645.33                           | 1680–1640                          |
| Carboxylic acids (C=O stretch) | 1755.28, 1782.29                  | 1760–1690                          |
| Aromatics (C-H)                | 3063.06                           | 3063.06                            |

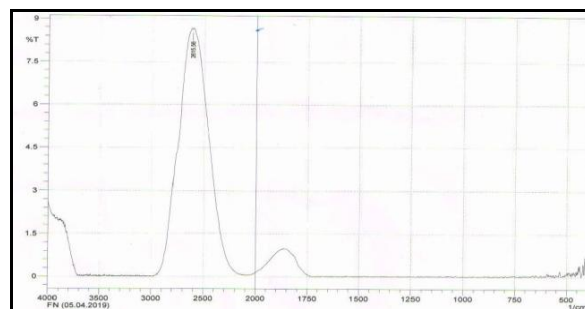
## OPTIMIZATION OF FORMULATION PARAMETERS

**Table 7:** Different compositions of benzoyl peroxide loaded Nanosuspension

| Formulation code | Stabilizer        | Time (hr) | Solubility(mg/ml)     |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| F-1              | Poloxamer 407     | 4         | 0.1464±0.000248       |
| F-2              | Poloxamer 407     | 8         | 15.467±0.2865         |
| F-3              | Poloxamer 188     | 4         | 11.166±0.2481         |
| F-4              | Poloxamer 188     | 8         | 2.4813±0.0429         |
| F-5              | Sodium alginate   | 4         | 0.0959±0.00286        |
| F-6              | Sodium alginate   | 8         | 18.196±0.28652        |
| F-7              | Polyvinyl alcohol | 4         | 3.755±0.01432         |
| F-8              | Polyvinyl alcohol | 8         | 4.604±0.929           |
| F-9              | SDS               | 4         | 22.084±0.85957        |
| <b>F-10</b>      | <b>SDS</b>        | <b>8</b>  | <b>35.235±0.42978</b> |

**Discussion:** From the above data, it was found that the solubility increases was significant till 8hr to obtain desired (maximum) solubility in appropriate concentration of SDS stabilizer. Therefore, the final formulation of nanosuspension was optimized F-10 formulation. Above the study we observed amount of stabilizer increases, decreases the solubility of formulation, that's why we optimized the minimum concentration of stabilizer, therefore, considered for further studies<sup>14</sup>.

**Discussion:** FTIR of physical mixture studies were carried out to eliminate the possibility of interaction between drug and excipients used analytical method of drug estimation. All the spectrum peaks revealed that corresponding peaks of drugs are present in the above spectra along with excipients peaks. Hence no interaction was observed in this mixture<sup>10,11</sup>.



**Figure 4:** FT-IR spectrum of formulation

**Table 6:** Interpretation of FTIR of formulation

| Functional group               | Observed peak (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Reference Peak (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Carboxylic acids (O-H stretch) | 2615.56                           | 3300–2500                          |

**Discussion:** FTIR of physical mixture studies were carried out to eliminate the possibility of interaction between in formulation. The spectrum peaks revealed that corresponding peaks of drugs are present in the above spectra along with excipients peaks. Hence, in the formulation we found that drug was entrapped<sup>12,13</sup>.

**Table 8:** Optimization of concentration of drug

| Formulation Code | Drug Concentration (%w/v) | Solubility(mg/ml) |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| D1               | 1                         | 12.15±0.859       |
| <b>D2</b>        | <b>2.5</b>                | <b>29.44±1.00</b> |

**Discussion:** The optimized concentration of drug, it was found **29.44±1.00 mg/ml** maximum solubility in 2.5 % of drug concentration, and these above the observation, we finalized the 2.5 % of drug concentration<sup>15</sup>.

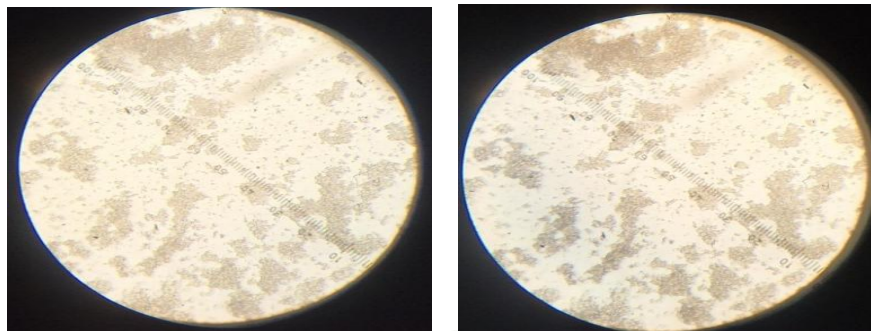
**Table 9:** Optimization of concentration of drug (beads)

| Formulation Code | Concentration of beads (%w/v) | Solubility (mg/ml) |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| B1               | 80                            | 14.64±0.859        |
| B2               | 100                           | 32.83±0.286        |
| B3               | 120                           | 22±1.00            |

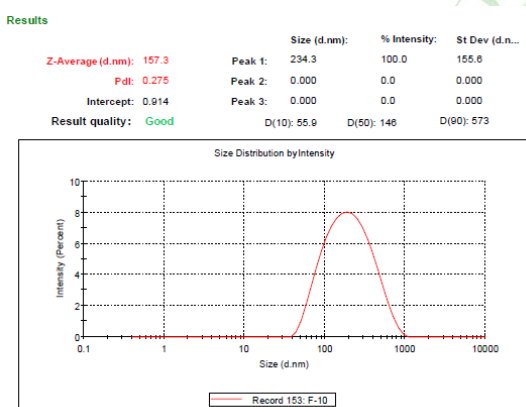
**Discussion:** The optimization of bead concentration depend on the attrition, and above the data, it was found **32.83±0.286mg/ml** maximum attrition in **B2** formulation containing 100% concentration of beads<sup>16,17,18</sup>.

### Characterization of Nanosuspension

#### Optical microscopy

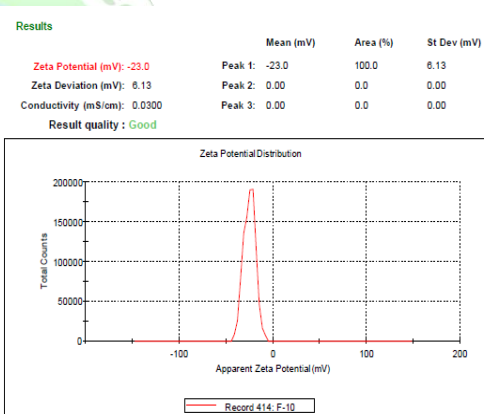
**Figure 5:** Optical microscopy of benzoyl peroxide loaded nanosuspensi

#### Particle Size -

**Figure 6:** Particle size of benzoyl peroxide Loaded Nanosuspension**Table 10:** Final Optimization of all Formulation Parameters

| Sr.No | Optimized formulation of Benzoyl peroxide Nanosuspension |           |
|-------|--|-----------|
| 1     | Type of surfactant                                       | SDS       |
| 2     | Ratio of beads   | 0.2-0.4mm |
| 3     | Concentration of drug                                    | 2.5% w/v  |
| 4     | Concentration of beads                                   | 100% w/v  |
| 5     | Concentration of SDS                                     | 0.2% w/v  |
| 6     | Stirring time  | 8 hours   |

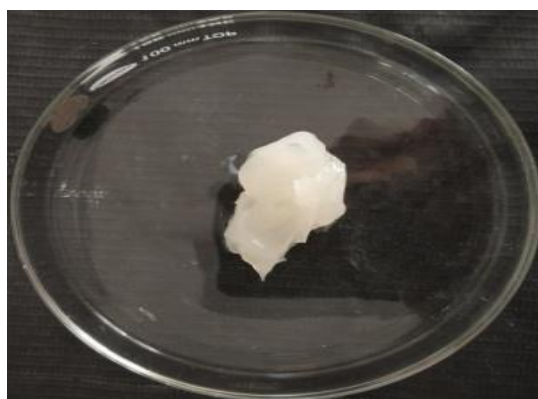
#### Zeta Potential-

**Figure 7:** zeta potential of benzoyl peroxide

**Discussion:** The zeta potential of F-10. Formulation is -23.0± 4.75mV. From the results of zeta potential, it was found that formulation of Nanosuspension have a stable

**EVALUATION OF BENZOYL PEROXIDE LOADED NANOSUSPENSION GEL**<sup>21,22,23</sup>

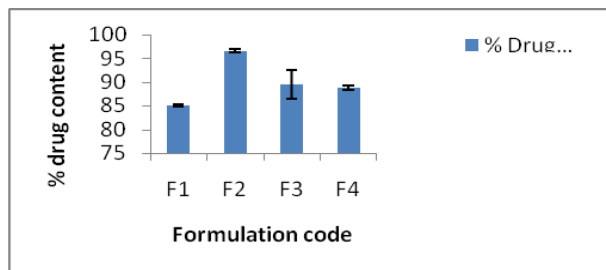
#### Appearance of Gel-

**Figure 6:** Appearance of gel



**Table 8:** Drug content of Benzoyl peroxide loaded Nanosuspensions gel-

| S. No | Formulation code | % Drug content |
|-------|------------------|----------------|
| 1     | F-1              | 85.06±0.1801   |
| 2     | F-2              | 96.61±0.36026  |
| 3     | F-3              | 89.55±3.0049   |
| 4     | F-4              | 88.74±0.514    |

**Figure 9:** Drug content of Benzoyl peroxide loaded Nanosuspension gel

**Discussion:** The % Drug content of benzoyl peroxide loaded Nanosuspension gel was found to be 96.61±0.36026% and 85.06±0.1801, respectively. The % Drug content of all formulations was found to be

satisfactory, so we further proceed with further more formulations, they show good % Drug content. Hence, the method adopted for Nanosuspension formulations was found to be suitable<sup>24,25</sup>.

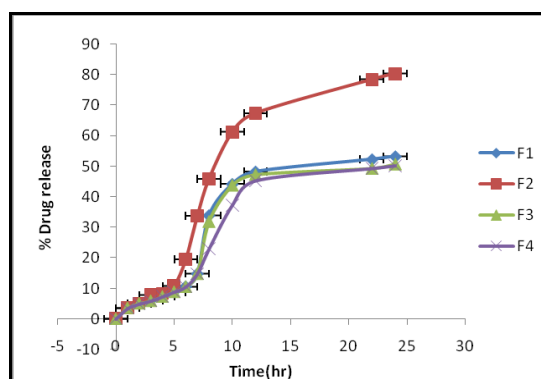
#### In vitro Permeation study-

**Table 12:** % Drug Release of Nanosuspension gel formulation

| Time (min) | % Drug Release F1 | % Drug Release F2 | % Drug Release F3 | % Drug Release F4 |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1          | 3.57±0.023        | 3.57±0.023        | 3.57±0.0230       | 3.41±0.023        |
| 2          | 5.04±0.046        | 5.04±0.046        | 5.04±0.0461       | 4.89±0.0461       |
| 3          | 5.88±0.384        | 7.88±0.384        | 5.88±0.3846       | 5.88±0.384        |
| 4          | 7.29±0.065        | 8.29±0.065        | 7.29±0.0657       | 7.28±0.061        |
| 5          | 8.82±0.046        | 10.82±0.046       | 8.82±0.0461       | 8.80±0.030        |
| 6          | 10.51±0.046       | 19.51±0.046       | 10.51±0.0461      | 10.51±0.046       |
| 7          | 14.74±0.023       | 33.74±0.023       | 14.74±0.461       | 14.74±0.023       |
| 8          | 33.89±0.46        | 45.89±0.461       | 31.81±0.461       | 22.89±5.69        |
| 10         | 44.21±0.46        | 61.21±0.461       | 43.66±0.461       | 37.21±0.461       |
| 12         | 48.26±0.46        | 67.36±0.461       | 47.17±1.396       | 45.26±0.461       |
| 22         | 52.30±0.17        | 78.4±0.174        | 49.21±0.174       | 49.28±0.461       |
| 24         | 53.28±0.31        | 80.38±0.314       | 50.60±0.314       | 50.19±0.314       |

**Discussion:** It was found that in vitro skin permeation release of F2 Formulation was best explained by the plot showed the highest linearity as compared to remaining formulations. The F2 formulation showed sustained release mechanism<sup>26</sup>.

Based on in vitro permeation study results mentioned in table 7.20, optimized benzoyl peroxide nanosuspension gel showed around 80.38% drug release in 24 hr, whereas % release percentage from remaining benzoyl peroxide nanosuspension gel formulations were around 53.28%, 50.60%, and 50.19%, respectively in 24hr.

**Figure 10:** Spreadability of Benzoyl peroxide loaded Nanosuspension gel formulation

Drug release Kinetic study<sup>26, 27</sup>

## Zero Order Release

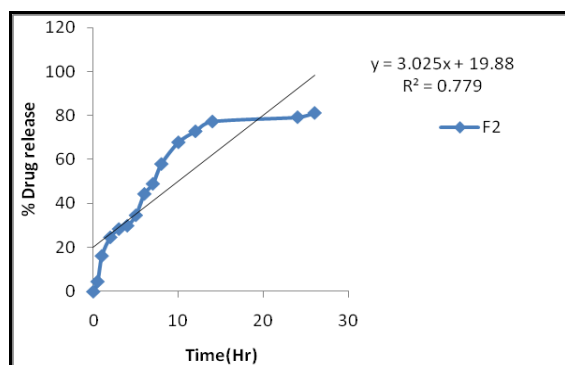


Figure 11: Zero order Drug Release of Formulation F2

## First Order Release

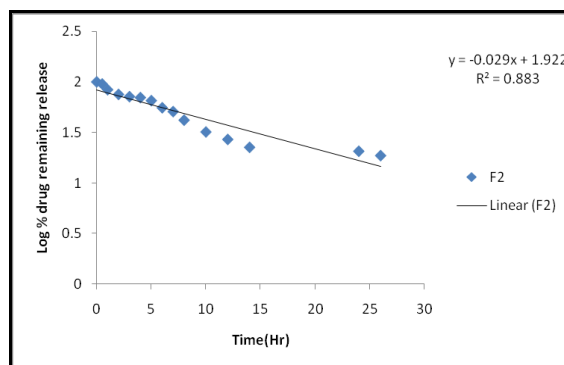


Figure 12: First orders Drug Release of Formulation F2

## Higuchi Model Release

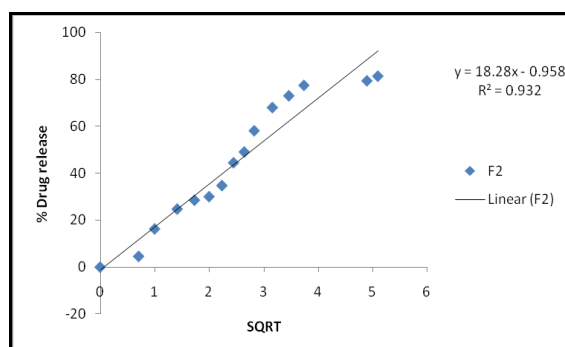


Figure 13: Higuchi model Drug Release of Formulation F2

## Korsmeyer-Peppas model Release

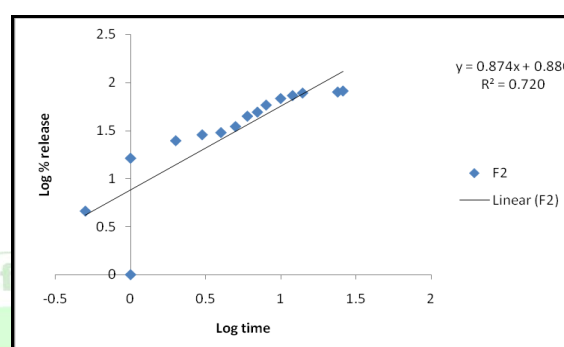


Figure 14: Korsmeyer-Peppas model Drug Release of Formulation F2

Table 13: Kinetic equation parameter of F2 Formulation

| Formulation Name | Zero order     |                | First order    |                | Higuchi        |                | Peppas         |                |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                  | R <sup>2</sup> | K <sub>0</sub> | R <sup>2</sup> | K <sub>0</sub> | R <sup>2</sup> | K <sub>0</sub> | R <sup>2</sup> | K <sub>0</sub> |
|                  | 0.779          | 3.02           | 0.883          | -0.0293        | 0.932          | 18.28          | 0.7208         | 0.8744         |

**Discussion:** The *in vitro* drug release of Nanosuspension gel formulation F2 was best explained by, as Higuchi kinetics, the plots showed the highest linearity ( $R^2=0.932$ ), followed by First order ( $R^2=0.883$ ), and zero order ( $R^2=0.779$ ), Korsmeyer-Peppas ( $R^2=0.7208$ ), and suggesting that the diffusion plays an important role in the sustained release.

The data obtained for *in vitro* release shown in 13 were fitted into equation for the zero order, first order and higuchi and Korsmeyerpeppas release models. The interpretation of data was based on the value of the resulting regression coefficients.

The zero order rates described the system where the drug release independent of its concentration showed the percent drug release Vs time for zero order kinetics. The higuchi order rate described the release from systems where the release of drugs from a matrix as a square root of a time- dependent process based on Fickian diffusion<sup>28,29</sup>.

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The calculated regression coefficients for zero order, first order and higuchi models and Korsmeyer were shown in Table 13. It was found that *in vitro* drug release of F2 Formulation was best explained by higuchi model as the plot showed the highest linearity. The value of  $R^2$  found to be highest for the higuchi model<sup>30</sup>.

## CONCLUSION:

The SEM micrographs revealed that F2 nanosuspension gel were formed with uniform nanosuspension particles. The nanosuspension gel had passed the formulation of gel with different carbopol concentration varies, and finalized on basis of drug content, viscosity, spreadability and % drug release were found  $86.61 \pm 0.36026$ ,  $131000 \pm 0.157735027$ ,  $3.83 \pm 0.01$  and  $80.38 \pm 0.314$ . It was found that the *in vitro* drug release of F2 was best explained by Higuchi as the plot showed the highest linearity. The value of  $R^2$  found to be 0.932 highest for the higuchi order.

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