RESEARCH PAPER

Design, Development and Optimization of Controlled release Formulation for a freely BCS class I Eperisone HCl

Rajesh Kumar Yadav[1]; Charanjeet Singh [2], Vijay Sharma[3]

[1]*Principal, RUHS College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India*
[2]*Professor, Goenka College of Pharmacy, Sikar, Rajasthan, India*
[3]*Professor, Goenka College of Pharmacy, Sikar, Rajasthan, India*

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ABSTRACT
The formulation and optimzation of controlled release resinates beads of Eperisone HCl (EpHCl) allowed for once a day administration, which improved patient compliance and eliminated the danger of medication intolerance. EpHCl is a readily water-soluble substance with a short half-life. Next, the EpHCl-resin combination was covered with a layer of Kollicoat SR-30D . The EpHCl release rate from the microcapsules was optimized using a 24 factorial design, which included variables such as the concentration of Kollicoat SR 30D (X1), % coating (X2), rotation speed (X3), and the concentrations of plasticizer (PEG 400) (X4). As for the dependent variables, we chose coating extent (Y1) and medication release % at specific periods (Y2, Y3, and Y4). The optimization procedure was then carried out for X1, X2, X3, and X4. At 1495 rpm, X1, X2, and X3 levels are at 14.42%, 50.63%, and 9.94%, correspondingly, in the optimized EpHCl microcapsules. The opted EpHCl microcapsules placed inside capsules had a f2 value of 71.24, which means that the optimized formulation's dissolving profiles are similar to the targeted releasing model's.
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INTRODUCTION

Eperisone hydrochloride salt is the form in which the antispasmodic medicine Eperisone is manufactured. Eperisone reduces myotonia, increases blood flow, and inhibits the body's pain response. It does this by means of musculoskeletal and vascular muscle relexions. This medication requires regular dosing due to its short half-life (1.6 to 1.8 hours). The typical daily dosage of eperisone for adults is 50 to 150 mg, taken half an hour after each meal. But the doctor adjusts the dosage according on the patient's age, how severe their indications are, and how they react. The centrally acting medication Eperisone relaxes skeletal muscles primarily via acting on γ-motor neurones, which involves reducing experimentally produced muscular stiffness, inhibiting spinal signals, and diminishing the sensitivity of muscular spindles. Furthermore, it widens vascular smooth muscles, which in turn enhances blood flow.[1]

The ability to create an innovative EpHCl formulation that permits once-daily administration while maintaining a drug concentration inside the therapeutic precinct and removing the danger of intolerance from rapidly disintegrating dosage forms caused by large-scale absorption was thus beneficial. When it comes to water, EpHCl dissolves easily. Pharmaceutical products including EpHCl need specialized technology for release control due to the compound's extremely high solubility.

Although EpHCl sustained-release formulations do exist, they still have room for improvement. This is especially true when it comes to ensuring the consistency, ease, and dependability of industrial production processes, and when it comes to creating a once a day formulation that aims for zero-order releases properties. It was shown that the majority of EpHCl sustained release formulations could only keep the medicine released for a maximum of 8 hours. Controlled-release forms have been the primary focus of research into new medication delivery methods. Of these, non-disintegrating individual dosage forms have not been as extensively utilised as multiple-unit dosage forms like microparticles or beads, for several reasons. Intestinal dispersion is improved, which leads to more consistent drug absorption, less regional irritation, expected emptying of the stomach, less chance of dose dumping, and no unintentional polymeric substance stored in the intestines.[2]

A type of insoluble polymer-carrying functional group, ion exchange resins (IER) are cross-linked. An exchange reaction may be utilized to load drugs onto resins, leading to the creation of a drug-resin complex, referred to as drug resinate.[3] The improved drug retention and lack of dosage dumping caused by IER has made them an integral part of controlled release system development, as this is a typical problem with most sustained release formulations. Oral drug administration has been greatly enhanced by the use of IER due to its many desirable properties, including

**Author for Correspondence: charanjeet2004@gmail.com*

physicochemical stability, inertness, uniform size and shape, simplicity of coating, and repeatable drug release in an ionic environment. In addition, IER provide design freedom for a wide range of delivery methods, including simple matrices, microparticles, liquids, and beads. It is feasible to regulate the pace of medication release throughout a broad pH range using one of the several commercially obtainable ion-exchange resin varieties. Another way to control the release of drugs is to use microencapsulation or coating techniques in conjunction with drug-resinates.[4]

The purpose of present research was to design microcapsules containing controlled release EpHCl-resinate for once per day administration. Experiment complete factorial design was utilized to assess the impact of various process and formulation factors. In order to prepare a controlled release strategy with expected qualities, the optimization technique would be helpful.

2. METHODS

2.1 Procedure for EpHCl-resinate

The various resins washed multiple times: once with distill water, two time with 95 percent ethyl alcohol, and then again two time with distill water to eliminate impurities. The batch method requires a minimum of 8 hours for each treatment. The resin was put to dry in an oven set at 40◦C upto 24 hours after filtering. The batch approach reported by Jeong and Park (2008) was employed to produce the EpHCl-resinate beads. At room temperature, using magnetic stirring, a 2% (w/v) drug solution (50 mL) was combined with newly purified resin particles (0.5 g dry weight). Throughout the development of complexes at room temperature, 0.1ml of supernatant was drawn out at fixed breaks, dilute with distill water, and the medicament quantity was measured at λ_{max} 261 nm in order to examine the potential speed of reaching equilibrium. Following filtering to eliminate any uncomplexed drug, the medication's resinate beads were rinsed with deionised water. They were subsequently dried out in an oven set at 40°C upto 24 hours.[5]

2.2 Investigation of the influence of resin characteristics on the *in-vitro* EpHCl release of from EpHCl-resinate beads

Following the USP 30 Apparatus II (paddle technique), EpHCl release from various EpHCl-resinate beads were performed with the dissolution solution operated at 37 ± 0.5°C and stirred at 50 rpm. Diluted HCl (0.1N, pH 1.2) in 250 mL was used as the dissolving media for the initial two hours. The pH was then adjusted to around 7.4 for the next twenty-four hours by adding 100 mL of 0.2 M Na_3PO^4. At various times, 5 mL of the sample was taken and refilled with 5 mL of new medium. The spectrophotometric measurement of the EpHCl was taken at λ_{max} 261 nm.

2.3 Fabrication of coated EpHCl–resinate employing various microencapsulations methodologies

The drug was most sustainably released from the EpHCl-resinate beads, therefore they were encapsulated using Kollicoat SR 30D employing solvent evaporation procedures. This gave them the necessary controlled-release profile, which lasted for 24 hours. There are two ways to carry out the microencapsulation procedure.

(a) O/O Procedure -The EpHCl-resinate were mixed with 10 ml of a 20% (w/v) Kollicoat SR 30D solution in acetone. Then, To emulsify this phase, 100 ml of light liquid paraffin containing 1% Span® 80 and 0.1% Mg stearate was used. The coat-to-core ratio of the particles was 2:1. The acetone was allowed to evaporate completely, which took around 1 hour, with the stirrer set at 500 rpm. The issue of coalescence during solvent evaporation was addressed by adding Mg stearate as a droplet stabilizer. Following vacuum filtering for microcapsule isolation, three 75 mL volumes of n-hexane were used for washing, and the mixture was allowed to air dry for 24 hours.[7]

(b) O/W Procedure- Emulsifying 1 L of a 0.25% (w/v) aqueous PVA solution with 10 mL of a 20% (w/v) Kollicoat SR 30D solution in methylene chloride—which included EpHCl-resinate particles with a coat-to-core ratio of 2:1—required the use of a propeller stirrer running at 500 rpm.Isolating the microcapsules by vacuum filtering, washing with distilled water, and air-drying for 24 hours followed the full evaporation of methylene chloride, which took around 3 hours.

2.4 2^4-factorial experimental design for EpHCl–resin microcapsule optimization

Using Design expert software, conducted a 2^4 complete factorial experiment that revealed the combined effect of formulation factors and experimental circumstances on EpHCl-resin microcapsule preparation. Experimental runs are conducted at sixteen conceivable groupings, with four components being assessed at two levels each. Table 1 shows the independent variables. The dependent variables used for this study were the microcapsule coating extent (Y1), the % of Eperisone HCl released after 1 hour (Y2), 6 hours (Y3), and 12 hours (Y4). The ingredients of the prepared formulation are shown in Table 2.

Table 1- Full factorial design 2^4

Factors	**Level**	
(Independent Variables)	**Low (-)**	**High (+)**
X1=Kollicoat SR 30D	5%	20%
X2=% Coating	25%	50%
X3=Speed of Rotation	500	1500
X4=PEG400 Concentrations	0%	10%
Response (dependent variables)	**Constraints**	
Y1: Extent coating	--	
Y2: % EpHCl release at 1hr	5% less than Y2 less than 11%	

Y3: % EpHCl release at 6 hrs	27.5% less than Y3 less than 42%
Y4: % EpHCl release at12 hrs	60% less than Y4 less than 75%

Table 2:- Experimental Trials

Run	*X*1 : Kollicoat SR 30D (%)	*X*2 Coating %	*X*3 Rotational speed (rpm)	*X*4 PEG 400 con. (%)	*Y*1	*Y*2	*Y*3	*Y*4
F1	5	50	500	10	13.85	5.27	23.23	35.91
F2	5	25	1500	10	2.46	6.73	62.56	79.03
F3	5	50	1500	10	8.67	12.52	59.14	71.2
F4	5	50	1500	0	1.62	13.18	68.16	74.91
F5	20	50	500	0	10.44	0.95	5.84	7.6
F6	20	50	1500	0	4.9	2.51	24.5	35.64
F7	20	25	1500	0	9.97	2.52	16.58	24.17
F8	20	50	500	10	28.85	0.26	2.53	5.68
F9	5	25	500	0	8.1	1.35	10.35	18.84
F10	5	25	1500	0	2.47	17.53	75.29	84.79
F11	5	50	500	0	2.21	8.08	38.9	53.98
F12	20	25	1500	10	13.97	7.07	46.08	68.59
F13	5	25	500	10	4.63	4	38.01	60.84
F14	20	25	500	0	19	0.25	1.61	3.22
F15	20	50	1500	10	7.49	2.32	22.1	40.68
F16	20	25	500	10	14.5	0.27	3.36	6.98

2.5 Evaluation of EpHCl–resin microcapsules

Extent of coating

Finding out how much the microcapsules are coated to remove the polymer coating, 100 milligrammes of EpHCl-microcapsules were precisely balanced and rinsed many times with 10 millilitres of acetone. Weighed after 12 hours of drying at 50°C, remaining EpHCl-resin beads were removed.[8] Based on the following, the extent of the coating was determined:

$$\text{Extent of coating} = \frac{\text{EpHCl–resin microcapsules weight} - \text{dried EpHCl resin beads weight}}{\text{EpHCl–resin microcapsules weight}} \times 100$$

SEM

SEM was utilized to analyse the exterior characteristics of specific microcapsule preparations. Prior to scanning electron microscopy, the microcapsules were attached to a holding device and coat with palladium gold utilizing a sputter coater for one minute in an argon gas environment.[9]

***In-vitro* EpHCl released from microcapsules**

The process described in Section 2.2 was utilized to determine the *in-vitro* EpHCl release from the various EpHCl-microcapsules.

Kinetic investigation into the data relating to the release

The kinetics of releasing drugs from the produced matrix structures were evaluated by fitting the mean in vitro drug release results to kinetic models: [10-12] Coefficient of determination (R^2) values in the high range suggested that the dissolution outline fitted to the equations was the best.

3. RESULTS

This study set out to build a novel oral CRDS for the once-daily administration of EpHCl, a medication that is easily soluble in water, with the goal of achieving zero-order controlled release. On the other hand, a target release pattern was considered to be an ideal medication release profile, which would be eight percent in the first hour and a continuous drug release after that. An insoluble polystyrene divinylbenzene copolymer is coupled to sulfonic acids to form strong cationic ion exchange resins, which are utilized in this work. The synthesis of drug-resin beads has been documented using two different methods: the column approach and the batch method. This work utilized the latter method to create EpHCl-resinate beads due to its simplicity, speed, and suitability for extremely small particles.

3.1. Influence of resin particle sizes and cross-linking degree on loading equilibrium duration

The influence on the equilibrium time was studied using resins with varying sizes and degrees of cross linking. For loading, the medication and resin had a weight ratio of 1:2. Various ion exchange resins' equilibrium loading profiles are displayed in Figure 1. Over eighty percent of the medication was loaded into the resins as EpHCl. Dowex50WX4 50 reached equilibrium after around 30 minutes, Dowex50WX8 400 after around 10 minutes, and Dowex 50WX4 400 after about 5 minutes. The degree of cross-linking and particle size of the resins influenced the difference in equilibrium time that was found. Dowex50 WX4 50 had the extensive equilibrium period (30 minutes) due to its biggest particle size (300-840 µm). Coarse particles may take longer to reach equilibrium than fine ones because, as pointed out by Jeong and Park, their surface area is smaller and their interior volume is larger, making it easier for ions to diffuse. Among resins of the same particle size, those with a inferior degree of cross-linking reached equilibrium more quickly than those with a greater one (Dowex 50WX4 400 took 5 minutes to get equilibrium, whereas Dowex50WX8 400 took 10 minutes). Compared to Dowex 50WX4 400, the amount of leftover EpHCl is clearly higher in the Dowex 50WX8 400 container. The quantity of medicine loaded onto IER decreases and the time necessary to reach equilibrium increases when an IER is strongly cross-linked.

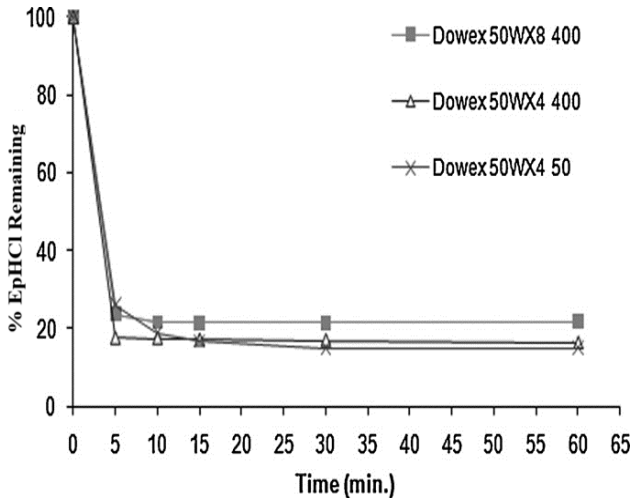

Figure1. Equilibrium profiles of drug loading onto different ion exchange resins.

3.2 Influence of resin particle sizes and cross-linking degree on the in-vitro EpHCl release from EpHCl-resinate beads

The dosage distributions of EpHCl from EpHCl-resinate beads coated with various Dowex are illustrated in Figure 2. A larger degree of cross-linking in resins obviously results in a delayed drug release. After 2, 4, and 6 hours, respectively, the drug release was significantly quicker (35.36, 86.01, and 86.48%) when EpHCl-resinate with Dowex 50WX4 400 resinate was used, equated to EpHCl-resinate with Dowex 50WX8 400 resinate (20.08, 70.21, and 71.67%) ($p < 0.05$). The swelling qualities of the resin might be the cause of this. Greater resistance to drug molecule diffusion within the resin particle is observed in higher degree cross-linked resins because they swell less than lower degree resins. When researching the manufacturing of resin compounds containing diltiazem HCl, Junyaprasert and Manwiwattanakul came to similar conclusions. The results also demonstrated that the medication is released more quickly when the particle size is reduced. Based on the statistical analysis, drug-resinate with Dowex 50WX4 400 resulted in a much quicker release of the drug (35.36, 86.01, and 86.48% after 2, 4, and 6 hours, respectively), in comparison to EpHCl-resinate with Dowex 50WX4 50 (23.51, 70.67, and 73.85% after 8 hours, respectively) ($p < 0.05$). The increased contact area with the dissolving agent, which speeds up the process of exchange, is responsible for this. The drug-resinate beads' in vitro release patterns were determined to conform to the Higuchi diffusion model, which is characterized by burst release.

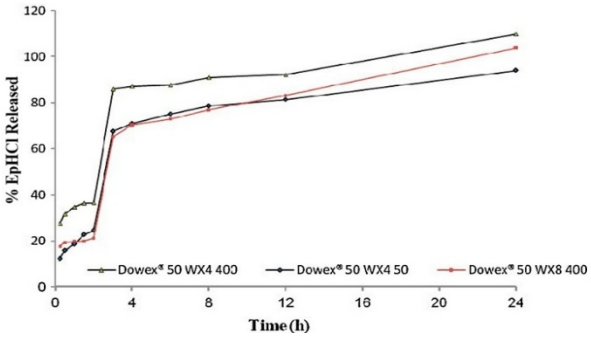

Figure 2. *In-vitro* release outlines of EpHCl from selected EpHCl–resinate beads

3.3. Coating of EpHCl-resinate beads utilizing various microencapsulations processes

These findings led us to develop EpHCl drug-resin microcapsules with zero-order kinetics, designed for once a day delivery then protected from rupture release. To achieve the desired controlled release effect, drug-resinate beads covered with a rate-controlling membrane were chosen because they demonstrated the longest duration of drug release when tested with Dowex 50WX4 50. The drug-resinate beads have been encapsulated by solvent evaporation techniques into Kollicoat SR 30D microcapsules.

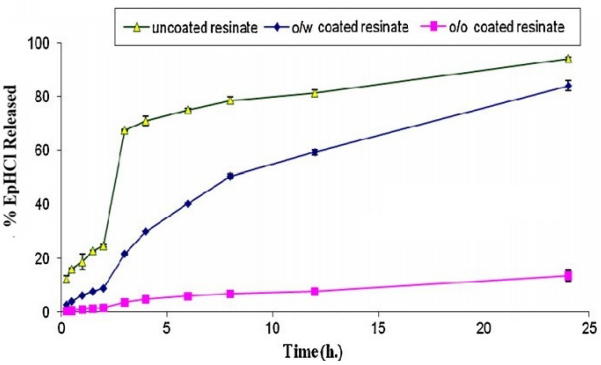

Figure 3. *In-vitro* EpHCl release profiles of uncoated and Kollicoat SR 30D coated beads using the o/o and o/w procedures.

Figure 3 shows a comparison between the release characteristics of uncoated drug-resinate beads and EpHCl-resin microcapsules made utilizing the o/o and o/w procedures in vitro.The procedure became more economically viable and appealing when the time needed to evaporate the liquid was decreased from three hours in the o/w method to one hour in the o/o method. Uncoated EpHCl–resinate beads were found to have a relatively quick rate of EpHCl release, as confirmed by the results. Because Kollicoat SR 30D polymer has a limited permeability, both methods reduced the medicament release relative to the uncoated Ephcl resinate beads. At 2, 6, and 12 hours, the o/o approach exhibited a noticeably reduced proportion of EpHCl release comparing to the o/w method ($p < 0.05$), suggesting that the coating was more effective. Compared to the o/w coated resinate beads, which released 82.84% EpHCl after 24 hours, the o/o Kollicoat SR 30D coated resinate beads released just 14.64%.

Figure 4 display scanning electron microscopy images of Kollicoat SR 30D coated EpHCl resinate beads that were produced using the o/w procedure. The o/w coated resinate microcapsules were shown in the pictures to have a broken exterior that be round, and distinct. Not to mention that a few particles seem somewhat compressed and agitated. The resinate beads swelled in the water, which caused the polymer film covering to split and burst. This might be the cause. The coating of EpHCl-resinate beads was accomplished utilizing the o/o process, as previously determined.

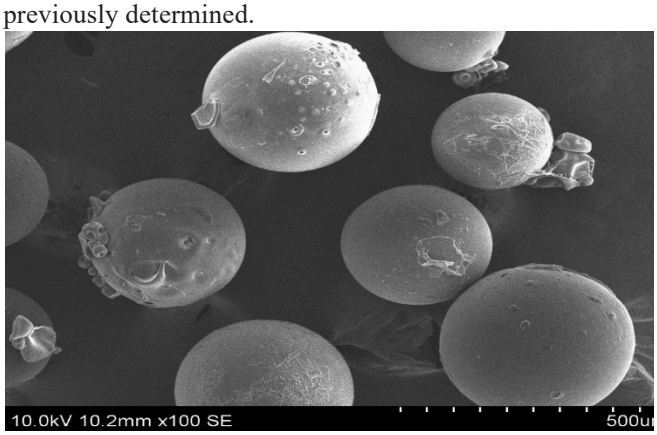

Figure 4. SEM of EpHCl– microcapsules (o/w procedure)

3.4.Analysis of factorial strategy

A prevalent statistical technique for designing and improving experimental series, the factorial design was employed. A complete 2^4 factorial design is employed in the study. As indicated in Table 2, the experimental runs were conducted using independent variables and the measured responses. Statistical analysis was performed using Design-Expert® Software. Regression findings of the responses are displayed in Table 3. X1, X2, X3, and X4 are coefficients whose values are associated with the impact of these variables on the solution. A positive coefficient indicates an additive influence, whereas a negative term signifies an antagonistic impact on the response. An increased impact of the independent variable on the response is indicated by a bigger coefficient. To determine the relevance of the parameters evaluated and their interactions with respect to coating extent, percentage of EpHCl released from various microcapsules at 1h, 6h, and 12 h, and ANOVA test was run.

Table 3:- Regression outcomes of the responses

Coefficient	*Y*1	*Y*2	*Y*3	*Y*4
-	9.57	5.3	31.14	42.13
X1	4.11	−3.27	−15.79	−18.12
X2	0.18	0.34	−0.59	−1.43
X3	−3.13	2.75	15.68	17.81
X4	2.23	−0.50	0.96	3.99
X1 X2	−0.90	−0.84	−0.99	−0.24
X1 X3	−1.43	−1.16	−3.67	0.45
X1 X4	0.34	0.97	2.25	2.43
X2 X3	−0.96	−0.75	−2.74	−2.84
X2 X4	2.74	−0.047	−4.79	−6.32
X3 X4	−0.52	−0.39	−0.32	1.02

3.4.1. The influence of factors on the extent of coating of EpHCl-microcapsules

The impact of the Kollicoat SR 30D concentration (X1) and rotation speed (X3) on the coating extent is shown in Figure 5, which is a response surface plot. Compared to drug resinate particles coated with low concentrations of Kollicoat SR 30D, those coated with high concentrations showed a marked drop in coating extent when the rotation speed was increased. This might be because, during microencapsulation, the solvent evaporating at such a high rate due to the high rotational speed.

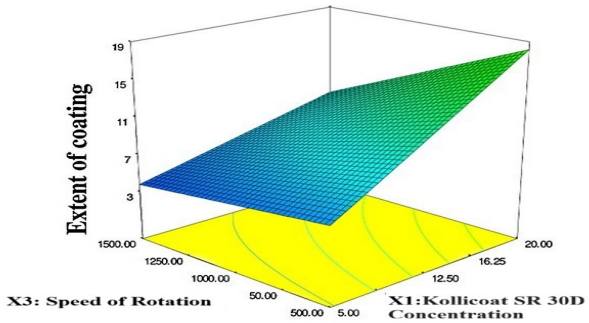

Figure 5. Response surface figure illustrating the influence of Kollicoat SR 30D concentration (X1) and rotation speed (X3) on the degree of coating (Y1).

A Response surface figure illustrating the influence of coating level (X2) and plasticizer concentration (X4) on coating extent is displayed in Figure 6. Interaction between X2 and X4 is demonstrated by the fact shown in Table 3. When the coating ratio was high, the plasticizer increased the amount of coating, but when the coating ratio was low, it had no effect on the microcapsules at all. When the coating % is low, the plasticizer may not be able to extend the coating extent since there isn't enough coating polymer.

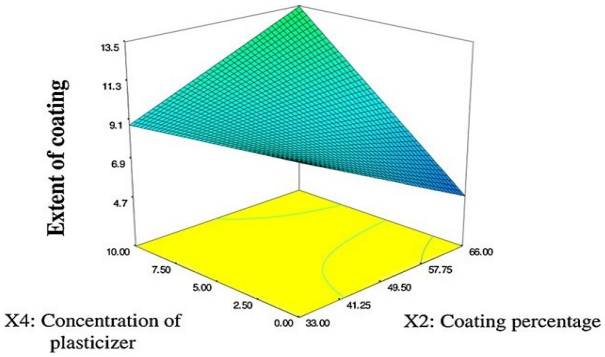

Figure 6. Response surface figure illustrating the influence of f coating % (X2) and plasticiser concentration (X4) on the extent of coating (Y1).

SEM were used to evaluate the surface of the Kollicoat SR 30D EpHCl–resin microcapsules that had been manufactured in order to analyse the impact that the plasticiser had on the Kollicoat SR 30D film coat that had been generated. Scanning microscopy images of microcapsule preparations are shown in Figure 7 Surface irregularities, cracks, and uneven polymer deposition are readily apparent on formulation F14. Kollicoat SR 30D EpHCl-resin microcapsules produced with formulation F5 had a smooth and uniform surface, indicating that the plasticizer was an effective addition.

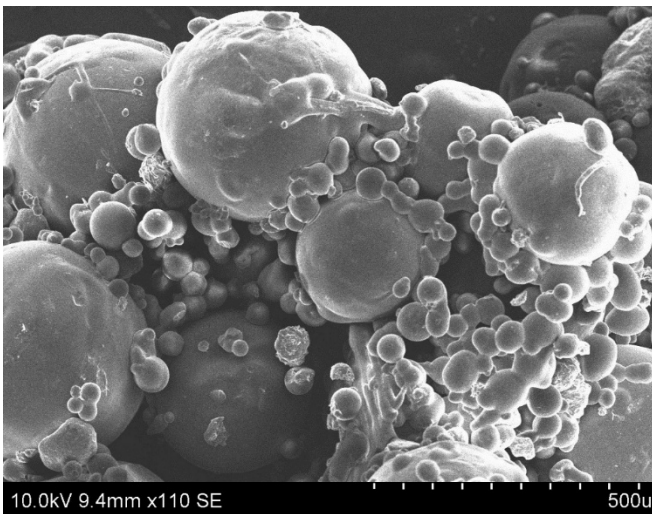

Figure 7. SEM of EpHCl– microcapsules F14

3.4.2. The influence factors on the in-vitro EpHCl release from EpHCl -microcapsules

It was shown that the EpHCl release was significantly impacted by the concentration of Kollicoat SR 30D. There was a substantial reduction in the proportion of EpHCl produced after 1, 6, and 12 hours when the concentration of Kollicoat SR 30D was increased from 5% to 20% ($p < 0.0001$). A longer diffusion channel is formed when the concentration of Kollicoat SR 30D increases, which in turn delays the release. This is because the medication release was further delayed due to the limited permeability of Kollicoat SR 30D. This data is in agreement with what we expected based on the microcapsule coating extent; we found that when the concentration of Kollicoat SR 30D was increased, the microcapsule coating extent increased, and the drug release was further delayed.

There was a clear correlation between the rotational speed and the medication release. There was a substantial upsurge in the percent of EpHCl released at 1, 6, and 12 hours when the rotational speed was improved from 500 to 1500 rpm ($p < 0.0001$). The resinate beads may have formed an uneven polymer coating, which might explain this. Once again, these conclusions are in promise with the findings concerning the microcapsules' coating extent, which showed that boosting the rotational speed reduced the microcapsules' coating extent and increased the proportion of EpHCl released.

After 12 hours, the amount of EpHCl released was pointedly higher when plasticizer was added. An increase in drug release was seen after 12 hours of contact to dissolution media because PEG 400, a water-loving plasticizer, was Leaching out of the film made of polymers, making it more permeable. Adjuvants alter the physicochemical characteristics of monolithic films, including the porosity and polymer tortuosity, which can impact the dispersion of drugs, according to reports.

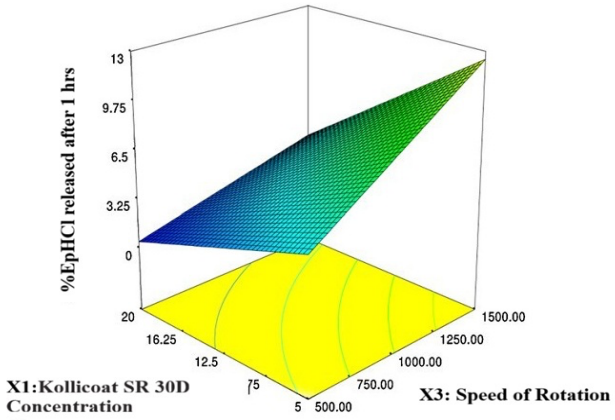

Figure 8. Response surface figure illustrating the influence of Kollicoat SR 30D concentration (X1) and rotation speed (X3) on the % EpHCl release at 1 h.

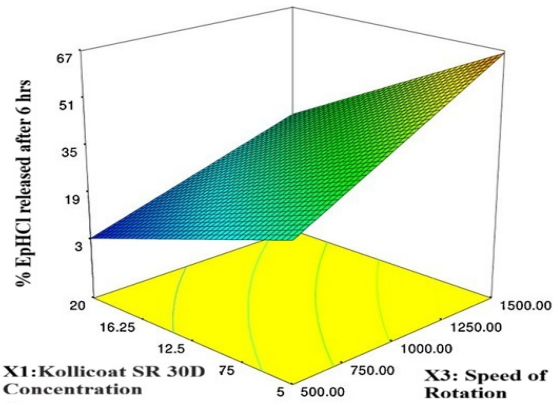

Figure 9. Response surface figure illustrating the influence of Kollicoat SR 30D concentration (X1) and rotation speed (X3) on the % EpHCl release at 6 hrs

Figure 8 shows the Response surface figure illustrating the impact of Kollicoat SR 30D concentration (X1) on the percentage of EpHCl released after 1 hour, and Figure 9 shows the same effect for 6 hours. For resin particles coated with a low polymer concentration, the extent of drug release rises as the rotation speed increases, in contrast to those coated with a high polymer concentration. One possible explanation is that the combination of a fast rotational speed and a low polymer content boosts medication release by reducing coat thickness. Nevertheless, when the polymer concentration was high, the benefit of a higher rotational speed on the release rate was offset by the higher polymer's concentration.

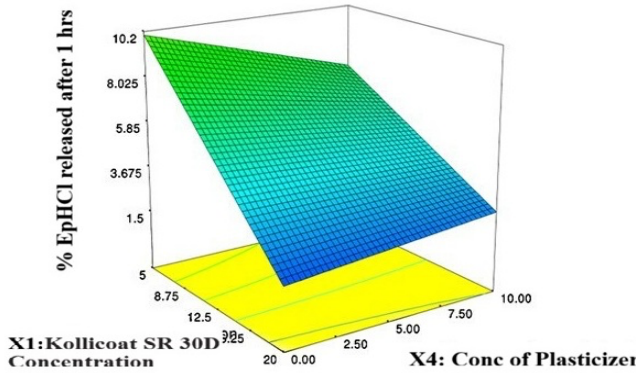

Figure 10. Response surface figure illustrating the impact of Kollicoat SR 30D concentration (X1) and plasticiser concentration (X4) on the % EpHCl release at 1 hrs

Figure 10 represent, after 1 hour, the percentage of EpHCl released can be seen in the response surface figure of the influence of the plasticizer concentrations (X4) and the Kollicoat SR 30D concentration (X1). Using a low quantity of polymer without plasticiser clearly results in the most amount of drug release; this may be because water may penetrate the coat through its cracks and release the medication. The development of a coherent layer of non-crackable polymer with the adding of plasticizer clearly reduces the medicament release at low polymer concentrations. A little upsurge in release occurs at maximum polymer concentrations when plasticizer is added. This is because more of the plasticizer is leaked out of the coat, creating pores or channels that enable the dissolving medium to penetrate. Figures 11 and 12 provide reaction surface plots illustrating the impact of plasticizer concentration (X4) and coating percentage (X2) on the % EpHCl released after 6 and 12 hours, respectively. Using both formulation factors at their lowest or highest levels combined has the most retardant impact on the in-vitro EpHCl release from microcapsules. The results of this experiment prove that these circumstances are optimal for the production of coherent retardant films.

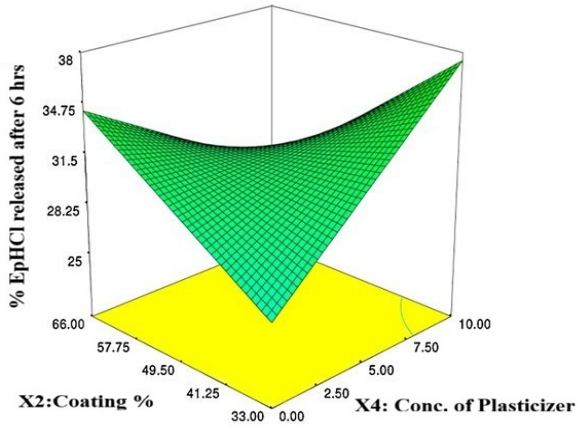

Figure 11. Response surface plot illustrating the influence of coating percentage (X2) and plasticiser concentration (X4) on the percentage of EpHCl released at 6 hours.

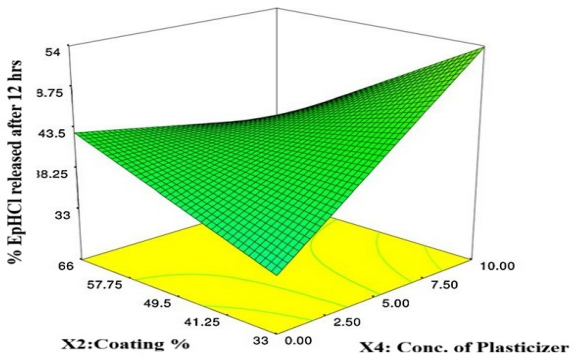

Figure 12. Response surface plot illustrating the influence of coating percentage (X2) and plasticiser concentration (X4) on the percentage of EpHCl released at 12 hours.

3.5. Kinetic investigation of *in-vitro* EpHCl release from EpHCl-microcapsules

The drug diffusion mechanism exhibits non-Fickian (anomalous) behaviour in several experimental contexts, departing from the Fickian equation. The release data that

were acquired were fitted to a straightforward power equation in order to conduct an analysis of the mechanism by which the medication was released from these matrices.
$(Mt/M\infty) = Ktn$
A linear regression was used to estimate K and n, with logK serving as the intercept and n as the slope of the straight line, by dividing log(t) by log(Mt/M∞).
Table 4 displays the results of the kinetic investigation used to find out the in-vitro release of EpHCl from microcapsules containing EpHCl and resin. I*n-vitro* eperisone HCl release results were consistent with the subsequent models: diffusion-order (F1, F2, F5, F11, and F12), Koresmeyer-peppas (F3, F6, F7, F8, F10, F13, F14, and F16), and zero-order (F4, F9 and F15), as determined by the determination coefficient (R^2). Non Fickian (anomalous) transport was indicated by n values more than 0.43 and less than 0.85 for the majority of equations, with the exception of 6, 8, 9, 12, and 15.

Table 4:- Kinetic investigation of the *in-vitro* release statistics of Eperisone hydrochloride from EpHCl–microcapsules

Formulation	Zero order			Diffusion			Peppas			Kinetics Follows
	Slope	Intercept	*R*2	Slope	Intercept	*R*2	*K*	*n*	*R*2	
F1	5.576	1.250	0.985	21.341	-1.053	1.000	3.867	0.688	0.999	Diffusion
F2	7.492	2.280	0.967	29.890	-0.766	0.997	6.912	0.613	0.995	Diffusion
F3	6.638	5.750	0.945	28.162	0.854	0.989	12.110	0.504	0.995	Peppas
F4	2.140	0.275	0.999	8.835	-1.639	0.987	2.656	0.895	0.996	Zero
F5	2.916	1.356	0.979	11.485	-1.320	0.999	5.107	0.695	0.995	Diffusion
F6	3.265	0.329	0.993	13.451	-1.560	0.995	2.369	0.946	1.000	Peppas
F7	6.299	4.910	0.899	26.415	-0.083	0.961	11.256	0.596	0.980	Peppas
F8	0.484	−0.072	0.983	1.808	−0.3564	0.936	0.262	1.211	0.999	Peppas
F9	0.218	−0.025	0.986	1.007	−0.257	0.940	0.239	0.935	0.984	Zero
F10	0.684	0.237	0.990	2.703	−0.322	0.996	0.942	0.714	0.997	Peppas
F11	1.702	0.267	0.980	6.737	−0.571	0.999	1.363	0.850	0.995	Diffusion
F12	3.709	−0.028	0.992	13.606	−1.794	0.997	2.242	1.192	0.992	Diffusion
F13	6.841	−0.171	0.946	24.607	−5.904	0.899	6.724	0.845	0.993	Peppas
F14	4.868	3.013	0.969	18.123	−0.661	0.998	7.729	0.583	0.999	Peppas
F15	0.629	−0.113	1.000	2.312	−0.407	0.978	0.269	1.598	0.996	Zero
F16	7.816	8.267	0.949	30.269	1.827	0.990	17.104	0.471	0.993	Peppas

3.6. Optimization EpHCl–resin microcapsules

Finding the optimal values of relevant variables for the production of a stable, high-quality end product is the overarching goal of optimization efforts in pharmaceutical dosage formulations. For Y2, Y3, and Y4 as replies, the coating composition was fine-tuned. For Y2, the acceptable range was 5% to 11%, for Y3, 27.5% to 42.5%, and for Y4, 60% to 75%, respectively. After optimizing two microcapsules of EpHCl-resin, each containing 50 mg of medication, they were placed inside capsules and tested for in vitro release. Table 5 displays the expected and actual responses, as well as the chemical make-up, of the two optimized EpHCl-resin microcapsule formulations. As a whole, the projected and observed values for the two other batches were rather close, according to the results. In comparison to the target release model, the two optimized OP1 and OP2 release patterns are displayed in Figure 13.

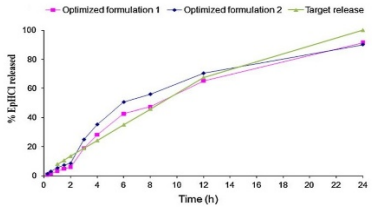

Figure 13. Comparison of the release characteristics of the two optimised EpHCl–resin microcapsule formulations against the target release model.

Table 5:-Optimized preparations of EpHCl–microcapsules

Optimized preparations	Variable	Value	Response	Predicted value	Observed value
OP1	*X*1	14.42	*Y*1	10.34	7.4
	*X*2	50.63	*Y*2	6.2	3.2

	*X*3	1495.21	*Y*3	42.32	42.06
	*X*4	9.94	*Y*4	60.02	65.21
OP2	*X*1	5.15	*Y*1	7.67	6.03
	*X*2	40.24	*Y*2	5.37	5.54
	*X*3	860.35	*Y*3	42.19	60.52
	*X*4	9.97	*Y*4	60.04	70.33

The two optimised formulations' release profiles were compared with the target release model using the similarity factor (f2), a model independent mathematical technique. The release profiles are considered to be comparable when the value is between 50 and 100, and more divergent when the number is smaller. Results showed that both the optimised formulations and the reference had comparable dissolving profiles, with f2 values of 71.24% and 65.17% for formulation 1 and 2, respectively. A kinetic study of the optimised microcapsules from formulation 2 showed case II transport with a n value of 1.09 and a n value of 0.88, respectively.

4. CONCLUSION

The preparation of a new controlled-release version of EpHCl with desired release properties was accomplished. An analytical model was created by relating the critical process and formulation factors to the observed results. Based on a target drug-release profile, the model predicts coat compositions and process factors. The release profile of the optimised EpHCL-resin beads was similar to the desired release model derived from the zero-order dissolution profile of EpHCl for once-daily dosage, which were microencapsulated using a 14.42% Eudragit solution, a 50.63% coating level, and 9.94% PEG400 at around 1500 rpm

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