Influence of Process Parameters on Nimesulide-Loaded Poly(D,L-Lactide-Co-Glycolide) Microcapsules

Shujaat Ali KHAN¹, Mahmood AHMAD¹, Ghulam MURTAZA², Muhammad N. AAMIR¹, Fatima RASOOL³ & Muhammad A. RAEES¹

 ¹ Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy and Alternative Medicines, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Bahawalpur 63100, Pakistan.
² Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Abbottabad, Pakistan.
³ College of Pharmacy, the University of Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan.

SUMMARY. Nimesulide was formulated as sustained release microcapsules using biodegradable polymer Poly(D,L-lactide-co-glycolide) (PLGA) as the release material by non-solvent addition coacervation method. The prepared microcapsules were evaluated for physico-chemical properties i.e. size analysis, morphology, micromeritics, drug content, encapsulation efficiency and drug release characteristics. All microcapsules obtained were discrete, large, free flowing and spherical in shape. The maximum encapsulation efficiency of nimesulide was up to $81.02 \pm 2.10 \%$. Nimesulide release from microcapsules followed Higuchi model. Slow release of nimesulide from PLGA microcapsules over 12 h was observed.

KEY WORDS: Biodegradable microspheres, Microencapsulation, Nimesulide, PLGA.

* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. *E-mail:* gmdogar356@gmail.com