

---

## ***In Vitro* Release Testing of Complex Parenteral Dosage Forms**

Jie Shen, Ph.D.  
Assistant Research Professor

Professor Burgess' Laboratory  
University of Connecticut

June 2015

---

## **Applications of USP Apparatus 4**

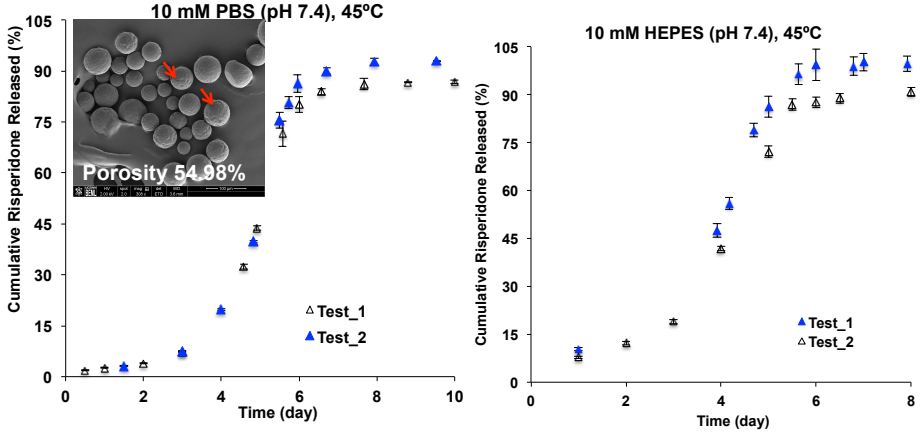
- ✧ *In vitro* release testing of complex parenteral dosage forms (such as polymeric microspheres, nano-sized formulations, implants, and semi-solid dosage forms)
- ✧ Development of *in vitro-in vivo* correlation for polymeric microspheres





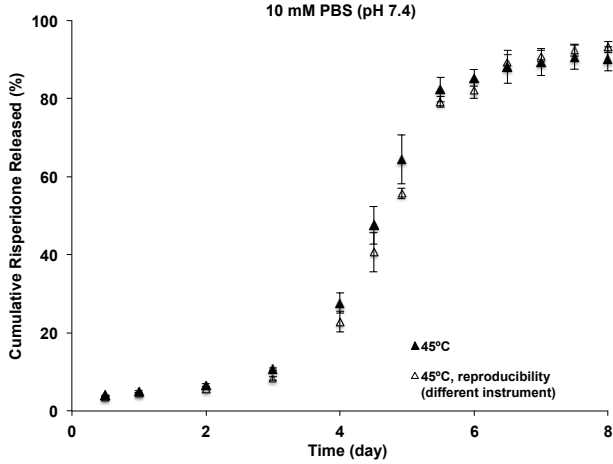
### Comparison of Two Release Methods

✓ Sample-and-Separate method



### Comparison of Two Release Methods

✓ USP apparatus 4 method



## Case Study I\_Polymeric Microspheres

---

### ➤ IVIVC

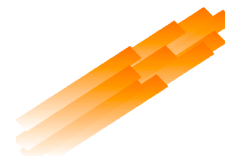
A predictive mathematical model describing the relationship between an *in vitro* property of a dosage form (e.g. rate or extent of drug release) and a relevant *in vivo* response (e.g. plasma drug concentration, amount of drug absorbed, and AUC).

## Development of IVIVC for CR Parenterals

---

- U.S. FDA Guidance for Industry (immediate and extended release oral dosage forms) **Guidance for Industry**

Extended Release Oral Dosage Forms:  
Development, Evaluation, and  
Application of In Vitro/In Vivo  
Correlations



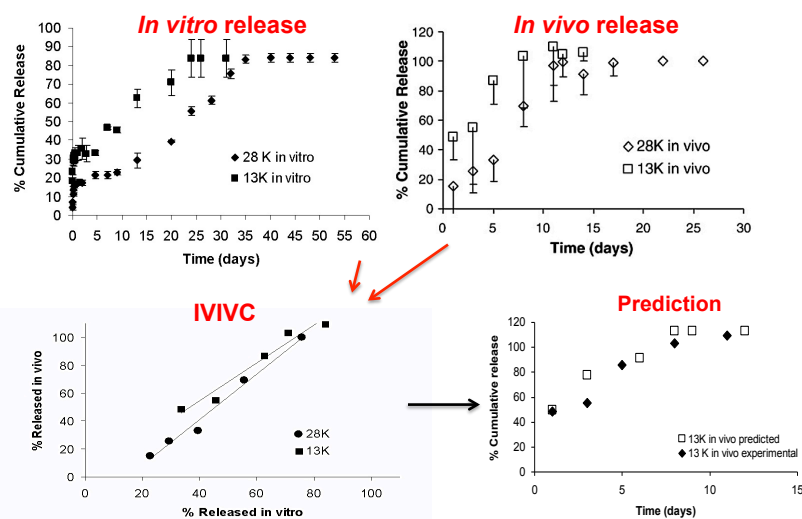
- Biorelevant *in vitro* release methods needed

## Categories of IVIVC

- **Level A:**
  - Generally linear and represents a **point-to-point** relationship between *in vitro* dissolution and *in vivo* input rate
- **Level B:**
  - The **mean *in vitro* dissolution time** is compared to either **mean residence time** or mean ***in vivo* dissolution time**
- **Level C:**
  - A single point correlation between a **dissolution parameter** (e.g.  $T_{50\%}$ ) and a PK parameter (e.g. AUC,  $C_{max}$ , and  $T_{max}$ )
- **Multiple Level C:**
  - Multiple dissolution time points with one or several PK parameters
- **Level D:**
  - Rank order correlations (qualitative) (not considered useful for regulatory purposes).

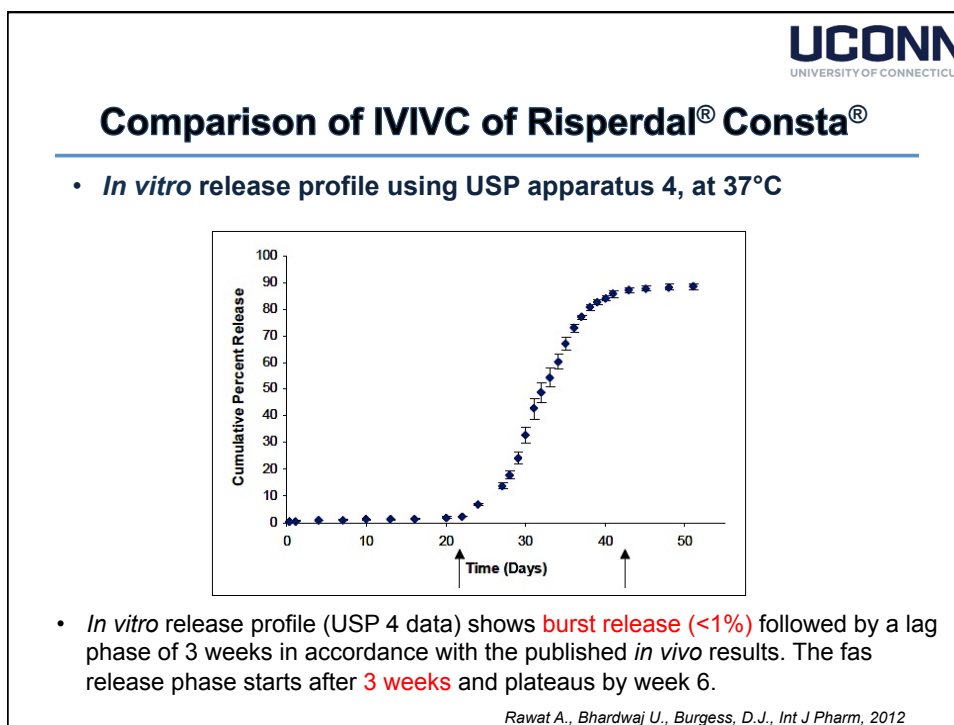
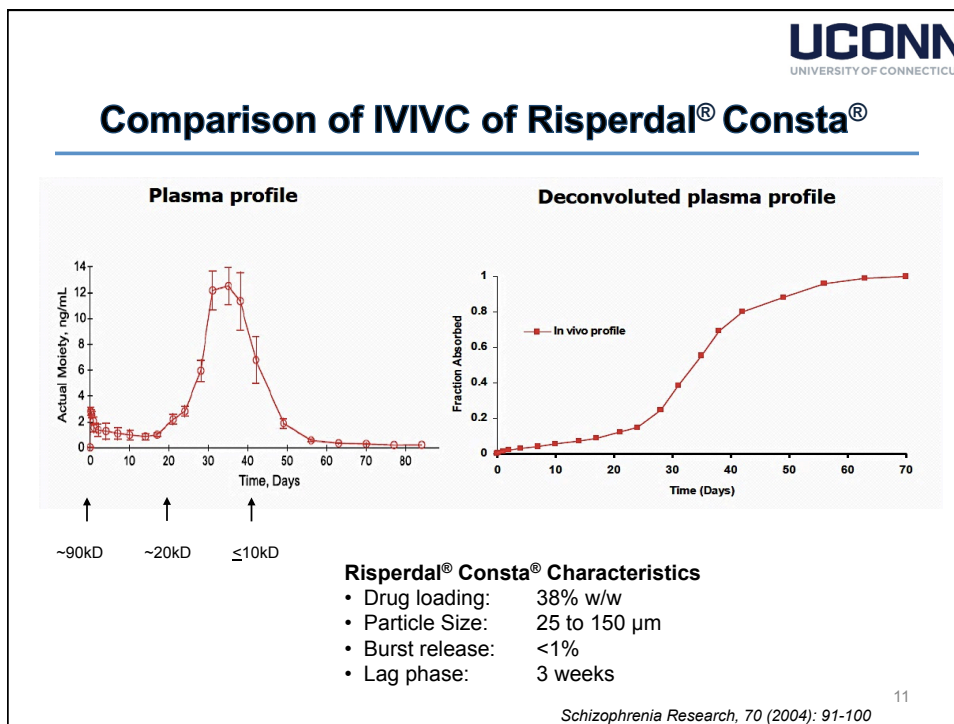
9

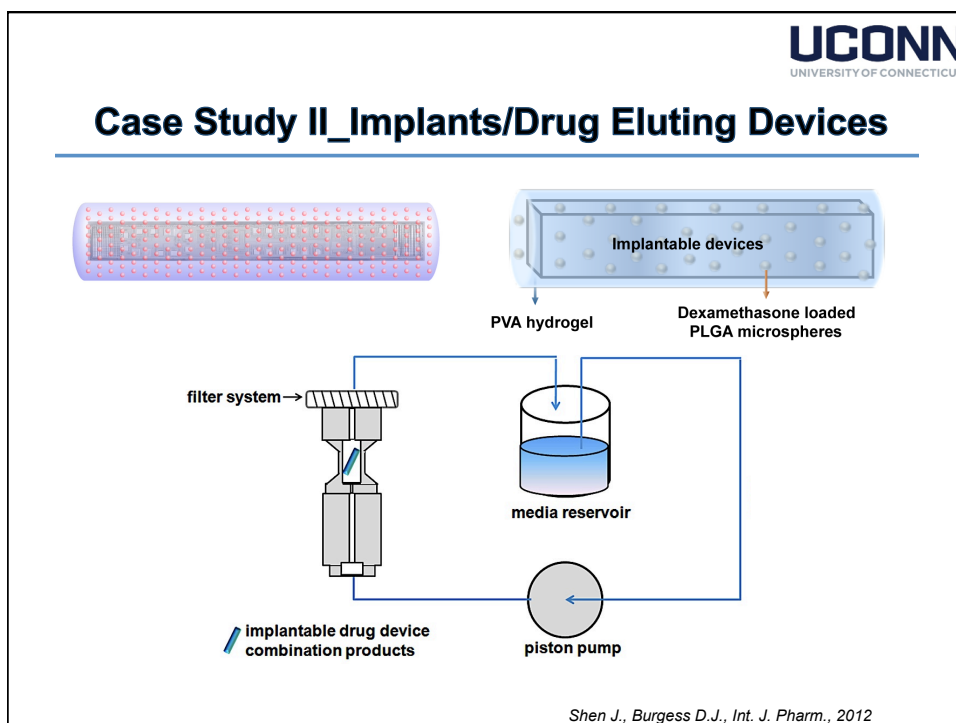
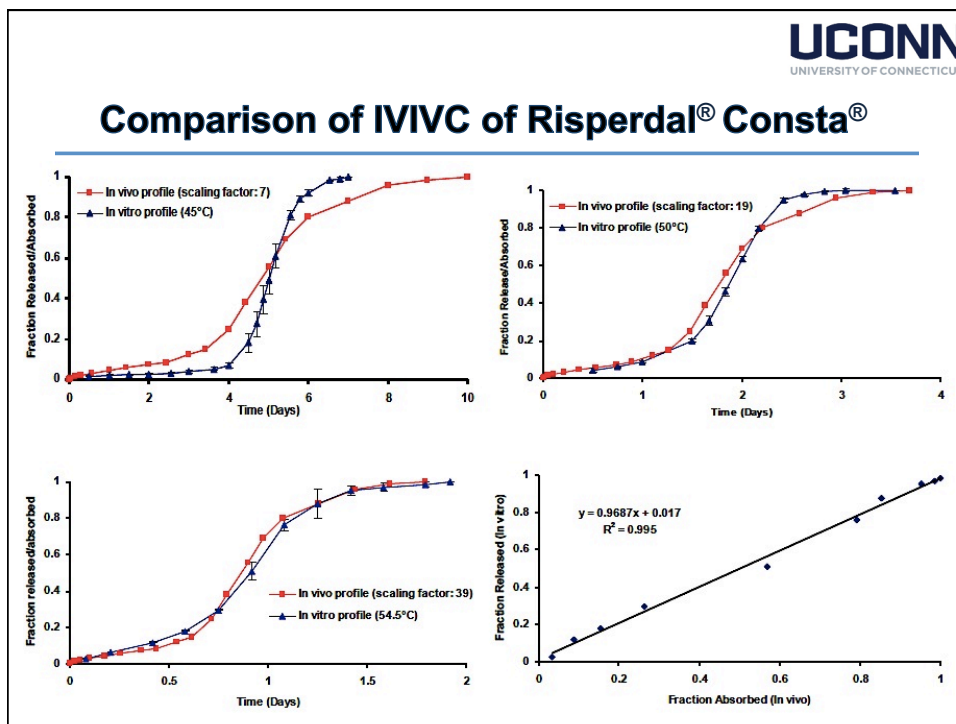
## Dexamethasone Microspheres



10

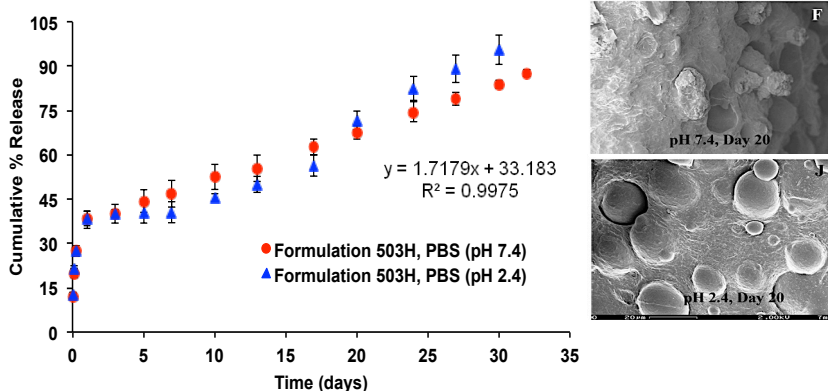
Zolnik B.S., Burgess D.J., J Control Release, 2008





## Case Study II\_Implants/Drug Eluting Devices

- Accelerated *in vitro* release testing-extreme pH conditions

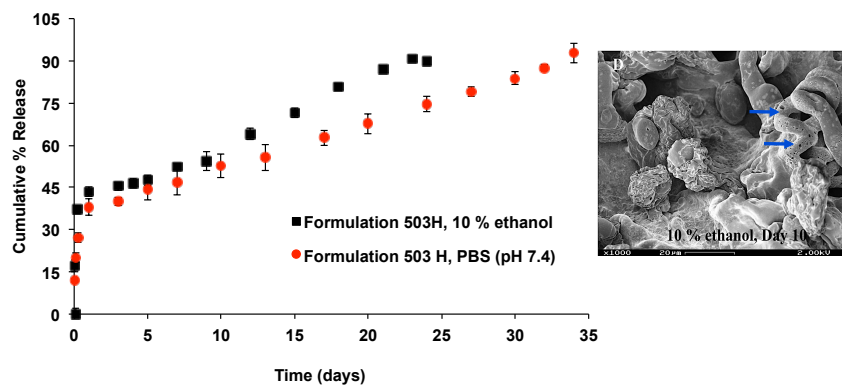


- Microspheres release for ~ 34 days at 37°C in PBS buffer (burst release ~ 39%).

Shen J., Burgess D.J., *Int. J. Pharm.*, 2012

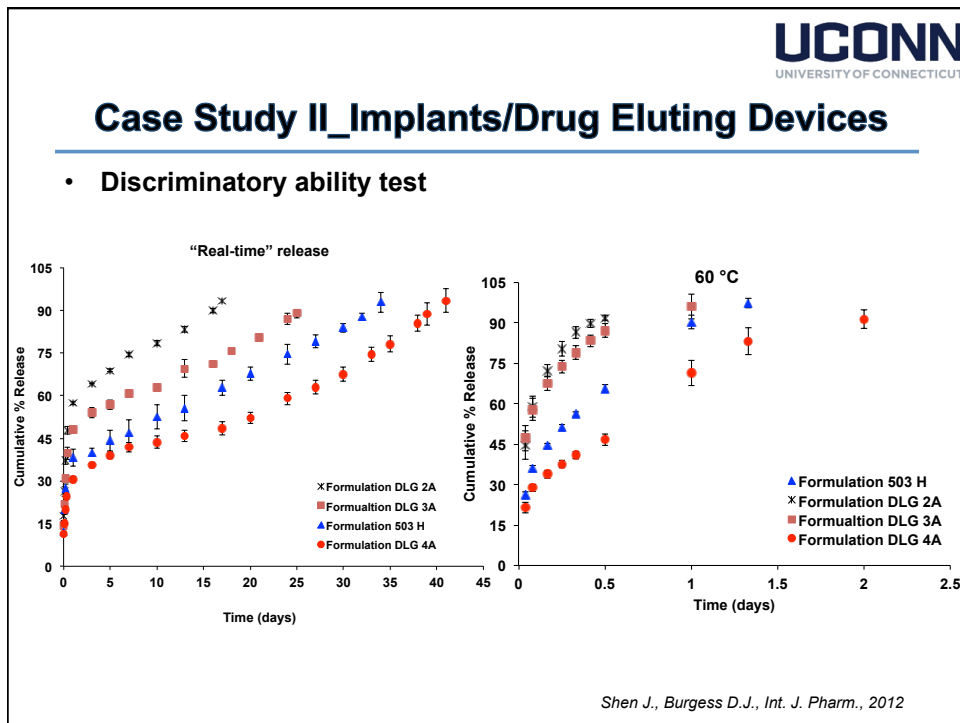
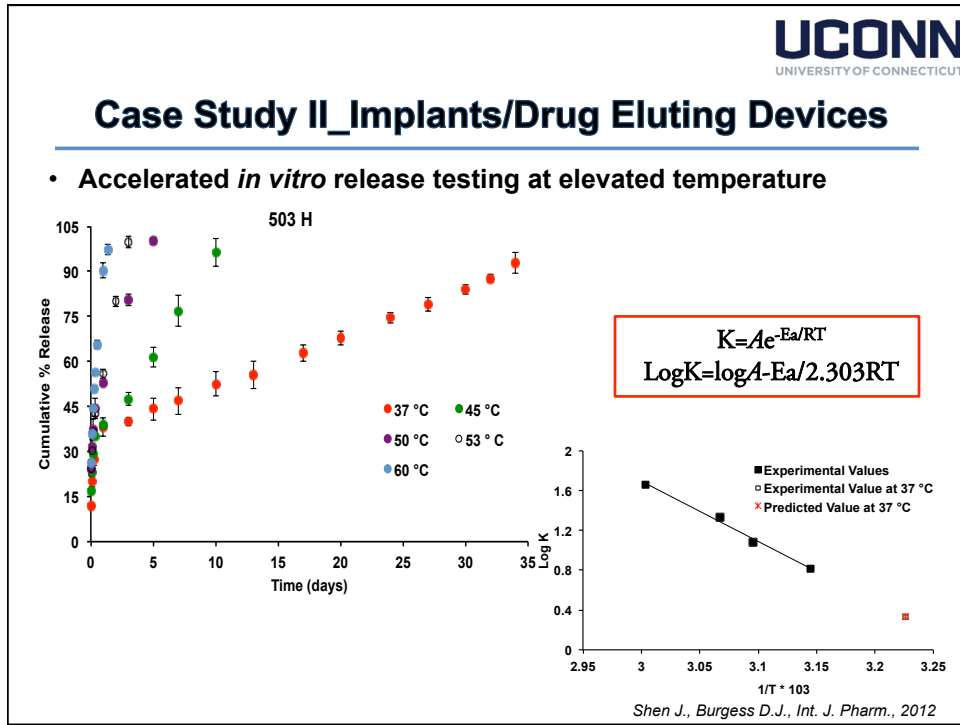
## Case Study II\_Implants/Drug Eluting Devices

- Accelerated *in vitro* release testing in a hydro-alcoholic medium



Shen J., Burgess D.J., *Int. J. Pharm.*, 2012





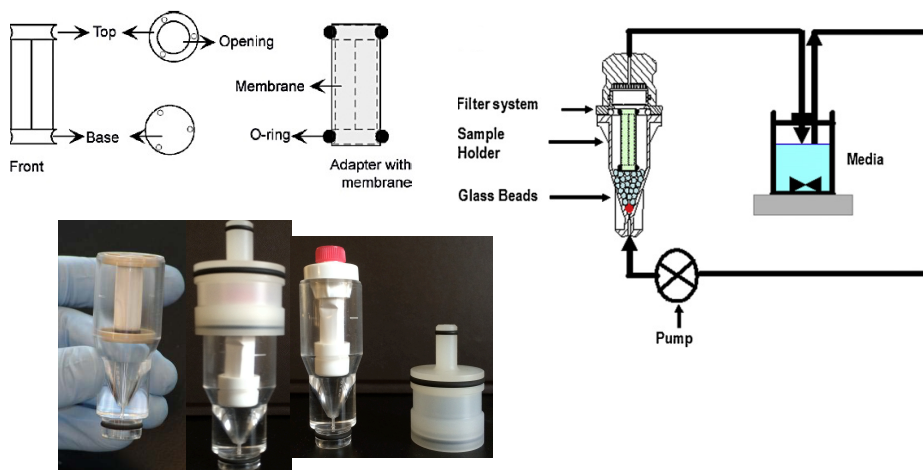
## Case Study III\_Nanoparticulate Systems

### ➤ Challenges

- ✓ Difficulty in separating nanoparticles in a rapid and efficient way
- ✓ Complexity of nanoparticulate systems
- ✓ Lack of understanding of *in vivo* drug release mechanism(s)

## Case Study III\_Nanoparticulate Systems

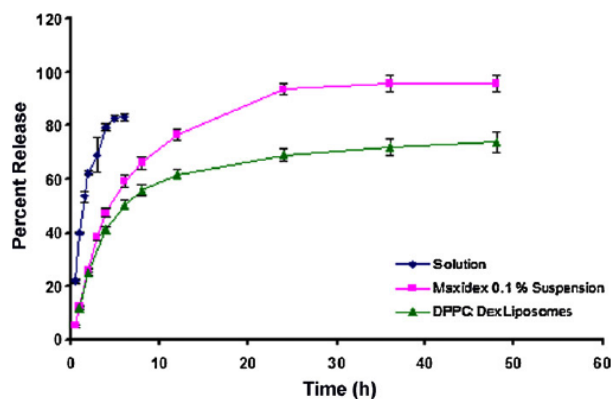
- Dialysis adapters for nanoparticulate systems



Bhardwaj U., Burgess D. J., *Int J Pharm.*, 2010

### Case Study III\_Nanoparticulate Systems

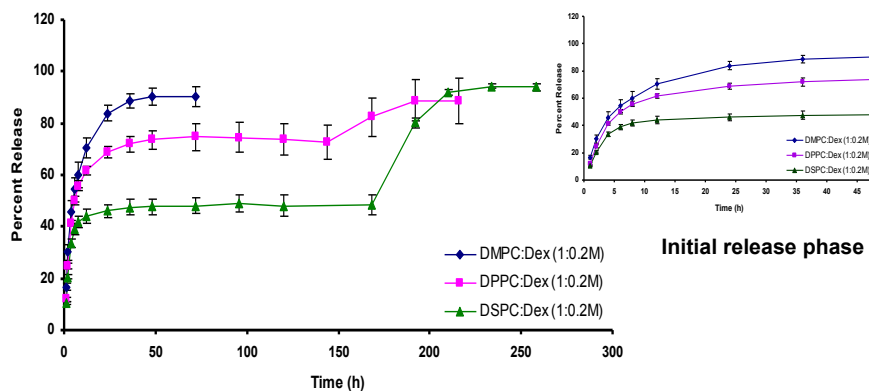
- *In vitro* dissolution profiles of a solution, suspension and DMPC liposomes obtained using USP apparatus 4



Bhardwaj U., Burgess D. J., *Int J Pharm.*, 2010

### Case Study III\_Nanoparticulate Systems

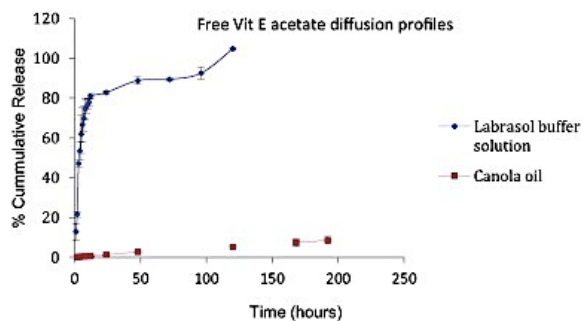
- Discrimination against different liposomal formulations



Bhardwaj U., Burgess D. J., *Int J Pharm.*, 2010

### Case Study III\_Nanoparticulate Systems

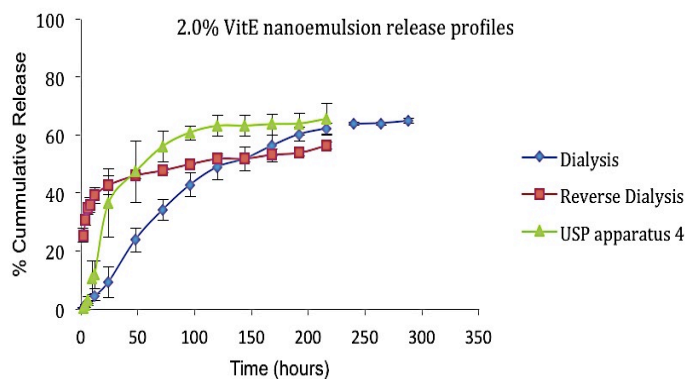
- Selection of suitable release media for *in vitro* release testing of Vitamin E nanoemulsions



Morais J.M, Burgess D.J. Int J Pharm. 2014

### Case Study III\_Nanoparticulate Systems

- *In vitro* release profiles of vitamin E nanoemulsions obtained using different release testing methods



Morais J.M, Burgess D.J. Int J Pharm. 2014

## Acknowledgements

---

**Dr. Diane J. Burgess**  
Current lab members

**Dr. Banu S. Zolnik**  
**Dr. Upkar Bhardwaj**  
**Dr. Archana Rawat**  
**Dr. Jacqueline Morais**



**Funded by the U.S. FDA (1U01FD004931-01 ), NIH, and TATRC.**  
**The support provided by Sotax Corporation is highly appreciated.**