

Thinking Outside the



Adaptive Perfusion Method to Study Drug Release from Emulsions

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- The Problem: Drug Release from Ophthalmic Emulsions
- Inside vs. Outside the Box
- Examples

The Purpose of Studying Drug Release (IVRT)

FDA

- Estimate the bioavailability (rate and extent) of drug
- Product development (formulation screening, product understanding)
- Quality control (batch-to-batch consistency)
- Bioequivalence (sameness)
- In lieu of in vivo test (IVIVC, Post-approval changes)

IVRT is not the goal, but a means to an end.

The Problem: Drug Release from Ophthalmic Emulsions







Drug





THE ANATOMY OF DRY EYE

The tear film has three main components: lipid, aqueous and mucin.

OUTER LIPID

The lipid layer's most important function is to prevent the evaporation of tears. The Meibomian Glands manufacture the lipid layer.

MIDDLE AQUEOUS

The largest portion of the tear film is made up of aqueous with different types and concentrations of mucins (sticky proteins) throughout. Most tear film components are dissolved in this layer, including the oxygen supply to the cornea. The Lacrimal Gland creates most of the aqueous layer.

INNER MUCIN

The thickest concentration of mucins is at the eye's surface. This layer helps to spread tears and stabilize the tear film, which works to prolong the tear break-up time. Goblet cells produce the mucin.

OCULAR SURFACE (conjunctiva)

http://www.swmeyecenter.com/tips-to-relieve-dry-eye-symptoms/

Two fundamental problems:

- Transfer kinetics
- Particle separation

FDA





Thinking inside a box:

Solution



- How to measure distance?
- How to measure weight?
- How to measure volume?
- How to measure concentration?
- How to perform dissolution for IR tablet?

Most of the time, we can do well by just thinking inside the box (the purpose of training, education)





How to measure drug release from emulsions?

Thinking outside a box: New vs. Old





The Problem: Drug Release from Ophthalmic Emulsions







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Two fundamental problems:

Transfer kinetics •

•

(old problem, new solution) Particle separation (new problem, old solution)



A new separation problem in IVRT...



The first step towards analysis drug release from dispersed systems, such as liposomes, suspensions, micelles and emulsions, is the "separation of free drug". Common approach uses dialysis membrane, which can become rate-limiting and severely impact IVRT method's discriminatory power. 12

Drug release of nanoparticle: usual way





- Driven by concentration gradient: High to Low
- Membrane transfer may become a rate-limiting step

IVRT by (Reverse) Dialysis: A Typical Example



FDA



How can we solve it?

Filtration, Instead of Diffusion











- Pressure driven
- Controllable flow by filtration
- Separation based on membrane size
- <u>Tangential</u> flow, thus avoiding build up at the membrane surface (swept away by flow)

TFF: old solution to old problem

• TFF is not a new technique. Widely used since 1960s in various industrial processes, e.g., de-salting, solvent-exchange, concentration.



The before (right) and after (left) of 4,000 gallons of a cold-stabilized Sauvignon Blanc completed in just four hours in a single pass and bottle ready.





Different Focus in Adaptive Perfusion

Common use:

- Only focus on retentate OR permeate
- Only focus on the extent (% recovery, purity)

In Adaptive Perfusion, goal is to obtain "Drug Release":

- Retentate(drug remain) and permeate(drug remove)
- Rate AND Extent (<u>how fast AND how much</u>)



D. Patel et al. Adaptive Perfusion: An In Vitro Release Test (IVRT) for Complex Drug Products. Journal of Controlled Release (2021), 333, pp.65-75.

Where it begins...



Key Challenges (Solved)

FDA

- Reproducibility:
 - Fiber to fiber (critical for switching fibers)
 - Run to run
- Fouling:
 - Performance degradation, lead to low flux -> can't see the difference between different GSD formulation
- Discriminatory capability

Solution: Membrane Conditioning



Both Medium and Configuration are important!!



In-house Formulation with Intentionally Varied GSD







Sample	Z-Average (d.nm)	PdI
Large GSD	152.4 ± 1.3	0.181 ± 0.014
Medium GSD	121.9 ± 0.9	0.203 ± 0.010
Small GSD	78.5 ± 0.6	0.206 ± 0.008



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Future: A Turnkey Solution





Custom Designed Control Interface



Closing Thoughts...

Thinking critically

- Old problem, new solutions;
- New problem, old solutions;
- It's all about perspectives (expand your boxes).

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