

**FORMULATION AND *IN-VITRO* EVALUATION OF SUSTAINED RELEASE MATRIX TABLETS OF LEVOFLOXACIN**Satyabrata Bhanja\*<sup>1</sup>, Parthasarathi Mishra<sup>1</sup>, Sudhakar Muvvala<sup>1</sup>, Arun Kumar Das<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Malla Reddy College of Pharmacy, Maisammaguda, Dhulapally (Post-ViaHakimpet), Secunderabad-500014<sup>2</sup>Malla Reddy Pharmacy College, Maisammaguda, Dhulapally (Post-ViaHakimpet), Secunderabad-500014**\*Corresponding author e-mail:** [satyabrata\\_bhanja@rediffmail.com](mailto:satyabrata_bhanja@rediffmail.com)**ABSTRACT**

The present study aimed to formulate and evaluate sustained release matrix tablets of levofloxacin to achieve sustained drug release with reduced side effects and improved patient compliance. Different batches of sustained release matrix tablets of levofloxacin were prepared by direct compression method using HPMC, sodium CMC and sodium alginate as polymers, Avicel PH 102 (MCC) as filler and starch as binder. The prepared tablets were evaluated for hardness, weight variation, friability, drug content uniformity, *in vitro* drug release, *in vitro* drug release kinetics and Accelerated stability studies. It was found average hardness of the tablets to be in range  $6.7 \pm 0.04$  to  $7.7 \pm 0.35$  kg/cm<sup>2</sup>. The friability of the prepared tablets was found in the range of  $0.005 \pm 0.034$  to  $0.6 \pm 0.035$  %. The uniformity of drug levofloxacin present in tablets formulation ranged from  $96.84 \pm 0.16$  to  $98.87 \pm 0.34$ %. The *in vitro* drug release was studied by using pH 1.2 acidic buffer for 24 hours. Among all twelve formulations F1 to F12, the best formulation F4 was found to be 99.5% drug release in 24 hours which showed the sustained action drug release. The formulations F1 to F12 followed first order release kinetics with non fickian diffusion mechanism.

**Keywords:** Sustained release, matrix tablets, levofloxacin and *in vitro* drug release.**INTRODUCTION**

The controlled release drug delivery systems are aimed at controlling the rate of drug delivery, sustaining the duration of therapeutic activity and/ or targeting the delivery of the drug to a tissue<sup>[1]</sup>. Such dosage form not only increase patient compliance due to reduction in frequency of dosing, but they also reduce the severity and frequency of side effects, as they maintain substantially constant blood levels and avoid fluctuations associated with the conventional immediate release formulations.<sup>[2,3]</sup>

Levofloxacin is the L-isomer of the racemate ofloxacin, a quinolone antimicrobial agent. Chemically, levofloxacin, a chiral fluorinated carboxyquinolone, is the pure (S)-enantiomer of the racemic drug substance ofloxacin. The chemical name is (-)-(S)-9fluoro-2,3-dihydro-3-methyl-10-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)-7-oxo-7Hpyrido[1,2,3-de]-1,4-benzoxazine-6-carboxylic acid hemihydrate. The mean terminal plasma elimination half-life of levofloxacin ranges from approximately 6 to 8 h following single or multiple doses of levofloxacin given orally or intravenously. Designing a sustained release

formulation for the drug levofloxacin may prolong therapeutic concentration of drug in the blood and decrease the frequency of dosing and also improve the efficacy of drug and patient compliance. Hence, an attempt was made to formulate sustained release matrix tablets for the broad spectrum antibacterial agent levofloxacin.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Levofloxacin was a gift sample from Dr Reddys Laboratories, Hyderabad. Sodium CMC was purchased from Nitika chemicals, Nagpur, India. HPMCK4M was purchased from Otto chemical biochemical reagents, Mumbai. Sodium alginate was purchased from Patel industries, Ahmedabad, India. All other reagents used were of analytical grade.

**FT-Infrared spectroscopy to find out the compatibility of drug with polymer:** This was carried out to find out the compatibility between the drug levofloxacin and the polymers such as hydroxypropyl methylcellulose (HPMC), sodium alginate, sodium CMC. 10 mg of the sample and 400 mg of KBr were taken in a mortar and triturated. A small amount of the triturated sample was taken into a pellet maker and was compressed at 10 kg/cm<sup>2</sup> using a hydraulic press. The pellet was kept onto the sample holder and scanned from 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> to 400 cm<sup>-1</sup> in Shimadzu FT-IR spectrophotometer. Samples were prepared for drug levofloxacin, polymer HPMC, sodium alginate, sodium CMC and physical mixture of drug and polymers. The spectra obtained were compared and interpreted for the functional group peaks.

### Characterization of levofloxacin compressed tablets:

#### Pre compression parameters

**Bulk density (Db)<sup>[4]</sup>:** The bulk density of the formulated granules was evaluated using a bulk density apparatus. It is the ratio of total mass of powder to the bulk volume of powder. It was measured by pouring the weighed powder into a graduated measuring cylinder and the volume was noted. It is expressed in gm/ml and is given by

$$Db = M/Vb$$

Where, M = Mass of the powder

Vb = Bulk volume of the powder.

**Tapped density (Dt)<sup>[5]</sup>:** It is the ratio of total mass of powder to the tapped volume of powder. The tapped volume was measured by tapping the powder to constant volume. It is expressed in gram/ml and is given by

$$Dt = M/Vt$$

Where, M = Mass of the powder

Vt = Tapped volume of the powder.

**Carr's index (I) and Hausner's ratio<sup>[6]</sup>:** Carr's index and Hausner's ratio measure the propensity of granule to be compressed and the flow ability of granule. Carr's index and Hausner's ratio were calculated using following formula.

$$I = \frac{Dt - Db}{Dt} * 100$$

Carr's index,

Where, Dt = Tapped density of the powder

Db = Bulk density of the powder

$$Dt/Db = Vb/Vt$$

Hausner's ratio,

Where, Dt = Tapped density of the powder

Db = Bulk density of the powder

**Angle of repose<sup>[7]</sup>:** The frictional forces in a loose powder can be measured by the angle of repose. This is the maximum angle possible between the surface of a pile of powder and the horizontal plane. Sufficient quantities of levofloxacin granules were passed through a funnel from a particular height (2 cm) onto a flat surface until it formed a heap, which touched the tip of the funnel. The height and radius of the heap were measured. The angle of repose was calculated using the formula.

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}(h/r)$$

Angle of repose,

Where, h = Height of the pile in cm

r = Radius of the pile

**Preparation of levofloxacin tablets:** Levofloxacin tablets were prepared by a direct compression method. Before going to direct compression all the ingredients were screened through sieve no.100. Except lubricant all the ingredients were thoroughly blended in a glass mortar with pestle for 15 min. After sufficient mixing lubricant was added and again mixed for additional 2-3 min. The mixture is compressed using 8 mm flat faced punch on 8 stages rotary tablet compress machine (Rimek Minipress Karnavati Eng. Ltd, Ahmadabad, India). The formulations are mentioned in Table 01.

#### Post compression parameters<sup>[8&9]</sup>

**Hardness:** The prepared tablets were subjected to hardness test. It was carried out by using Monsanto hardness tester and expressed in kg/cm<sup>2</sup>.

**Friability:** The friability was determined using Roche friabilator and expressed in percentage (%). 20 tablets from each batch were weighed separately (Winitial) and placed in the friabilator, which was then operated for 100 revolutions at 25 rpm. The tablets were reweighed (Wfinal) and the percentage friability was calculated for each batch by using the following formula.

$$F = (W_{initial}) - (W_{final}) / (W_{initial}) * 100$$

**Weight variation test:** 20 tablets were selected at random from the lot, weighed individually and the average weight was determined. The percent deviation of each tablets weight against the average weight was calculated. The test requirements are met; if not more than, two of the individual weights deviate from the average weight by not more than existing 7.5%.

**Uniformity of drug content:** The prepared levofloxacin tablets were tested for their drug content. Three tablets of each formulation were finely powdered. 100 mg of powder was accurately weighed and the drug levofloxacin was completely extracted with pH 1.2 acidic buffer and the solution was filtered. 1 ml of the filtrate was suitably diluted and analyzed for levofloxacin content by UV spectrophotometer at 293 nm.

**In-vitro drug release studies [10]:** The *in-vitro* dissolution studies were carried out for the formulations using USP apparatus type II (LabIndia, Mumbai, India). The dissolution medium used was 900 ml of acidic buffer of pH 1.2 for 24 hours. The temperature was maintained at  $37^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the stirring rate was 100 rpm. Samples were withdrawn at regular time intervals and the same volume was replaced with fresh dissolution medium. The samples were measured by UV Spectrophotometer at 293 nm against a blank. The release studies were conducted in triplicate and the mean values were plotted versus time.

**Kinetics of Drug Release [11&12]:** To study the mechanism of drug release from the matrix tablets, the drug release data were fitted to various kinetic models like zero order, first order, Higuchi's and Korsmeyer-peppas's equation and coefficient of correlation values were calculated for linear curves by regression analysis of the above plot. These models used to explain drug release mechanism due to swelling along with gradual erosion of the matrix.

**Release profiles comparison:** In the development of oral controlled release preparations an ethical or proprietary product, which has been available in the market, and an established its efficacy clinically, is usually selected as a reference. The generic preparation is always formulated with its dissolution profile as similar as possible to that of proprietary product. *In-vitro* dissolution can be considered as a surrogate tool for the assessment of bioequivalence.

There are several methods to compare the dissolution profiles of test with reference.

Those methods are classified into several categories, such as:

- Model Dependent methods
- Model Independent methods

#### **Model dependent methods**

These model dependent methods all rely upon a curve fitting procedure. Different mathematical functions have been used to model the observed data. Both the linear and non linear models are being used in practice for dissolution modeling. Linear models include Zero order, Higuchi, Hixson-Crowell where as the non linear models include First order, Korsmeyer-peppas, etc. The kind of drug, its polymorphic form, crystalline, particle size, solubility and amount in the pharmaceutical dosage form can influence the release kinetics. A water soluble drug incorporated in a matrix is mainly released by diffusion, while for a low water soluble drug the self erosion of the matrix will be the principal release mechanism.

#### **Mathematical Models**

**Zero order kinetics** (cumulative % drug release vs. time)

Drug dissolution from pharmaceutical dosage forms that do not disaggregate and release the drug slowly (assuming that the area does not change and no equilibrium conditions are obtained) can be represented by following equation.

$$W_0 - W_t = K \cdot t$$

Where  $W_0$  is the initial amount of the drug in the pharmaceutical dosage form,  $W_t$  is the amount of drug in the pharmaceutical dosage form at the time  $t$  and  $K$  is the proportionality constant. The following relation can in a simple way, express the Zero order kinetic model:

$$Q_1 = Q_0 + K_0 t$$

Where  $Q_1$  is the amount of drug dissolved in time  $t$ ,  $Q_0$  is the initial amount of drug in the solution and  $K_0$  is the zero order release rate constant.

**First order kinetics:** (Log cumulative % drug release vs. time)

The following equation can express this model

$$\log Q_1 = \log Q_0 + K_1 t / 2.303$$

Where  $Q_1$  is the amount of drug released in time  $t$ ,  $Q_0$  is the initial amount of drug in solution and  $K_1$  is the first order release constant. In this way a graphic of the decimal logarithm of the released amount of drug versus time will be linear. The pharmaceutical dosage forms following this dissolution profile, such as those containing water soluble drugs in porous matrices,

release the drug in a way proportional to the amount of drug remaining in its interior.

**Higuchi model:** (Cumulative %drug release vs. square root of time)

$$Ft = K_H t^{1/2}$$

Where  $Ft$  = amount of drug released at time  $t$

$K_H$  = the Higuchi release rate.

This is the most widely used model to describe drug release from pharmaceutical matrices. A linear relationship of square root of time versus concentration indicates that the drug release follows Fickian diffusion.

**Korsmeyer Peppas model:** (Log cumulative % drug release vs. Log time)

This model relates exponentially the drug release to the elapsed time ( $t$ )

$$ft = at^n$$

where  $a$  is a constant incorporating structural and geometric characteristics of the drug dosage form,  $n$  is the release exponent, indicative of the drug release mechanism, and the function of  $t$  is  $M_t/M_\infty$  (fractional release of drug)

Thus, equation can be rewritten as:

$$Mt/M_\infty = at^n$$

A modified equation was developed to accommodate the lag time ( $l$ ) in the beginning of the drug release from dosage form:

$$M(t-l)/M_\infty = a(t-l)^n$$

When there is possibility of burst effect,  $b$ , the equation becomes:

$$Mt/M_\infty = at^n + b$$

Characterization drug release mechanism

Diffusion exponent (n)	Overall solute diffusion mechanism
0.45	Fickian Diffusion
0.45 < n < 0.89	Anomalous(fickian) diffusion
0.89	Case II transport
n > 0.89	Super case II transport

**Model independent methods:**

**Similarity factor:** Among several methods investigated for dissolution profile comparison,  $f_2$  is the simplest.

$$f_2 = 50 * \text{Log} \left\{ \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) \sum (R_t - T_t)^2 \right] \right\} - 0.5 * 100$$

Where  $R_t$  and  $T_t$  are the cumulative percentage dissolved at each of the selected  $n$  time point of the reference and the test product respectively. Factor  $f_2$  is inversely proportional to the average squared difference between the two points, the emphasis on the larger difference among all the time points. The factor  $f_2$  measures the closeness between the profiles.

In dissolution profile comparisons, especially to assure similarity in product performance, regulatory interest is in knowing how similar the two curves are, and to have a measure which is no more sensitive to large differences at any particular time point. When the two profiles are identical,  $f_2=100$ . An average difference of 10 % at all measured time point's results in a  $f_2$  value of 50. FDA has set a public standard of  $f_2$  value between 50-100 to indicate similarity between two dissolution profiles.

**Accelerated stability study [13]:** The purpose of stability testing is to provide evidence on how the quality of a drug substance product varies with time under the influence of a variety of environmental factors such as temperature, humidity and light and to establish a testing for the drug substance or a shelf life for the drug product and recommended storage conditions. The storage conditions used for stability studies were accelerated condition ( $40^\circ\text{C} \pm 2^\circ\text{C}/75\% \pm 5\% \text{RH}$ ). Stability study was carried out for the optimized formulation. Tablets of optimized formulation were stripped packed and kept in stability chamber for 3 months on above mention temperature.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The levofloxacin drug was evaluated for angle of repose, bulk density, tapped density, compressibility index, and the results are shown in Table 02. The bulk densities of the granules were found to be in the range of  $0.400 \pm 0.06$  to  $0.480 \pm 0.03$  gm/ml. The tapped densities were ranged  $0.444 \pm 0.05$  to  $0.545 \pm 0.03$  gm/ml, the cars indexes were in the range of  $9.2 \pm 0.23$  to  $13.53 \pm 0.24$ . The result indicates that all above parameters are within the limits. The hausner's ratios were found to be in the range  $1.07 \pm 0.04$  to  $1.15 \pm 0.09$ . The angle of repose varied from  $27.51 \pm 0.18^\circ$  to  $30.76 \pm 0.36^\circ$

This study was carried out to find out the possible interaction between the selected drug levofloxacin and the polymers HPMC, sodium alginate and sodium CMC. FT-IR of levofloxacin showed the following characteristic peaks: peak at  $3265 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to carboxylic group stretching,  $2931 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to alkanes group stretching,  $1724 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to stretching of carbonyl group,  $1294 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to stretching of amines, in between  $1100$  to  $1400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to the presence of halogen group. Physical mixture of drug with polymers such as HPMC, sodium alginate and sodium CMC clearly shows retention of these characteristic peaks of the drug, thus revealing compatibility of the selected drug with the polymer. The spectra obtained from FT infrared

spectroscopy studies at wavelength from 4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  to 400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are shown in Figures 02 & 03 and the characteristic peaks obtained are shown. From the results it indicates that there is no interaction between the drug and polymers.

The levofloxacin tablets were prepared by direct compression method. The tablets were evaluated for its hardness, weight variation, content uniformity and friability. Tablet hardness test is a measure of the cohesiveness of tablets and it plays a vital role for drug release. It is one of the official methods of the determination of tablets strength. The other essential requirements of tablets are to have an acceptable friability to withstand shocks during packing and shifting. Hardness must be controlled to ensure that the product is firm enough to with hand handling without breaking or crumbling and not so hard that the disintegration time is unduly prolonged. The hardness was found to be from  $6.7 \pm 0.04$  to  $8.2 \pm 0.24$  ( $\text{kg}/\text{cm}^2$ ). The weight variations were found to be between  $545 \pm 0.015$  to  $551 \pm 0.007$  mg. The friability was found to be between  $0.005 \pm 0.034$  to  $0.6 \pm 0.035$  %. The uniformity of drug levofloxacin present in tablets formulation ranged from  $96.84 \pm 0.16$  to  $98.87 \pm 0.34$ %. The above results were within the limit of I.P.

*In vitro* dissolution study of sustained release tablets from each batch (F1 to F12) was carried out in pH 1.2 buffer for 24 hours. The formulation F1 shows 98.5% drug release after 18 hours, F2 shows 99.5% drug release after 20 hours. F3 shows 98.5% drug release after 20 hours, F4 shows 99.5% drug release after 24 hours. Among the four formulations, F4 shows the sustained action and maximum amount of drug release that is 99.5% after 24 hours. The results indicate that the drug was found to be sustained action with increase concentration of polymer that is HPMC. Similarly the formulation, F5 shows 99.5% after 14 hours, F6 shows 99.2% after 16 hours, F7 shows 99.1% after 16 hours and F8 shows 99.2% after 18 hours. From the results it indicates F8 shows maximum drug release and showing sustained action with increase in the concentration of polymer that is Na CMC. Similarly the formulations F9 shows 98.5% after 16 hours, F10 shows 98.7% after 18 hours, F11 shows 98.5% after 20 hours and F12 shows 98.3% after 18 hours. Among the four formulations, F11 shows maximum drug release and sustained action with increase in concentration of polymers that is sodium alginate. The marketed tablet levoflox (750 mg) Cipla was conducted for *in vitro* drug release studies and it was found that 98.8% drug release in 22 hours and showing the sustained action. The comparative drug release of all formulations showed

the improvement in sustaining property of drug release increasing the polymer concentration. F4 shows more sustained action and optimum release with compare to other formulation and marketed tablet, which indicates that the concentration of polymer control the drug release. The similarity factor ( $f_2$ ) was calculated and results are shown in Table 05. The comparative drug release of all formulations results are shown in Figures 04, 05, 06 & 07.

#### Mechanism of drug release:

In order to understand the complex mechanism of drug release from the matrix system, the *in vitro* release rate were fitted to Korsmeyer-peppas model and interpretation of release exponent value ( $n$ ) enlighten in understanding the release mechanism from the dosage form. The F4 formulation exhibited anomalous (non Fickian) diffusion mechanism.

The formulation F4 was chosen as optimised formulation because it showed more sustained action and optimum drug release and suitable with other evaluation parameters. The value of regression correlation coefficient ( $R^2$ ) was calculated for all formulations F1 to F12, which values were close to 1. Korsmeyer-peppas equation  $R^2$  values of Korsmeyer-peppas equation was found to be higher and the  $n$  values was found to be ( $0.45 < n < 0.89$ ) release mechanism. Similarly among First order equation,  $R^2$  values of first order equation was found to be higher. Hence the drug release followed first order release kinetics with Non fickian diffusion mechanism. The results are shown in Table 04.

The optimized formulation F4 was evaluated for accelerated stability studies. The formulation were stored at  $40^\circ\text{C}$  at 75% RH for 3 months and analyzed for their physical parameters and drug content at every one-month interval. The physico-chemical parameters showed that there was a significant change observed. So indicates that product was found to be stable. The results are shown in Table 06.

#### CONCLUSION

Hence, an attempt was made to formulate a sustained release matrix tablets for the broad spectrum antibacterial agent levofloxacin. The drug levofloxacin was selected for the study, because of its availability, proved activity and better clinical applications. The preformulation FT-IR studies revealed that there was no interaction between the drug levofloxacin and the polymers. Formulation F4 showed better-sustained release when compared to other batches and with marketed product. Release of

drug from the tablets was observed first order with non-Fickian diffusion mechanism. Based on the observations, it can be concluded that the formulated sustained release matrix tablets of levofloxacin using widely accepted and

physiologically safe polymers and other excipients was capable of exhibiting sustained release properties.

**Table 01: Formula for the preparation of levofloxacin tablets**

Ingredients	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12
Levofloxacin (mg)	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250
Carbopol 940 (mg)	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
HPMC 15PV (mg)	70	90	110	130	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NaCMC (mg)	-	-	-	-	70	90	110	130	-	-	-	-
Sodium Alginate (mg)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70	90	110	130
MCC (mg)	170	150	130	110	170	150	130	110	170	150	130	110
Magnesium stearate (mg)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Talc (mg)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
<b>TOTAL WEIGHT</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>550</b>

**Table 02: Physicochemical evaluations of levofloxacin**

Batch Code	Parameter							of
	Yield (%)	Mean particle size (mm)	Bulk density (gm/ml)	Tapped density (gm/ml)	Carr's Index (%)	Hausner's ratio	Angle repose (θ)	
F1	97.65	0.660 ±0.25	0.400 ±0.06	0.444 ±0.05	10.01 ±0.14	1.11 ±0.06	29.05 ±0.25	
F2	97.45	0.683 ±0.15	0.480 ±0.03	0.545 ±0.03	11.92 ±0.12	1.13 ±0.02	29.74 ±0.24	
F3	95.85	0.575 ±0.12	0.440 ±0.04	0.500 ±0.02	12 ±0.15	1.13 ±0.05	27.75 ±0.15	
F4	96.38	0.570 ±0.16	0.432 ±0.05	0.490 ±0.04	11.83 ±0.13	1.13 ±0.03	29.74 ±0.17	
F5	95.10	0.520 ±0.05	0.416 ±0.03	0.476 ±0.05	12.60 ±0.09	1.14 ±0.04	29.05 ±0.26	
F6	94.44	0.530 ±0.21	0.409 ±0.04	0.473 ±0.03	13.53 ±0.24	1.15 ±0.09	29.3 ±0.14	
F7	98.68	0.539 ±0.06	0.412 ±0.04	0.460 ±0.05	10.43 ±0.20	1.11 ±0.07	29.60 ±0.34	
F8	94.20	0.612 ±0.04	0.420 ±0.03	0.466 ±0.06	9.87 ±0.14	1.10 ±0.06	28.52 ±0.14	
F9	95.90	0.448 ±0.11	0.421 ±0.05	0.476 ±0.04	11.55 ±0.07	1.13 ±0.03	29.05 ±0.26	
F10	96.14	0.536 ±0.05	0.408 ±0.03	0.450 ±0.05	9.3 ±0.17	1.10 ±0.08	27.51 ±0.18	
F11	95.42	0.659 ±0.20	0.412 ±0.05	0.454 ±0.03	9.2 ±0.23	1.07 ±0.04	30.76 ±0.21	
F12	96.57	0.538 ±0.16	0.410 ±0.02	0.463 ±0.03	11.64 ±0.18	1.12 ±0.07	30.76 ±0.36	

*N=3, ± S.D*

**Table 03: Physicochemical evaluations of levofloxacin tablets**

Batch Code	Parameter			
	Hardness (kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )*	Friability (%)**	Weight variation (%)**	Drug content (%)***
F1	6.7±0.4	0.012±0.03	548±0.05	98.23±0.05
F2	7.4 ± 0.002	0.015±0.021	546±0.02	97.5±0.21
F3	7.7 ± 0.12	0.010±0.015	548±0.012	98.52±0.15
F4	7.7 ± 0.35	0.018±0.025	549±0.009	98.87±0.34
F5	6.87 ± 0.21	0.005±0.034	546±0.024	98.5±0.42
F6	7.9 ± 0.15	0.020±0.015	548±0.031	96.84±0.16
F7	7.73 ± 0.42	0.10±0.017	545±0.015	98.93±0.09
F8	8.1 ± 0.17	0.12±0.026	549±0.019	97.87±0.48
F9	7.4 ± 0.16	0.6±0.035	550±0.008	96.97±0.26
F10	8.2 ± 0.24	0.40±0.018	551±0.007	98.36±0.35
F11	7.9 ± 0.25	0.16±0.016	548±0.014	96.9±0.42
F12	8.1 ± 0.34	0.27±0.026	549±0.016	97.15±0.13

\*( $n=5 \pm S.D$ ), \*\* ( $n=20 \pm S.D$ ), \*\*\* ( $n=3 \pm S.D$ )

**Table 04: Correlation coefficients (R<sup>2</sup>) Values of different kinetic models**

Formulation code	Zero order R <sup>2</sup>	First order R <sup>2</sup>	Higuchi R <sup>2</sup>	Korsmeyer-peppas R <sup>2</sup>	Korsmeyer-peppas n
F1	0.905	0.990	0.971	0.985	0.60
F2	0.892	0.938	0.962	0.978	0.476
F3	0.876	0.993	0.956	0.977	0.598
F4	0.971	0.972	0.955	0.995	0.748
F5	0.945	0.946	0.98	0.984	0.801
F6	0.968	0.988	0.960	0.974	0.578
F7	0.962	0.997	0.99	0.994	0.722
F8	0.950	0.971	0.992	0.979	0.547
F9	0.810	0.990	0.916	0.946	0.701
F10	0.987	0.982	0.98	0.99	0.596
F11	0.842	0.959	0.9778	0.970	0.495
F12	0.851	0.968	0.963	0.918	0.639

**Table 05: Similarity factor (f2) of all formulations**

Formulation codes	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12
Values	40.8	45.15	55.76	66.56	87.79	60.78	30.71	47.71	93.54	27.84	41.48	54.87

**Table 06: Accelerated stability studies**

Tests		Observations	
		Initial	40°C/75%RH
Time of storage	Nil	1 M	3M

<b>Appearance</b>	Light yellow	Light yellow	Light yellow
<b>Assay(%)</b>	98.87	99.8	99.8
<b>In vitro</b>	99.5	99.25	98.75

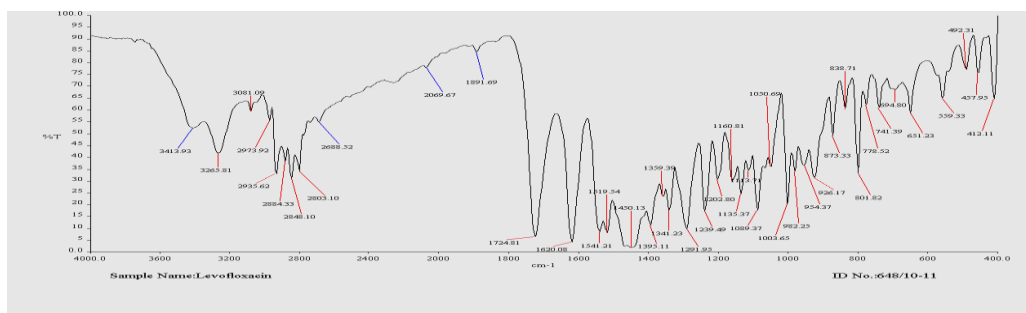


Figure 02. FT-IR study of drug, Levofloxacin

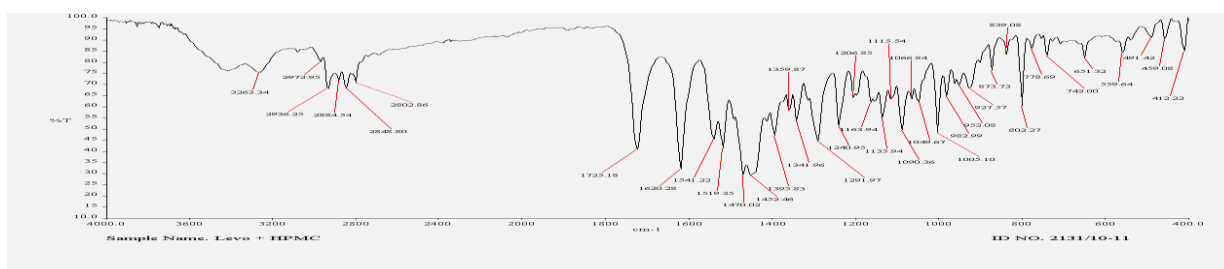


Figure 03. FT-IR study of drug, Levofloxacin and polymers

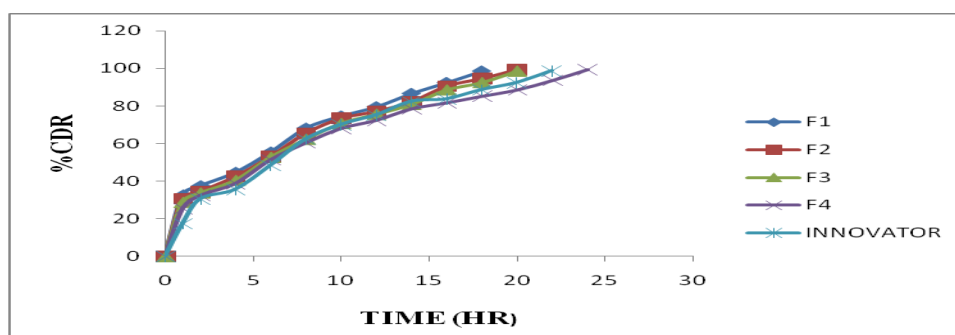


Figure 04. In-vitro release of levofloxacin tablets from tablet Formulation F1 to F4 and innovator product.

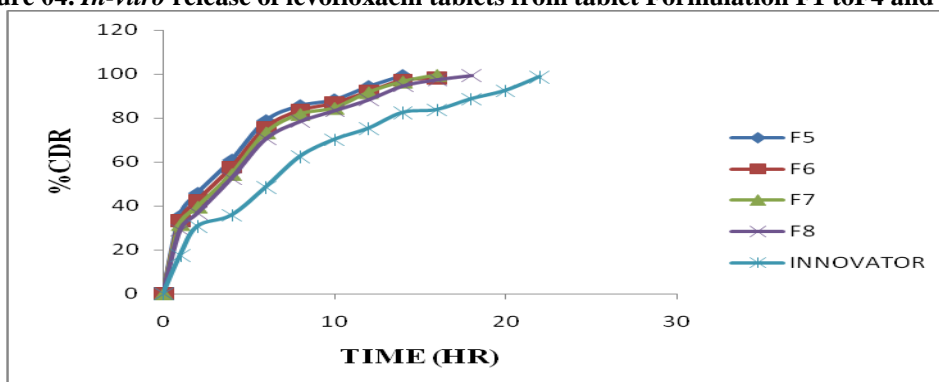


Figure 05. In-vitro drug release profile of levofloxacin tablets from Formulations F5 to F8 and innovator product.



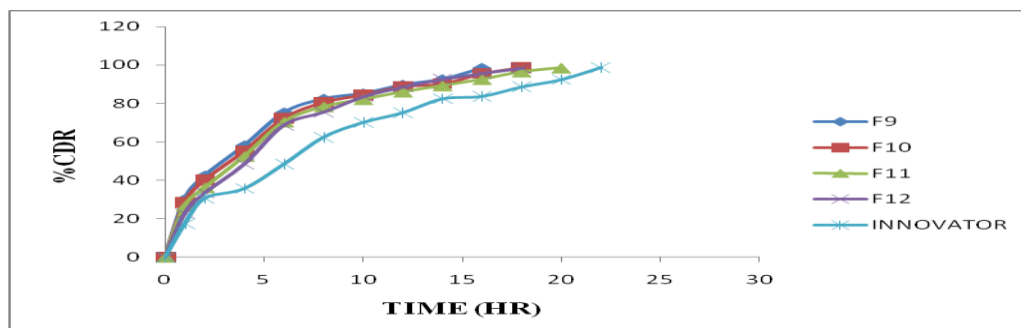


Figure 06: *In-vitro* drug release profile of levofloxacin tablets from Formulations F9 to F12 and innovator product.

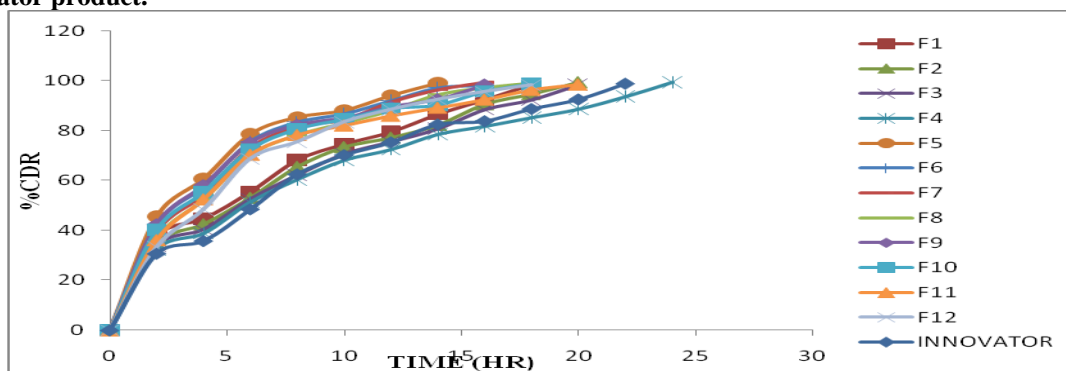


Figure 07: *In-vitro* drug release profile of levofloxacin tablets from Formulations F1 to F12 and innovator product.

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