

Formulation and Evaluation of Herbal Lozenges Having Anti-Emetic Activity

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: The present work is focused on development of lozenges having anti-emetic activity, for this plant extracts of *Kaempferia galanga* L. and *Zingiber officinalis* are used which are used to treat several types of stomach problems including motion sickness and morning sickness. The lozenges are evaluated for various quality parameters like hardness, friability, thickness, weight uniformity and disintegration time which comply with the standard mentioned in GMP guidelines. **Aims and objectives:** The aim of the work is to conduct formulation and evaluation of herbal lozenges having anti-emetic activity using *Kaempferia galanga* L. and *Zingiber officinalis*. **Materials and methods:** sugar w

as dissolved in water and the extracts of drug mixed and heated till suitable consistency and poured in lozenges mould and cooled to form lozenges. **Observations and results:** The lozenges were evaluated for various quality parameters like hardness, friability, thickness, weight uniformity and disintegration to comply with standard mentioned in GMP guidelines. **Conclusions:** lozenges are completely herbal contain no synthetic ingredient and is economical to treat emesis.

KEYWORDS: lozenges, emesis, extract, receptors

INTRODUCTION

Lozenges are solid dosage forms that are intended to be dissolved or disintegrated slowly in the mouth. They contain one or more active ingredients and are flavoured and sweetened so as to be pleasant tasting. It is generally used for their topical effect but may also have ingredients that produce a systemic effect. Lozenge is a solid preparation consisting of sugar and gum, the latter giving strength and cohesiveness to the lozenge and facilitating slow release of the medicament. It is used to medicate the mouth and throat for the slow administration in digestion or cough remedies. Lozenges may contain an anaesthetic, a demulcent, or an antiseptic.^[1]

Lozenges provide a pleasant dosage form for patients who are unable to swallow other types of solid dosage forms. Because lozenges are

formulated to taste good, they must be kept out of the reach of children, whomay view them as candy. Types of lozenges can be ordered as hard candy, chewable gummy gel, and hand-rolled lozenges. Lozenges are produced mostly for the children. Lozenge preparations, also referred to as troches, are widely used for extemporaneously compounded prescriptions.⁵⁸ However, there are limited examples of approved lozenge drug products. There are three basic types of lozenges: hard, soft, and chewable.

Hard lozenges are generally formed using sucrose or other sugar similar to the process for hard candy confection that produce a hardened amorphous glassy material. Slow the rate of dissolution,

polymers such as PEGs and HPMC may be added. Another type of hard lozenge may be made of compressed powders. An example of this is clotrimazole troches (lozenges) made as a large

compressed tablet that is slowly dissolved in the mouth. The tablet base material is made of dextrose, MCC, and povidone. [2]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials required

Chemicals: *Kaempferia galanga* L., *Zingiber officinalis*, Sugar, honey, distilled water, cinnamon powder

Apparatus: tripod stand, water bath, beaker, glass rod, measuring cylinder, butter paper, mould

Methodology:

1. Collection and identification of plant material

The leaves of *Kaempferia galanga* L. and *Zingiber officinalis* were collected from medicinal garden of

DPS, Puthupally, Kottayam. The plant was authenticated by Dr. KRISHNARAJM.V, Assistant professor and research guide, dept. of botany, Baseli College, Kottayam.

2 Preparation of plant material

Fresh leaves of *Kaempferia galanga* L. and *Zingiber officinalis* were collected and weighed. It was then washed and cut into small pieces and then subjected for extraction.

3. Extraction of plant material

10g of plant material was soaked in 50ml water in a beaker and boiled. The extract was collected and filtered. The same procedure was repeated for both *Kaempferia galanga* L. and *Zingiber officinalis*. [8,9]

4. Formulation of lozenges [10]

TABLE:1

| SL.NO | INGREDIENTS | QUANTITY |
|-------|------------------------------|----------|
| 1. | <i>Zingiber officinalis</i> | 30ml |
| 2. | <i>Kaempferia galanga</i> L. | 15ml |
| 3. | Sugar | 100g |
| 4. | Cinnamon powder | q.s |
| 5. | Honey | q.s |
| 6. | Water | q.s |

PROCEDURE

Sugar was dissolved in q.s of water till a sufficient consistency was obtained. The plant extract was filtered and collected in another container. These extracts were added to the sugar syrup, honey was added. The mixture was heated with constant stirring. The preparation was then removed from heat and was poured on a lozenge mould to get lozenges of ideal size. The mould was allowed to

cool and harden at room temperature. After cooling the lozenges were tossed over powder cinnamon to avoid getting sticky in humidity. It was stored in a wide mouthed airtight container in a cool place. [11,12]

Evaluation:

organoleptic evaluation: Physical parameters like color, odour, taste, shape, texture etc were examined by visual examination

Phytochemical screening

a) Detection of Glycosides. Small quantity of all extract was hydrolysed with dilute HCl for 2 hours in a water bath and the hydrolysed was subjected to Legal test to detect the presence of different glycosides.

To the hydroxylated extract, 1ml of pyridine and few drops of sodium nitroprusside were added and then it was made alkaline with sodium hydroxide. Pink to yellow show the presence of glycosides.

LEGAL TEST

b) Detection of Alkaloids

The all extracts were individually dissolved in dilute HCl and filtered.

DRAGENDORFF'S TEST

To 0.5 ml of extract, added 2 ml of HCl. To this acidic medium, 1 ml of Dragendorff's reagent was added. An orange-red precipitate producing immediately indicates the presence of Alkaloids.

WAGNER'S TEST

10 ml of extract acidified by adding 1.5% v/v of HCl and a few drops of Wagner's reagent. Formation of yellow or brown precipitate will conform the presence of Alkaloids.

MAYER'S TEST

To 1 ml of acidic aqueous extract added few drops of Mayer's reagent. Formation of white or pale precipitate shows the presence of Alkaloids.

c) detection of carbohydrates: All extract were individually dissolved in distilled water and filtered.

MOLISCH'S TEST

2 ml of the extract were treated with two drops of freshly prepared 20% alcoholic solution of Alpha naphthol was added and mixed. To this solution 2 ml f) detection of tannins

FERRIC CHLORIDE TEST

To, 1-2 ml of extract, few drops of 5% aqueous ferric chloride solution was added. Formation of bluish black colour, which disappears on addition of few ml dilute H₂SO₄ and formation of a yellowish-brown precipitate indicates the presence of tannins.

LEAD ACETATE TEST

In the test tube containing about 5 ml of extract, a few drops of 1% solution of lead acetate were added. Formation of yellow precipitate indicates the presence of tannins.

f) detection of phenols

FERRIC CHLORIDE TEST

To 1 ml extract, 2 ml of distilled water followed by drops of 10% aqueous ferric chloride solution were added. Formation of blue or green indicates the presence of phenol.

LEAD ACETATE TEST

of concentrated H₂SO₄ was added. Formation of the red violet ring at the junction of the solution indicates the presence of Carbohydrates.

BENEDICT'S TEST

To 0.5 ml of extract, 1 ml of equal parts of Fehling's A and B were added. The contents were boiled for few minutes. Formation of red or brick red precipitate indicates the presence of carbohydrates.

d) detection of flavonoids

SHINODA'S TEST

1. A small quantity of the extract were dissolved in alcohol and to this add magnesium metal followed by concentrated HCl in dropwise and heated. A magenta colour indicates the presence of flavonoids.

2. Small quantity of the extract was dissolved in chloroform, added small amount of ferric chloride and potassium ferricyanide. A deep blue colour shows the presence of flavonoids.

e) detection of saponins

FOAM TEST

Extracts were shaken with 2 ml of water, foam produced, and it persists for 10 minutes indicates the presence of saponins.

1 ml of extract was diluted to 5 ml with distilled water and to these few drops of 1% aqueous solution of lead acetate was added. Formation of yellow precipitate indicates the presence of phenol^[11,13,14]

Average weight:

20 Lozenges of each batch were selected and weighed on an electronic balance. From the collective weight, average weight was calculated with \pm SD.

Average Weight = Total weight of Lozenges / 20

Weight variation:

Weight variation was conducted to ensure each lozenge contains the proper amount of drug. The test was conducted by weighing 20 lozenges individually by using analytical balance then calculating the average wt., and by comparing the individual tablet weight to the average. The percentage of weight variation is calculated by using the formula.

% deviation = $\frac{\text{average wt.} - \text{individual wt.}}{\text{average wt.}} \times 100$

| The average weight of tablet [mg] | Maximum % difference allowed |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 130 or less | +/-10 |
| 130-324 | +/-7.5 |
| More than 324 | +/-5.0 |

Friability test:

The friability of the 5 lozenges from each batch was evaluated by a friabilator (Total 30 lozenges were used). At a speed of 25 rpm for 4 min. The lozenges were then dedusted, reweighed and percentage weight loss was calculated by the equation,

$$\% \text{ Friability} = (\text{Initial Wt.} - \text{Wt. after friability}) \times 100$$

Hardness test:

Evaluate the diametrical crushing strength, 3 tablets from each formulation were tested using a Pfizer hardness tester. The mean \pm SD values were calculated.

Drug content uniformity:

The drug content uniformity was assessed by powdering one lozenge in a mortar pestle and dissolving the powder content in 60 ml of methanol in a 200 ml volumetric flask and shaken until completely dissolved and then make up the volume by using phosphate buffer of pH 6.8. From this 10 ml was taken in another volumetric flask diluted with phosphate buffer of pH 6.8 up to 100 ml and sonicated for 30 min and then the solution was filtered, and the absorbance was recorded at 226 nm.

Percent moisture content:

The prepared lozenges were crushed in a mortar (3 lozenges of each batch) and weighed. From each crush lozenge 1 gm of sample was weighed and placed on a butter paper and then placed in the desiccator for 24 hours. After that, the sample were removed and weighed again. The weight reduced was then calculated for the % moisture content by the following formula:

$$\% \text{ Moisture Content} = \frac{\text{Initial weight} - \text{Final weight}}{\text{Initial weight}} \times 100$$

In-vitro dissolution study:

In vitro dissolution was conducted in USP XXIV dissolution test apparatus. 900 ml Phosphate buffer of pH 6.8 solution was used as dissolution medium. The stirrer was adjusted to rotate at 100 rpm. The temperature of dissolution medium was maintained at $37 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ throughout the experiment. One lozenge was used in each test. 5 ml of samples from the dissolution medium were withdrawn by means of syringe. The volume withdrawn at each time interval was replaced with fresh quantity of dissolution medium to maintain the sink condition. Solution was filtered with Whatman filter paper. Samples were withdrawn after 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 45-minute interval soft time and analysed for drug release by measuring the absorbance at 226 nm^[15]. The volume withdrawn at each time interval was replaced with fresh quantity of dissolution medium to maintain the sink condition.^[16]

Stability study:

In the present study, stability studies were conducted at Room Temperature and Accelerated testing: $40^\circ\text{C} \pm 2^\circ\text{C} / 75\% \text{RH} \pm 5\% \text{RH}$ for 3 months for the optimized formulation. The optimized formulation was analysed for the Physical appearance, Drug content, Disintegration Time, average weight, percent friability, moisture content. The optimized formulation was wrapped in aluminium foil for the studies and then kept in the testing chamber for 90 days and the testing was conducted in every 15 days for up to 3 months.^[17]

SURVEY

A survey was done on 10 volunteers through a questionnaire to check acceptability of different parameters and quality of the lozenges having anti-emetic activity.

Q1: colour acceptability of lozenges, comment.

Q2: taste and palatability, choose one

a) too sweet b) too bitter c) acceptable

- Q3: how often do you feel motionsickness
- Q4: did you find any relief from taking lozenges?
- Q5: did you find it better compared to other marketed lozenges?
- Q6: is the duration of action is quick and satisfactory?
- Q7: did you feel uneasiness after taking it?
- Q8: if YES, is it the same
- Q9: is dissolution in mouth is easy?
- Q10: would you like to recommend it to other emetic patients?

RESULT

1-ORGANOLEPTICEVALUATION:

Colour: yellow to golden brown Odour:

pleasant smell

Sweet: sweet and pungent

Shape: oval

Texture: hard

2-PHYTOCHEMICAL SCREENING

TABLE 2: Phytochemical screening of *Kaempferia galanga* L.

| SL.NO | TEST | RESULT |
|-------|----------------------------|--------|
| 1. | Alkaloids | +ve |
| 2. | carbohydrate | +ve |
| 3. | proteins | -ve |
| 4. | Steroids and triterpenoids | -ve |
| 5. | glycosides | +ve |
| 6. | saponins | -ve |
| 7. | phenols | +ve |
| 8. | tannins | +ve |
| 9. | flavonoids | -ve |

TABLE 3: Phytochemical screening of *Zingiber officinalis*

| SL.NO | TEST | RESULT |
|-------|----------------------------|--------|
| 1. | Alkaloids | +ve |
| 2. | carbohydrate | +ve |
| 3. | proteins | -ve |
| 4. | Steroids and triterpenoids | +ve |
| 5. | glycosides | -ve |
| 6. | saponins | +ve |
| 7. | phenols | -ve |
| 8. | tannins | -ve |
| 9. | flavonoids | +ve |

TABLE4:Averageweight

| SL.NO | INDIVIDUAL WEIGHT[g] | AVERAGE WEIGHT[g] |
|-------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | 3.17 | |
| 2. | 3.26 | |
| 3. | 3.21 | |
| 4. | 3.10 | |
| 5. | 3.49 | |
| 6. | 3.78 | |
| 7. | 3.11 | |
| 8. | 3.24 | |
| 9. | 3.13 | |
| 10. | 3.31 | |
| 11. | 3.25 | |
| 12. | 3.55 | |
| 13. | 3.45 | |
| 14. | 3.16 | |
| 15. | 3.24 | |
| 16. | 3.44 | |
| 17. | 3.97 | |
| 18. | 3.82 | |
| 19. | 3.43 | |
| 20. | 3.22 | Avgwt:3.36 |

TABLE5:Weight variation

| SL.NO | INDIVIDUAL WEIGHT | WEIGHTDEVIATION FROM AVERAGE WEIGHT | PERCENTAGE WEIGHTDEVIATION |
|-------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | 3.17 | -0.19 | -5.65 |
| 2. | 3.26 | -0.1 | -5.65 |
| 3. | 3.21 | -0.15 | -4.46 |
| 4. | 3.10 | -0.26 | -7.73 |
| 5. | 3.49 | 0.13 | 3.86 |
| 6. | 3.78 | 0.42 | 12.5 |
| 7. | 3.11 | -0.25 | -7.44 |
| 8. | 3.24 | -0.12 | -3.57 |
| 9. | 3.13 | -0.23 | -6.84 |

| | | | |
|-----|------|-------|-------|
| 10. | 3.31 | -0.05 | -1.48 |
| 11. | 3.25 | -0.11 | -3.27 |
| 12. | 3.55 | 0.19 | 5.65 |
| 13. | 3.45 | 0.09 | 2.67 |
| 14. | 3.16 | -0.20 | -5.95 |
| 15. | 3.24 | -0.12 | 3.57 |
| 16. | 3.44 | 0.08 | 2.38 |

| | | | |
|-----|------|-------|-------|
| 17. | 3.97 | 0.61 | 18.15 |
| 18. | 3.82 | 0.46 | 13.69 |
| 19. | 3.43 | 0.07 | 2.08 |
| 20. | 3.22 | -0.14 | -4.16 |

Weightvariation=+5%

TABLE6:Friability

| CONTENT | INITIALWEIGHT(gm) | FINALWEIGHT(gm) |
|----------|-------------------|-----------------|
| lozenges | 32.8 | 31.98 |

Friabilityof10tablet=differenceininitialweight andfinalweight

$$=initialweight-finalweight$$

$$32.8-31.98=0.82$$

%friability=differenceinweight/initialweightX100

$$=0.82/32.8$$

$$0.025X100=2.5\%W/W$$

TABLE7:Hardness

| SL.NO | HARDNESS(g) | | AVG(g) |
|-------|-------------|-------|--------|
| | INITIAL | FINAL | |
| 1. | 0 | 4.4 | 4.15 |
| 2. | 0 | 4.2 | |
| 3. | 0 | 4.1 | |
| 4. | 0 | 3.9 | |
| 5. | 0 | 4.3 | |
| 6. | 0 | 4.0 | |
| 7. | 0 | 4.3 | |

| | | |
|-----|-----|-----|
| 8. | 0 | 4.2 |
| 9. | 0 | 4.1 |
| 10. | 4.0 | 4.0 |

Average hardness = 4.15 g/cm³

TABLE 8: Survey report: Average score

| SLNO | PARAMETERS | AVERAGE SCORE |
|------|--|---------------|
| 1 | Colour and acceptability | 3 |
| 2 | Taste and palatability | 4 |
| 3 | Ease of dissolution | 5 |
| 4 | Duration of action and satisfaction | 4 |
| 5 | Safety and sterility | 4 |
| 6 | Comparison with other marketed lozenges | 4 |
| 7 | Recommendation to other motion sickness patients | 3 |

DISCUSSION

Traditionally the plants *Kaempferia galanga* L, *Zingiber officinale* has got a wide application it can be used to treat emesis [motion sickness, morning sickness], glycosides, tannins, saponins, flavonoids

The physicochemical parameter of the herbal lozenges was also studied, and the result was obtained. A survey was also conducted via questionnaire among 10 volunteers for checking the

The plants were collected, identified and extracted using water and the two extracts were subjected to preliminary phytochemical studies of alkaloids, carbohydrates, steroids, proteins

anti-emetic property of lozenges. Hence the traditional use of the plants for anti-emetic activity was justified by formulating it into an herbal lozenge

CONCLUSIONS

The lozenges were developed by thorough study of herbs, followed by optimization of formulation

dosage and evaluation of qualitative and quantitative analysis by precise advanced analytical instrumental methods for assessment.

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