

Review of Furosemide Capsule Containing Liquid Crystals

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ABSTRACT: Liquid crystal, substance that blends the structures and properties of the normally disparate liquid and crystalline solid states. Liquids can flow, for example, while solids cannot, and crystalline solids possess special symmetry properties that liquids lack. Ordinary solids melt into ordinary liquids as the temperature increases—e.g., ice melts into liquid water. Some solids actually melt twice or more as temperature rises. Between the crystalline solid at low temperatures and the ordinary liquid state at high temperatures lies an intermediate state, the liquid crystal. Liquid crystals share with liquids the ability to flow but also display symmetries inherited from crystalline solids. The resulting combination of liquid and solid properties allows important applications of liquid crystals in the displays of such devices as wristwatches, calculators, portable computers, and flat-screen televisions. Nanotechnology, a term derived from the Greek word „Nano“ meaning dwarf, applies the principles of engineering, electronics, physical and material science and manufacturing at a molecular or submicron level.

Keywords: Liquid crystal, Nanotechnology, Furosemide.

I. INTRODUCTION

The well-known three states of matter are solid, liquid and gas. When cooled, gas condenses to form a liquid as you see in a warm room in winter where water vapor forms dew on glass windows cooled by the cold air outside. In the gas state, molecules are free to move around pretty much independent from each other except for occasional collisions. Molecules in the liquid state are less mobile and closer to each other. Frequent collisions between molecules make the liquid more viscous, yet it can still flow like "liquid." As the liquid is further cooled, say at the freezing point of water 0°C (32°F), it is transformed to a solid, which is rigid; water freezes to become ice at 0°C (32°F). Until two scientists in Europe, Friedrich Reinitzer and Otto Lehmann, discovered liquid crystals in the late 19th century, these three

were the only states of matter that humans have ever known.

Liquid crystal is the fourth state of matter that occurs between solid and liquid. While studying the function of cholesterol in plants, Friedrich Reinitzer, an Austrian botanist, found an unusual melting that was always accompanied by the presence of a cloudy liquid state before the clear liquid appears. This cloudy liquid is what is now known as "liquid crystal." Intrigued by this unusual observation, Reinitzer sent the sample to a renowned German crystallographer, Otto Lehmann. Through his careful observations of the melting of the substance using his state-of-the-art microscope with a gas heating stage, Lehmann was convinced that the cloudy state is truly a new state of matter that differs from solid, liquid and gas. The year 1888, in which Reinitzer found this double melting phenomenon, is officially recognized as the year of discovery of liquid crystals.

Liquid crystal, substance that blends the structures and properties of the normally disparate liquid and crystalline solid states. Liquids can flow, for example, while solids cannot, and crystalline solids possess special symmetry properties that liquids lack. Ordinary solids melt into ordinary liquids as the temperature increases—e.g., ice melts into liquid water. Some solids actually melt twice or more as temperature rises. Between the crystalline solid at low temperatures and the ordinary liquid state at high temperatures lies an intermediate state, the liquid crystal. Liquid crystals share with liquids the ability to flow but also display symmetries inherited from crystalline solids. The resulting combination of liquid and solid properties allows important applications of liquid crystals in the displays of such devices as wristwatches, calculators, portable computers, and flat-screen televisions. Nanotechnology, a term derived from the Greek word „Nano“ meaning dwarf, applies the principles of engineering, electronics, physical and material science and manufacturing at a molecular or

submicron level. One of the most attractive areas of research in drug delivery today is the design of nanosystems that are able to deliver drugs to the right place, at appropriate times and at right dosage (Motwani et al., 2007). Nanotechnology is now being broadly of applied science and technology, for manipulating the structure of matter on molecular level at an incredibly small scale between 1-100nm. Though the unifying theme of nanotechnology is manipulation of matter on atomic and molecular scale but is still not a mature technology and thus, is more appropriately called as "Nanoscience". Drugs with narrow therapeutic indices create a major challenge

for pharmaceutical scientists, during their development. Application of nanotechnological principles for the delivery of such drugs can significantly rectify this problem. Self-assembled phospholipid, sterically stabilized micelles have numerous advantages as nano drug delivery systems to improve therapeutic efficacy and reduce toxicity of drugs with narrow therapeutic indices. Liquid crystals are the state of matter existing between the liquid and the crystalline solid, characterized by the partial or complete loss of positional order in crystalline solids, while retaining the orientational order of constituent molecules as shown in Figure 1 (Omary, 2013).

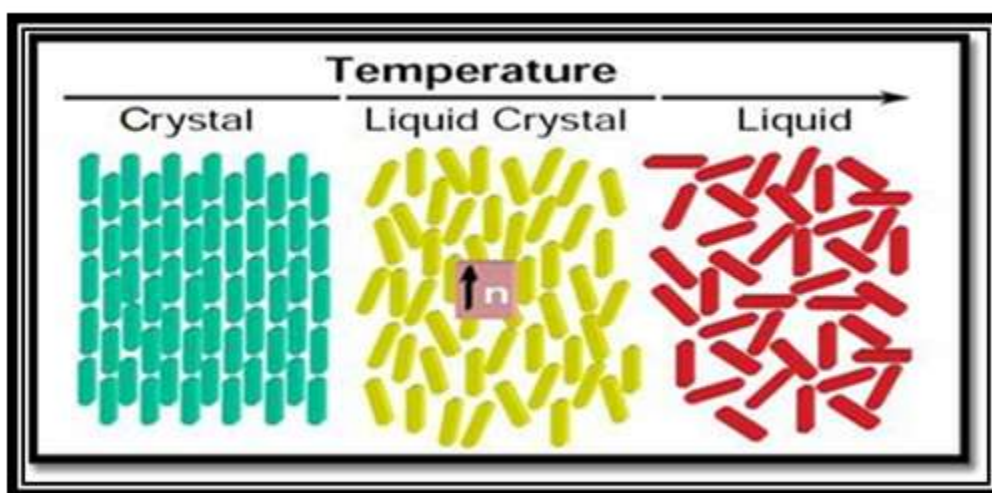


Figure 1: Arrangement of molecules in the crystalline, liquid crystalline and isotropic liquid phases.

Crystalline solid characterized by long-range positional and orientational order in three dimensions. Self-assembled amphiphilic molecules (i.e., molecules with hydrophobic and hydrophilic character) including omelipids in aqueous system is known to form a variety of liquid crystalline phases such as lamellar, inverted hexagonal, and inverted cubic phases (Lai et al., 2009). The structure of cubic phase is unique and consists of two continuous but non-intersecting water channels separated by a lipid bilayer. Based on X-ray crystallographic studies cubic phase divided into three types: the double-diamond ($Pn3m$), gyroid ($Ia3d$), and primitive ($Im3m$) phases (Chen et al., 2014). LCs system containing high concentration of amphiphilic surfactant, which exhibit three-dimensional arrangement of surfactant molecules capable of being transformed into each other in a definite sequence under certain circumstances,

are termed as lyotropic liquid crystals. Different lyotropic liquid crystalline phases include lamellar, cubic and hexagonal phase. Cubic phase contains water channels surrounded by saddle-like curved bilayer of the amphiphile extended in three dimensions. The structure is formed separates two continuous networks of water channels (Shah et al., 2005). Lipids have been widely used as main constituent in various drug delivery systems, such as liposome, solid lipid nanoparticles, nanostructure lipid carriers, and lipid based liquid crystals. Among them, lipid-based liquid crystals highly ordered, thermodynamically stable internal nanostructure, thereby offering the potential as sustained drug release matrix (Chen et al., 2014).

1. Classification of Liquid Crystals (Omray, 2013; Fongetal, 2010)

LCs are differentiated on the basis of positional order (i.e. molecule are arranged in randomly structure lattice) and orientational order (i.e. molecule are mostly pointed in the same direction). Moreover order can be either short-range (only between the molecule to each other) or long-range (extending to larger, sometimes macroscopic). LCs mainly classified as Lyotropic (LLCs) and Thermotropic (TLCs), physicochemical parameters responsible for the phase transitions (Omray, 2013; Fongetal., 2010) classification of liquid crystals are as following:

i) Lyotropic liquid crystals,

- Lamellar LCs
- Hexagonal LCs
- Cubic LCs

ii) Thermotropic liquid crystals

- Smectic liquid crystal
- Nematic liquid crystal
- Cholesteric liquid crystals
- Discotic liquid crystals

1.1 Lyotropic liquid crystal

LLCs (Lyotropic liquid crystals) systems are composed of rod like micelles, and which shows along-range orientational order with respect to symmetry axis of the micelle, but no long-range positional order. The three main types of LCs are characterized as being lamellar,

hexagonal and cubic. LLCs (Lyotropic liquid crystals) can be formed by certain amphiphilic molecules in the presence of solvents; they are classifying as follows;

- Lamellar LCs
- Hexagonal LCs
- Cubic LCs

1.1.1 Structure of Lamellar, Hexagonal and Cubic LCs

Lamellar LCs known as lamellar mesophase, for hexagonal LCs known as hexagonal mesophase and cubic LCs known as reverse cubic mesophase, in structure of reverse hexagonal mesophase and cubic mesophase which existing into the three macroscopic forms are typically encountered: bulk gel and particulate dispersion.

a) Lamellar LCs

Lamellar mesophase is generally having bilayer structure as repetition unit, and which shows long-range positional order in one dimension and long-range orientational order within the layer as shown in Figure 2. If the surfactant concentration of a hexagonal phase is increased above a certain threshold, a sharp decrease in the viscosity of the system can be observed generally.

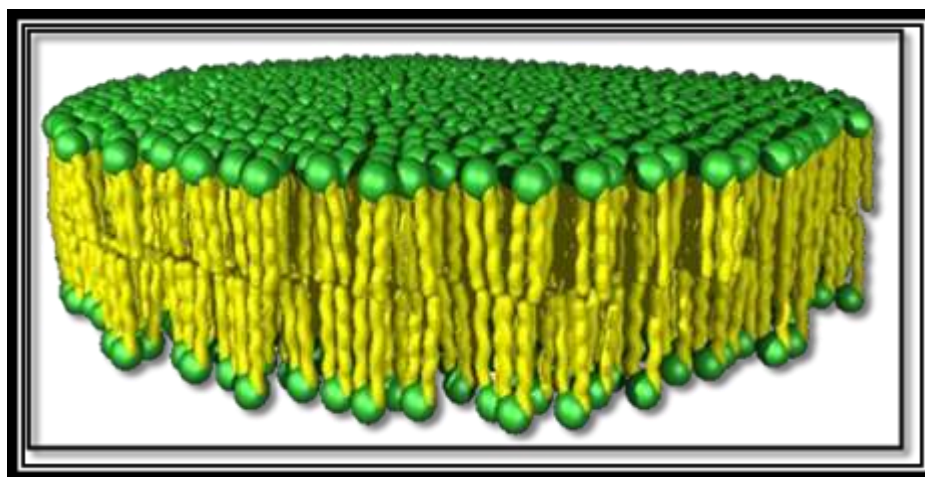


Figure 2: Lamellar mesophase

Opening with the crystalline state, the meso phase is reached either by increasing the temperature or by adding a solvent. Accordingly, the thermotropic or lyotropic liquid crystals form as with the thermotropic liquid crystals, variation in temperature can also cause a phase transformation between different mesophases of lyotropic liquid crystals. Lyotropic liquid crystals arise from mesogens that are not the molecules themselves but their hydrates or solvates as well as associates of hydrated or solvated molecules. Water or a mixture of water and organic solvent are the most important solvents for drug molecules, and the degree of hydration or solvation depends on the amphiphilic properties of a drug molecule. Hydration or solvation of a mostly rod-shaped molecule results in different geometries, i.e. cone or cylinder. Cylinders arrange in layers. This results in a lamellar phase with alternating polar and nonpolar layers. Water and aqueous drug solutions can be included in the polar layers, resulting in an increase in layer thickness. Molecules with appropriate affinity can be included in the nonpolar layers. In addition to the increased layer thickness of the lamellar phase, lateral inclusion between molecules is also possible with an increase in the solvent concentration, which transforms the rod shape of the solvated molecules to a cone shape. This leads to a phase change. Depending on the polarity of the solvating agent and the molecule itself, the transition results in a hexagonal or inverse hexagonal phase. Lamellar liquid crystals identify by polarize light microscope and optical microscope. This lamellar structure is considered to be one-dimensional as there is only one parameter that can be quantified, that of the repeat distance between the bilayers. The layers can slide over each other readily; their movement is restricted

only in perpendicular direction to the plane of the layers. This property explains the low viscosity of lamellar phase compared to the hexagonal arrangement. In a fluid lamellar phase (L_α), which is the least ordered of the lamellar phases, movement within the bilayer is not restrained as the alkyl chains are melted and fluid-like. The hydrocarbon tails are thus able to twist about with movement driven by trans-gauche isomerization. Collisions with neighbouring molecules then occur as the molecules are able to undergo rapid rotational and translational motions as well as thermally activated lateral diffusion in the bilayer. Lyotropic liquid crystal (LLC) systems that commonly consist of amphiphilic molecules and solvents can be classified into lamellar (L_α), cubic, hexagonal mesophases, and so on. In recent years, LLC systems have received considerable attention because of their excellent potential as drug vehicles. Among these systems, reversed cubic (Q_2) and hexagonal mesophases (H_2) are the most important and have been extensively investigated for their ability to sustain the release of a wide range of bioactive from low molecular weight drugs to proteins, peptides and nucleic acids (Mohammad et al., 2014). Reversed cubic and hexagonal mesophases are often formed by polar lipids in an aqueous environment. The structure-forming lipids can absorb a certain amount of water and then spontaneously form gel-like phases with unique internal structures, into which drugs can be incorporated. Lamellar phases other than the fluid case arise: a crystalline (LC), and a gel type (L_β) occur with the latter appearing at a temperature lower than that of the L_α but higher than that of the LCs. The structures of lamellar phases are summarized in Figure 3

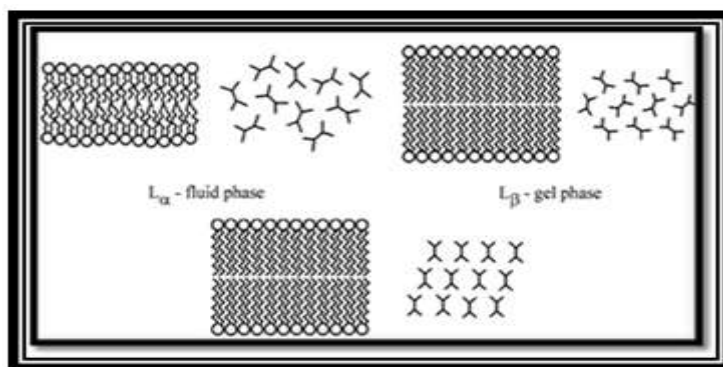


Figure 3: Schematic representation of the three main types of lamellar phases

b) Hexagonal LCs

Hexagonal liquid crystals show long-range positional order in two dimensions. Both the lamellar and hexagonal LCs can be identified

using polarized light microscopy as they exhibit a range of textures that are typical for the corresponding LCs. They also have known as middle phase as shown in Figure 4 (Omary, 2013).

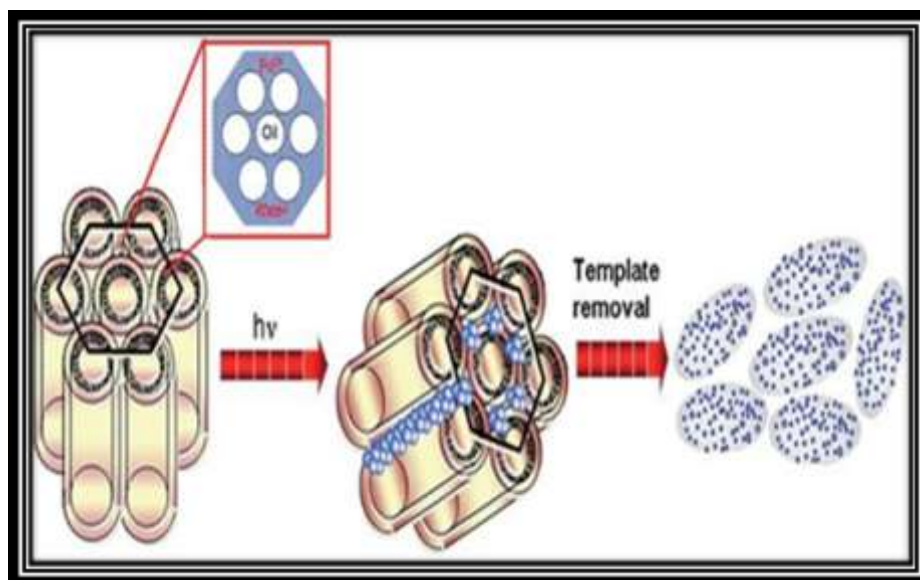


Figure 4: Schematic representation of hexagonal mesophase

The liquid crystalline matrices possess distinct lipidic and aqueous domains, and may exhibit a number of well-defined geometric arrangements depending on the chemical structure of the lipid, the aqueous content of the system, the presence of other additives, and solution conditions such as pH, temperature and pressure. Most often this arrangement consists of lamellar bilayer structures, but for a relatively small subset of lipids, they exhibit phase structures that may include the viscous reverse hexagonal phase (HII) or bicontinuous cubic phase (Q) (Boyd J. et al., 2006).

Figure 4 shows hexagonal liquid crystals are often spontaneously formed by the addition of certain amphiphilic lipids in an aqueous environment. When hexagonal mesophase dispersed into nanoparticles with excess water with an addition of stabilizers such as pluronic copolymers and they form stable colloidal dispersions which are termed hexosomes either cubosomes (Chen Y. et al., 2014). The hexagonal mesophases composed of glycerate-based surfactants such as oleyl glycerate (OG) and phytanyl glycerate (PG) have shown great potential for drug delivery (Boyd J. et al., 2006). Hexosomes are colloidal stabilizers by using the tri-block copolymer Pluronic® F127 and F68. Non-ionic

steric stabilizers have been most often employed for the stabilization of the dispersion, as ionic stabilizers typically disrupt the internal nanostructure. A number of stabilizers have been used in an attempt to create stable liquid crystalline dispersions such as beta casein, polyethylene glycol, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose acetate succinate, etc.

- In Figure 5b seen, hydrophilic drugs will be entrapped in the internal water domain, whereas lipophilic drugs will be located within the lipid domain and amphiphilic drugs in the interface.
- Preparation methods for reversed cubic and hexagonal Mesophases As a rule, cubic and hexagonal gels can be prepared more easily than their dispersions. For example, liquid crystal gels could be prepared by simply blending aqueous phase with lipid phase using vortex or ultrasonication (Boyd et al 2006). The manufacture of cubosomes or hexosomes is more complicated, however; therefore, we mainly concentrate on the preparation methods of LLC nanoparticles.
- Reverse hexagonal mesophases (HII) are characterized by densely packed, straight water-filled cylinders, exhibiting 2-

Dordering. Each cylinder is surrounded by a layer of surfactant molecules that are perpendicular to the cylinder interfaces such that their hydrophobic moieties point outward from the water rods.

- There is a growing indication that inverse hexagonal mesophases play structural and dynamic roles in biological systems. These systems are assumed to be active as transient intermediates in biological phenomena that require topological rearrangements of lipid bilayers such as membrane fusion/fission and the trans-

bilayer transport of lipids and polar solutes.

- The effective critical packing parameter (CPP) theory can supply a reasonable explanation to the temperature-induced structural shifts from lamellar to through cubic to reverse hexagonal phases, requiring greater curvature than in the lamellar phase. Increasing the thermal motion of both the hydrocarbon chains and the water molecules would increase the CPP values via expanding the volume of the lipophilic moiety, but decreasing the chain length and the head group area.

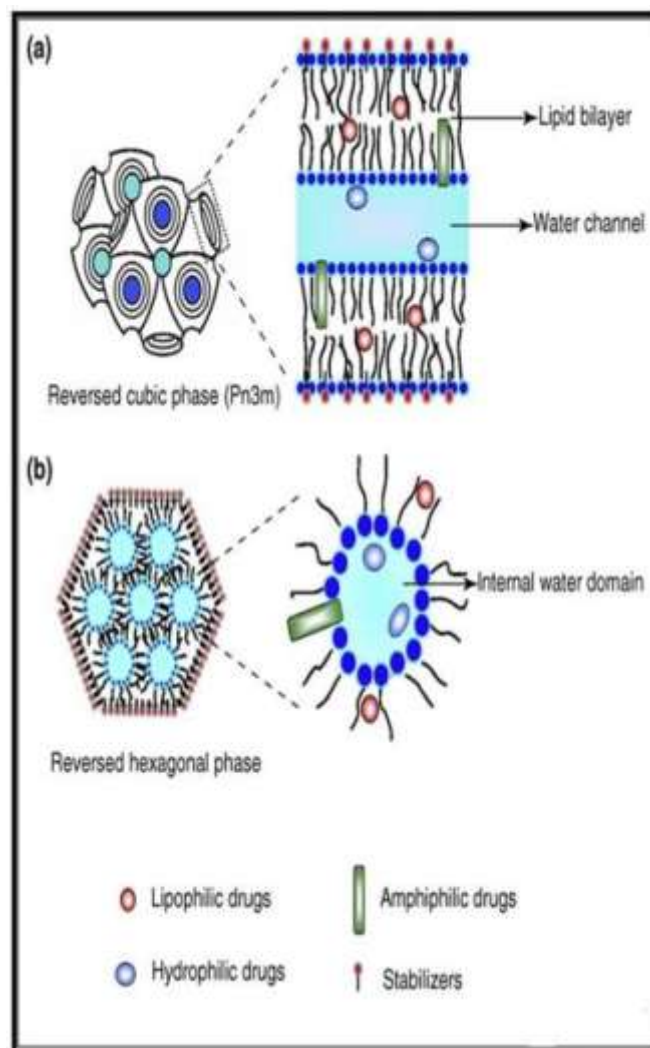


Figure 5: Structures of (a) reversed bicontinuous cubic and (b) hexagonal Mesophases.

- In addition, the hexagonal mesophase is characterized by greater packing cost than the cubic phase, but the opposite is true for

curvature elastic energy. Therefore, elevated temperatures induced the tendency for interfacial curvature,

which increased the curvature elastic costs of the bicontinuous cubic phase, stabilizing hexagonal symmetry.

➤ Systematic research was conducted in our laboratory to decrease the cubic to hexagonal temperature transition and stabilize the heglyceryl monooleate-based HII (reverse hexagonal) mesophase at

room temperature (Libster et al., 2011).

c) Cubic LCs

Figure 6 describes the cubic form of LCs. Cubic LCs mainly show long-range positional order in three dimensions.

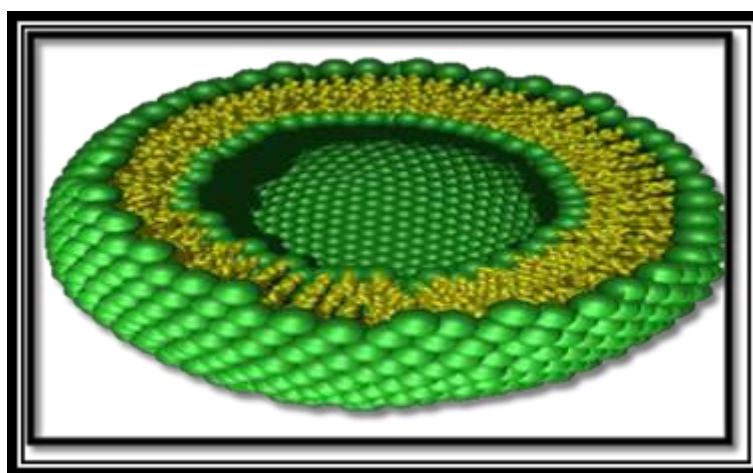


Figure 6: Cubic liquid crystals (Cubosome)

Generally these liquid crystals having cubic packing of the micelles and can not be identified using polarized light microscopy. Cubic LCs are highly viscous and have poor flowing property as compared to lamellar and hexagonal LCs (Shah et al., 2005; Omray, 2013). The structure of cubic mesophases is unique and comprises a curved bicontinuous lipid bilayer (with an estimated thickness of 3.5 nm) extending in three dimensions and two interpenetrating, but non-contacting, aqueous nano-channels (with a full swollen diameter of approximately 5 nm), with a high interfacial area of 400 m²/g (Yaghmur et al., 2009; Guo et al., 2010).

- Cubic phase have been shown to improve the transdermal or topical delivery of relatively small molecules such as nicotine, acyclovir, salbutamol and aminolevulinic acid.
- Cubic liquid crystals are highly viscous but not injectable, cubic phase with sustained release properties form from unsaturated monoglyceride in contact with aqueous phase.
- The bulk phase is commonly a clear, viscous, semi solid gel that is similar in

appearance and rheology to cross-linked polymer hydrogel (Guo et al., 2010; Spicer et al., 2001).

- Bicontinuous cubic phases are optically isotropic, very viscous, and solid like liquid crystals with cubic crystallographic symmetry. Prior to their structural characterization, these phases were termed "viscous isotropic phases" and considered quite a nuisance in industrial processes (Spicer et al., 2005).
- X-ray crystallographic studies, three distinct reversed bicontinuous cubic phases can be identified: the double-diamond lattice (Pn3m, Q224), the body-centered cubic phase (Im3m, Q229) and the gyroid lattice (Ia3d, Q230) (Shah et al., 2001)
- Small-angle X-ray scattering was crucial to the discovery and structural characterization of bulk cubic phases, cryo-transmission electron microscopy, or cryo-TEM, has been central to studies of cubosome dispersions (Spicer et al., 2005).

1.2 Thermotropic liquid crystals (TLCs)

Thermotropic LCs formed by heating alone crystalline substance and does not require of solvent for their formation, thermotropic liquid

crystals unlike lyotropic mesophases. TLCs (Thermotropic liquid crystals) can be formed by heating a crystalline solid or by cooling an isotropic melt, they can further as;

- a. Smectic liquid crystal
- b. Nematic liquid crystal
- c. Cholesteric liquid crystals
- d. Discotic liquid crystals

a) Smectic LCs

- Smectic is derived from Greek meaning grease or clay.
- The long axes of all molecules in a given layer are parallel

to one another and perpendicular to the plane of layers.

- The layers are free to slip and travel over each other.
- The smectic state is viscous.

b) Nematic LCs

- Nematic is derived from Greek meaning thread-like.
- It can determine under the polarized light microscope.
- Nematic LCs are not extremely ordered, they maintain their parallel order.
- It generally used in electronic display is primarily a nematic type.
- LCs show anisotropic physical characteristics.

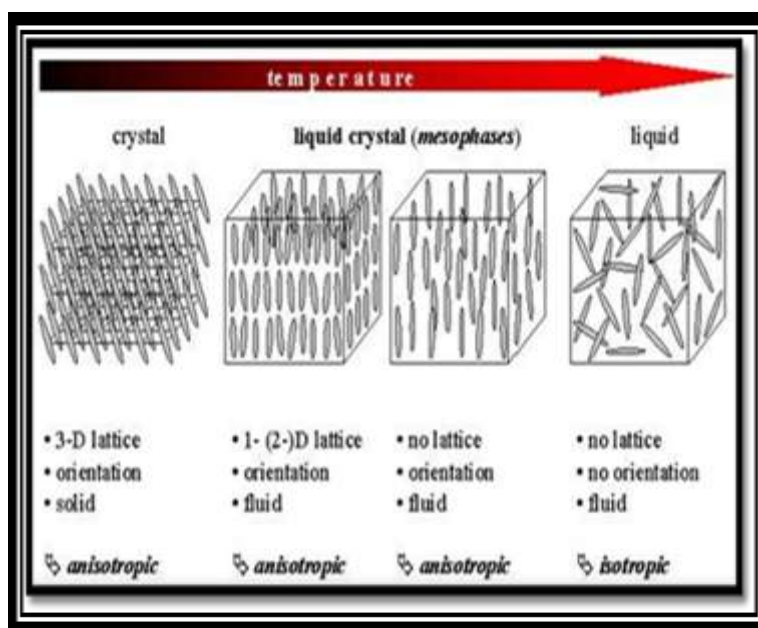


Figure 7: Position and orientational order of liquid crystal

c) Cholesteric LCs

- Cholesteric LC arrangement is a combination of nematic and smectic
- The molecules in cholesteric LCs are arranged in layers and within each layer, molecules are aligned

parallel.

- The molecular layers in a cholesteric LC are very thin, with long axes of the molecules analogous to the plane of the layers.

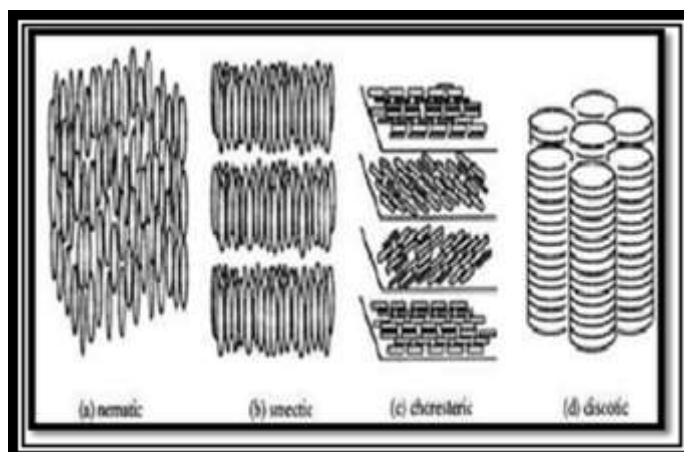


Figure 8: Thermotropic liquid crystal phases

1.3 Method of preparation of LCs (Guo C. et al., 2010).

(a) Top-down approach

This approach was primarily reported by (Ljusberg-Wahren et al., 1996). The extreme viscous bulk phase is prepared by mixing structure-forming lipids with stabilizers, and then the resultant is dispersed into aqueous solution through the input of high energy such as high-pressure homogenization (HPH), sonication or shearing to form LLC nanoparticles. At present, HPH is the most extensively used technique in the preparation of LLC nanoparticles (Spicer et al., 2005).

Worle et al. 2007; investigated the parameters influencing the properties of glyceryl monooleate (GMO)-based cubosomes. Based on the results observed, the concentration of F127 and temperature during HPH were regarded as crucially important parameters. Recently, a novel approach of shearing was proposed to fabricate LLC nanoparticles using a laboratory built-Shearing apparatus. Compared with the well-established ultrasonication approach, the shearing treatment could effectively prepare more stable and homogeneous cubosomes or hexosomes with high content of the hydrophobic phase (oil + lipophilic additives) within a short time (less than one minute). It seems that the preparation procedure is simple enough to be realized conveniently. In fact, the operation units in this procedure require several cycles to achieve the desired

Nanoparticles with appropriate characteristics and the high-energy input is also regarded as a barrier to the temperature sensitive ingredients (Spicer et al., 2005). In addition, the cubosomes prepared through top-down approach are always observed to coexist with vesicles (dispersed nanoparticles of lamellar liquid crystalline phase) or vesicle-like structures, which will hamper the investigations on plain cubic mesophases.

Advantages:

- 1) Lower impact to overall organization.
- 2) Visibility of formulation changes is clear.
- 3) No need of organic solvent.
- 4) Simple method as compared to other methods such as spray drying.

Disadvantages:

- 1) Solution provides limited coverage in the first phase.
- 2) High energy input required.
- 3) Time consuming process.

(b) Bottom-up approach

The key factor in the bottom-up approach is hydrotrope, which can dissolve water-insoluble lipids to create liquid precursors and prevent the formation of liquid crystals at high concentration (Mezzenga et al., 2005). Compared with the top-down approach, this dilution-based approach can produce cubosomes without laborious fragmentation. In other words, it needs less energy input. Moreover, this approach is far more efficient at generating small particles. The reason for

this might relate to the forming mechanism of cubosomes. The dilution-based approach can be regarded as a process of small particles forming big particles through aggregation, which is analogous to the use of precipitation processes to produce nanoparticles, whereas the top-down approach is more analogous to the attrition of big particles. In addition, cubosomes prepared through dilutions show long-term stability, which might be attributed to the

homodisperse stabilizers onto the surface of cubosomes (Spicer et al., 2005). Indeed, the use of hydrotrope can simplify the preparation process and produce cubosomes possessing similar or even better properties than those fabricated by the top-down approach. It should be noted, however, that this process via dilution is a pathway by charting trajectories on the ternary phase diagram (lipid and water hydrotrope), which

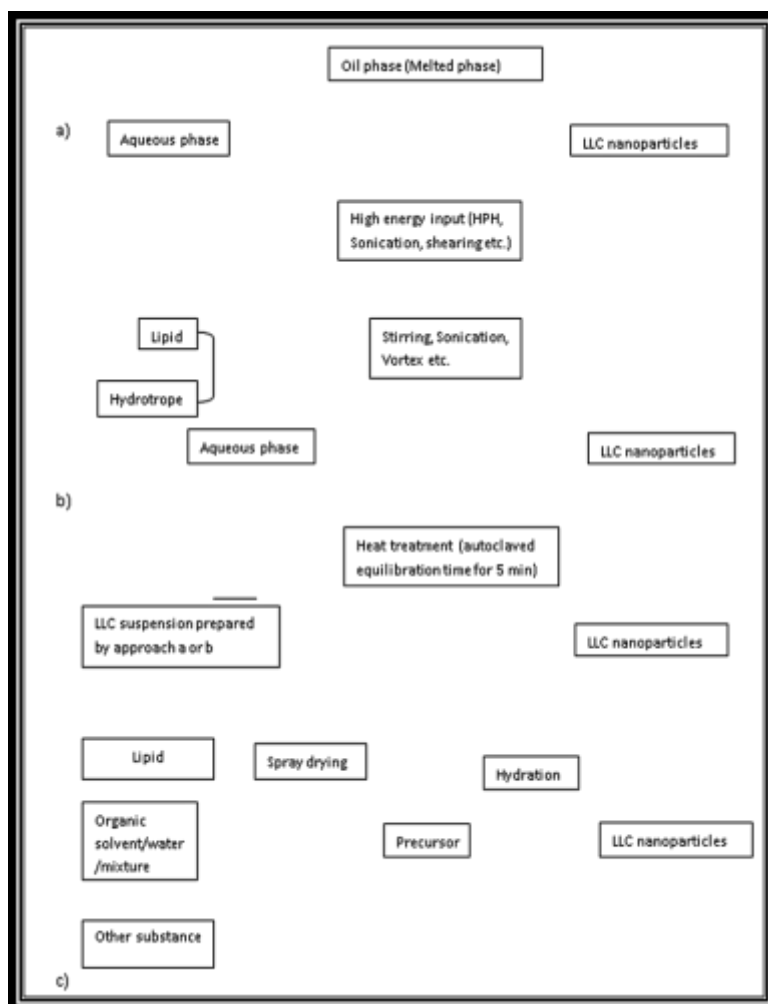


Figure 9: Schematic diagram of preparation method for cubosome or hexosomes according to the literature (a) Top-down approach (b) Bottom-up approach (c) Heat treatment (d) Spray drying

requires knowledge of the full phase behavior; hence, the extent of dilution is difficult to control precisely. Owing to the addition of hydrotrope, many issues arise, such as the effects exerted by varying concentrations of hydrotrope on the physicochemical properties of LLC nanoparticles and the possible

occurrence of irritation and allergic response when the mesophase formulations are administered. Finally, this bottom-up approach cannot effectively avoid forming vesicles. Through cryo-TEM, many vesicles and vesicle-like structures were also observed to coexist with cubosomes.

Advantages:

- 1) Lower energy input.
- 2) Less time consuming process.
- 3) At high concentration prevent the formation of L Cs.
- 4) Noneed the organic solvent

Disadvantages:

- 1) Milky white formulation formed.
- 2) Hydrotrop which shows allergic reaction when the mesophase formulation administered orally

(c) Heat treatment

The coexistence of cubosomes with vesicles is speculated to provide multiphase manipulation of the sustained release of drugs; hence, to better investigate the release behavior of plain mesophases, vesicles should be eliminated as much as possible. In this case, heat treatment can be regarded as a good approach. Note that in the strictest sense, heat treatment is not an integrated process for the manufacture of cubosomes because it only promotes the transformation from non-cubic vesicles to well-ordered cubic particles. The dispersed particles, therefore, can be produced by a simple processing scheme comprising a homogenization and heat-treatment step. From the reported studies, heat treatment could cause a decrease in the small particle size fraction that corresponded to vesicles and form more cubic phases with narrow particle distribution and good colloidal stability (Worle et al., 2007).

Taking the whole process of preparation into account, it is obvious that the transition takes place during the procedure of heat treatment. The reason for transition could be speculated as an elevated temperature giving rise to a reduction in solubility and stability. When the temperature was below cloud point, the surfactant had a high solubility and thus the particles could exist stably and the phenomenon of fusion was hardly observed. Once reaching cloud point, the solubility of surfactant decreased notably and a notable fast fusion among vesicles would occur. Although masses of vesicles can transform to cubic nanoparticles through heat treatment, it does not mean that all the LLC systems are suitable for this procedure in particular, the systems loading drugs that cannot provide

sufficient stability under the condition of high temperature (usually above 120°C), such as some proteins and temperature-sensitive drugs are not suitable.

Advantages:

1. It produced good colloidal dispersion.
2. It can reduce particle size.

Disadvantages:

1. Degradation of the thermosensitive substance due to formation of aggregate.
2. Reduction of stability of formulation.

(d) Spray drying

To widen the applications of cubosomes in pharmaceutical field, dry powder precursors can be fabricated by spray drying and used for the preparation of oral solid formulations and inhalants. This approach was originally proposed and investigated by Spicer et al. (Spicer et al., 2002). In his research, the powder precursor could be prepared through drying a pre-dispersed aqueous solution that consisted of GMO, hydrophobically modified starch and water or contained GMO, dextran, ethanol and water, and then the colloidal stable dispersions of nano-structured cubosomes could be created by hydration of the precursors. Afterward (Shah et al., 2005) prepared GMO based cubosome precursor containing diclofenac sodium through spray drying.

The precursor was proven to have more effective and prolonged anti-inflammatory and analgesic activity than pure drug when administered orally; it is noteworthy, however, that residual solvent content is still a problem that cannot be ignored.

Advantages:

1. Spray drying technique is useful for powder formulations such as DPI (Dry powder inhaler, dry syrup).
2. This technique used for microencapsulation.
3. Organic solvent can use in this method.

Disadvantages:

1. From this method has low yield of formulation as 5-30% out of 100%.
2. Spray drying method is complicated as compared to other method.

(e) Ultrasonication/Probesonication

High shear homogenization and ultrasound are dispersing techniques which were

initially used for the production of solid lipid nanodispersion. However, its quality is compromised by the presence of microparticles. A pre-emulsion was obtained under stirring with an Ultra-Turrax T25 by adding melted lipid to a mixture of surfactants and water. A sonication probe was placed in this pre-emulsion which led to droplet breakage by acoustic cavitations and subsequent formation of oil in water (o/w) nanoemulsion which immediately cooled down to room temperature to generate liquid crystals (Muller et al., 2010).

Advantages

1. Both methods are widespread and easy to handle
2. Equipments whatever used here are very common in every lab
3. Reduced shear stress

Disadvantages

1. Potential metal contamination
2. Physical instability like particle growth upon storage

1.6 Application of liquid crystal system (Boyd et al., 2007):

Therapeutic compounds of diverse physico-chemical properties such as analgesic, antibiotics, antifungal, anticancer, vitamins, antiasthmatics, immunosuppressive etc. monoglyceride based cubosome dispersion can be proposed for topical use, such as for pre-cutaneous or mucosal applications. Because of the microbicidal properties of monoglycerides, could be used to design intravaginal treatment of sexually transmitted diseases caused by viruses (e.g. HSV, HIV) or by bacteria (e.g. Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae). The cubosome technology is used to develop a synthetic venix the chessy white substance that coats infants in late gestation to help premature infants who are born without it. Evrenix is a complex mixture of lipid (fat), proteins and water. Cubosome can also be used for controlled release application. Cubosome particles are used as oil water emulsion stabilizers and pollutant absorbants in cosmetics. More recent use is about personal care product areas as varied as skin care, hair care, cosmetics and antiperspirant.

1) Oral administration

The oral bioavailability of a poorly water-soluble drug, cinnarizine, incorporated in

different types of LLC phases. Through animal experiments, the OG-based hexagonal formulation showed a considerably higher relative bioavailability that was almost 3.5 times greater than that of the control suspension of cinnarizine and 3 times greater than the GMO-based cubic formulation. The oral administration of drugs incorporated into LLC nanoparticles has also been reported, prepared GMO-based cubosomes containing insulin and investigated the hypoglycemic effect generated by oral administration of this formulation. The blood glucose concentration-time profile showed that the insulin formulation could provide a hypoglycemic effect comparable to intravenous administration of insulin over six hours. Simvastatin incorporated in GMO-based cubosomes was administered orally and the relative bioavailability to the control drug crystal powder was 241%. Moreover, the cubosomes showed sustained release of simvastatin over 12 h in beagle dogs. The author presumed that the mechanism of enhanced bioavailability might be related to the hydrophilic surface of cubosomes, which stimulated the permeation through the stagnant aqueous layer of the intestinal mucosa.

2) Topical Administration

Topical drug delivery is an attractive alternative to oral administration. Its main drawback is the limited absorption of drugs through the skin barrier, and investigations on topical drug uptake are necessary to facilitate the design of efficient topical drug delivery systems. At present, stratum corneum (SC) is considered to be the rate-limiting barrier in transdermal drug delivery. Many studies have shown that cubic and hexagonal mesophase formulations are capable of penetrating through SC and becoming candidates for topical drug delivery systems. Cyclosporine A incorporated in hexosomes comprising GMO, oleic acid and water was reported to be capable of enhancing drug permeation when applied topically. There are several natural characteristics that there reversed cubic and hexagonal phases present to make them suitable for topical drug delivery:

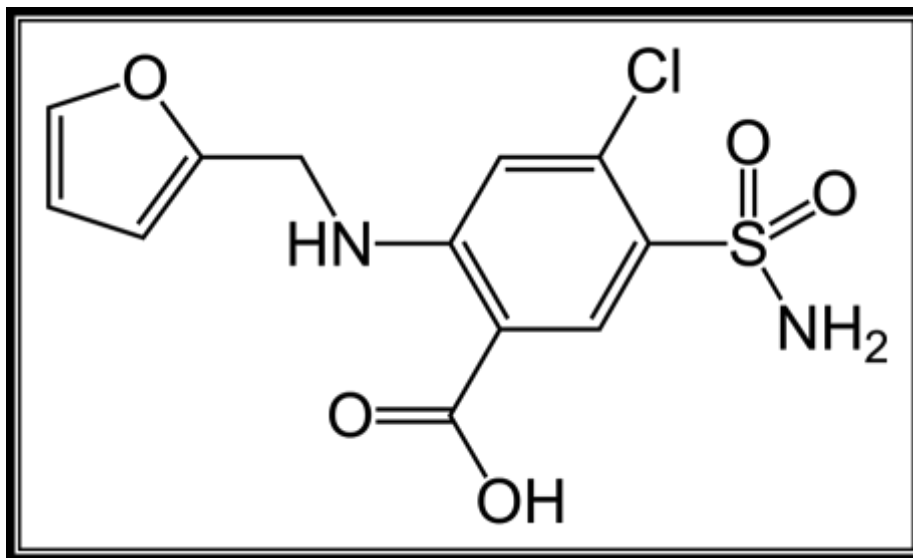
- I. Sustained release of drugs incorporated,
- II. Bioadhesive properties,
- III. Solubilization of hydrophilic and lipophilic drugs and protecting them from physical and enzymatic degradation, and

IV. ThenontoxicpermeationenhancersGMOandP
Tasstructureformingmaterials.

2.1 Furosemide

II. DRUG PROFILE

2.1.2 Chemical Structure



2.1.3 Chemical Formula-C₁₂H₁₁ClN₂O₅S

2.1.4 Weight Average: 330.744 Monoisotopic:
330.007719869

2.1.5 Indication

Furosemide is indicated for the treatment of edema associated with congestive heart failure, cirrhosis of the liver, and renal disease, including the nephrotic syndrome, in adults and pediatric patients. Oral furosemide is indicated alone for the management of mild to moderate

hypertension or severe hypertension in combination with other antihypertensive medications.

Intravenous furosemide is indicated as adjunctive therapy in acute pulmonary edema when a rapid onset of diuresis is desired. Subcutaneous furosemide is indicated for the treatment of congestion due to fluid overload in adults with NYHA Class II/III chronic heart failure. This drug formulation is not indicated for emergency situations or in patients with acute pulmonary edema

2.1.6 Pharmacodynamics

Furosemide manages hypertension and edema associated with congestive heart failure, cirrhosis, and renal disease, including the nephrotic syndrome. Furosemide is a potent loop

Furosemide is a loop diuretic used to treat hypertension and edema in congestive heart failure, liver cirrhosis, renal disease, and hypertension.

diuretic that works to increase the excretion of Na⁺ and water by the kidneys by inhibiting their reabsorption from the proximal and distal tubules, as well as the loop of Henle.⁹ It works directly on the cells of the nephron and indirectly modifies the content of the renal filtrate.⁸ Ultimately, furosemide increases the urine output by the kidney. Protein-bound furosemide is delivered to its site of action in the kidneys and secreted via active secretion by nonspecific organic transporter expressed at the luminal site of action. Following oral administration, the onset of the diuretic effect is about 1 and 1.5 hours⁹, and the peak effect is reached within the first 2 hours.¹⁰ The duration of effect following oral administration is about 4-6 hours but may last up to 8 hours.¹² Following intravenous administration, the onset of effect is within 5 minutes, and the peak effect is reached within 30 minutes. The duration of action following intravenous administration is approximately 2 hours. Following intramuscular administration, the onset of action is somewhat delayed.

2.1.7 Mechanism of action

Furosemide promotes diuresis by

blocking tubular reabsorption of sodium and chloride in the proximal and distal tubules, as well as in the thick ascending loop of Henle. This diuretic effect is achieved through the competitive inhibition of sodium-potassium-chloride cotransporters (NKCC2) expressed along these tubules in the nephron, preventing the transport of sodium ions from the luminal side into the basolateral side for reabsorption. This inhibition results in increased excretion of water along with sodium, chloride, magnesium, calcium, hydrogen, and potassium ions. Like other loop diuretics, furosemide decreases the excretion of uric acid.

Furosemide exerts direct vasodilatory effects, which results in its therapeutic effectiveness in the treatment of acute pulmonary edema. Vasodilation leads to reduced responsiveness to vasoconstrictors, such as angiotensin II and noradrenaline, and decreased production of endogenous natriuretic hormones with vasoconstricting properties. It also leads to increased production of prostaglandins with vasodilating properties. Furosemide may also open potassium channels in resistance arteries.⁸ The main mechanism of action of furosemide is independent of its inhibitory effect on carbonic anhydrase and aldosterone.

2.1.8 Absorption

Following oral administration, furosemide is absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract.¹² It displays variable bioavailability from oral dosage forms, ranging from 10 to 90%. The oral bioavailability of furosemide from oral tablets or oral solution is about 64% and 60%, respectively, of that from an intravenous injection of the drug.

2.1.9 Metabolism

The metabolism of furosemide occurs mainly in the kidneys and the liver, to a smaller extent. The kidneys are responsible for about 85% of total furosemide total clearance, where about 40% involves biotransformation.⁵ Two major metabolites of furosemide are furosemide glucuronide, which is pharmacologically active, and saluamine (CSA) or 4-chloro-5-sulfamoylanthranilic acid.

2.1.10 Route of elimination

The kidneys are responsible for 85% of total furosemide total clearance, where about 43% of the drug undergoes renal excretion. Significantly more furo-

semide is excreted in urine following the I.V. injection than after the tablet or oral solution. Approximately 50% of the furosemide load is excreted unchanged in urine, and the rest is metabolized into glucuronide in the kidney.

III. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Primary objective of liquid crystals drug delivery system is to ensure safety and to improve efficacy of drug as well as patient compliance, which can be achieved by better control of less frequent dosing. Liquid crystalline drug delivery is very important to use minimum number of excipient with minimum processing steps in order to reduce the particle size and drug entrapment variation, hence high pressure homogenizer is the most suitable technique. Furosemide is treated hypertension and renal disease, which is pale yellow, crystalline powder having 3-4 hrs half-life to BCS class IV. The drug having high dose of frequency, and having poor dissolution rate from its oral solid dosage forms.

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