

in vitro

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Formulation of methotrexate topical formulation (gel) and evaluation of its in vitro transdermal absorptionJavadzadeh Y.^{1,2*}, Siahi M. R.,¹ Rajabi Z., Keivan I., Asnaashari O.³, Safdari R.²¹School of Pharmacy, Tabriz University of Medical sciences; ²Drug Applied Research Center, Tabriz University of Medical sciences, Radiotherapy department, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences

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Objectives: Psoriasis is a chronic, recurrent disease that affects between 1% and 6% of the population. Methotrexate (MTX) is an effective systemic chemotherapeutic agent for the treatment of psoriasis and possibly cutaneous lymphoma (CTCL). However the risk of hepatic fibrosis and other systemic toxicity, such as bone marrow suppression, has precluded its use in all but the most severe cases of these diseases. In considering the potential severe toxicity associated with systemic administration of MTX, a topical formulation might be of greater utility for the treatment of psoriasis and other hyperproliferative skin disorders. One of the presumed reasons for the lack of clinical activity of topical methotrexate in psoriasis is insufficient percutaneous penetration necessary to inhibit epidermal DNA synthesis. The present study was undertaken to prepare a formulation to optimize penetration of MTX in vitro. **Methods:** For this mean, several gel formulations were prepared and investigated in the case of stability and physical characteristics. Among them three formulations were selected for percutaneous absorption studies using rat skin and standard Franz diffusion cells. Assay of drug was done using HPLC method. For enhancing percutaneous absorption, three penetration enhancers were added to the bases formulation with different concentrations. Among the evaluated formulations, the best one from view point of having better penetration profile was selected and the effect of various enhancers on penetration profile investigated. For this mean three surfactants (anionic, cationic and nonionic) were incorporated into formulations with different concentrations. Finally salicylic acid as a keratolytic material was added for more enhancement effect. **Results:** The results showed that SLS (sodium lauryl sulphate) and alkyl benzyl dimethyl chloride had not any significant enhancement property on penetration of MTX. Lower ability of these surfactants on drug penetration through the skin probably aroused from drug enhancer complexation and formation of micells with low penetration ability containing the drug molecules. Transcutol P was able to enhance transdermal absorption of MTX and the higher enhancement ratio was obtained with 2% (w/w) concentration of transcutol P. Adding of salicylic acid increased this ratio. Better penetration profile was shown with increasing of salicylic acid concentration. **Conclusion:** prepared formulation containing transcutol p 2% (w/w) and salicylic acid 6% (w/w) had higher enhancement property and could be used clinically for local treatment of psoriasis.

Key words: Methotrexate, Percutaneous absorption, Psoriasis, Enhancer, Formualtion.

(MTX)

:

DNA

in vitro

MTX

HPLC

P

SLS

P

(w/w) %

P

(w/w)%

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DNA

DNA

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(.)

(.)

DNA

(.)

(T-cell)

/
()

(C10MSO)

()

(.)

rat	in vitro	(.)	MTX	DNA
	()			
	(Fermian - Finland)	-		
		-		
	HPLC			UV
	(Merck - Germany)			
	(B- F Goodrich)	-		()
	(Transcutol - Gattefosse - France) P	-		()
	(Sigma - USA)	-		
	mg	-	()	
	(EBEWE , pharma Ges. M.b. H Austria)	-		
	(GREASIL 4000 limited - Eu, England)		()	
	(Merck - Germany)			
	HPLC	-		
	(VP - Shimadzu , Japan) UV	-		
	(Germany) Sartorius BL - 310	-		
	(Janke & Kunkel IKA . Werk , Germany)	-		Azon
	(Erweka HDTC , VARIOMAG® , Germany)	-		
	(Ultrasonic 35, LTARRE, Italy)	-		

ml (Velp , Italy) -

ml (Moser , Germany) -

...

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HPLC HPLC

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P P /

P % % % /

(SLS)

SLS /

% / %

SLS :

SLS %

:

()

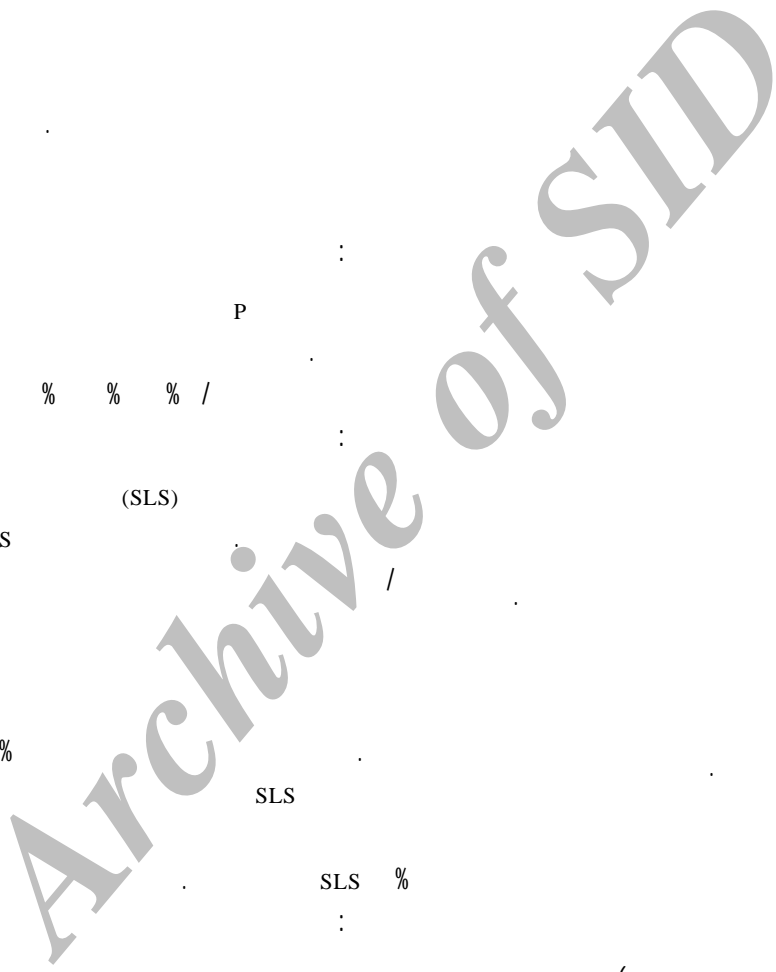
pH (...)

:

% /

%

(1000 mg/10ml)



:
)
 () ()
 / cm^3 (Diffusion Cells Franz)

rpm
 = /) / ml
 / g (pH ()
)
 ()
 () % %
 % %
 %

HPLC
 (Full Thickness)
 Shimadzu VP : HPLC
 mm Shimadzu C_{18} VP - ODS :
 μm / *
) :
 / (Moser)
 / pH ()
 / :

$$C_m = C_{on} + \frac{v}{V} \sum_{n=1}^{n=1} C_{on}$$

: V () ()
 t : C_{in}

: C_{on}

= V

F11 F7 F2

MTX

(Q_t)
:()

$$\frac{Q_t}{A} = KLC_0 \left[\frac{D_t}{L^2} - \frac{1}{6} \right] \quad ()$$

salting out

C_0

A

F7 F2

(diffusion coefficient)

D

F11

-

K

L

(partition coefficient)

salting out

(J)

F2

F11 F7

(Lag time)

(F11)

()

()

$$J = \frac{C_0KD}{L} = C_0Kp$$

()

Kp

F11

C_0

(Enhancement Ratios, ERs)

ERs = (Kp with surfactant) / (Kp without surfactant)

F11

()

SLS

SLS

.()

SLS

.()

()

.()

in vitro

(PC)

in vivo

in vivo

.()

/ $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ / $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ / $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ / $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$

% /

SLS

%

/

/ $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$

.()

SLS

%

.()

(Enhancement ratio) ER

SLS

SLS

SLS ()
% /

%

SLS %

SLS

)
(

(driving force)

%

% / SLS

SLS

% SLS

% SLS

ER

SLS

% /

% /

% /

(
F₁₁)

ER

SLS %

%

SLS %

%

SLS

%

%

F₁₁

%

%

%

%

%

%

ER

(ER = /)

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:

(ml)	(ml)	PG (ml)	()
			/ F ₁
			/ F ₂
			/ F ₃
			/ F ₄
			/ F ₅
			/ F ₆
			/ F ₇
			/ F ₈
			/ F ₉
			/ F ₁₀
			/ F ₁₁
			/ F ₁₂
			/ F ₁₃
			/ F ₁₄
			/ F ₁₅
			/ F ₁₆
			/ F ₁₇
			/ F ₁₈
			/ F ₁₉
			/ F ₂₀

*

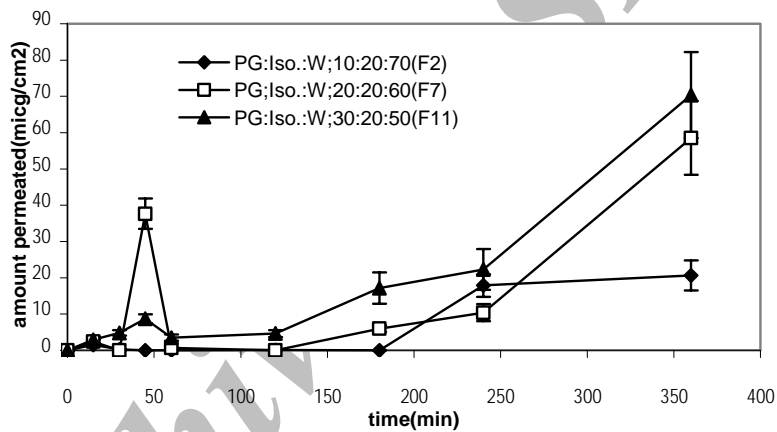
:

(ml)	(ml)	(ml) P.G
		F1
		F2
		F3
		F4
		F8
		F11
		F12
		F15
		F18

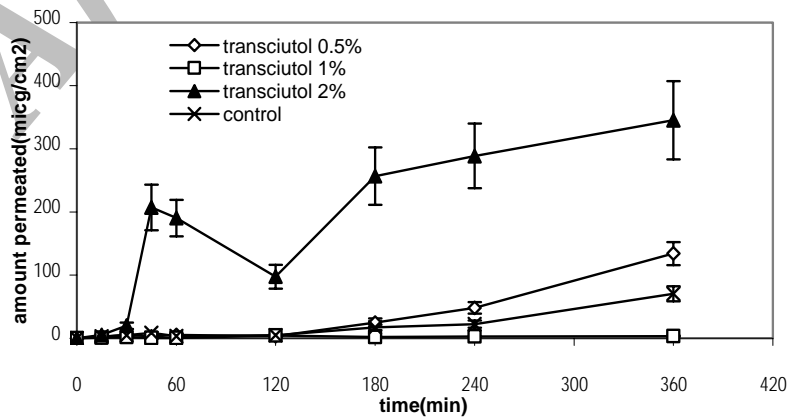
J

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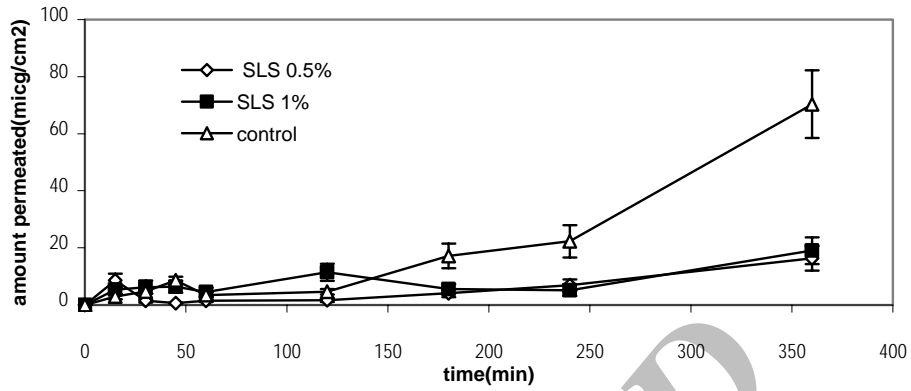
ER	Lag time (min)	K _p (x10 ⁻³ ,cm min ⁻¹)	Steady-state flux (μgcm ⁻² min ⁻¹)	(% w/w)
/	/	/	/	/
/	/	/	/	/
/	/	/	/	/
/	/	/	/	/ SLS
/	/	/	/	/
/	/	/	/	/
/	/	/	/	/
/	/	/	/	/



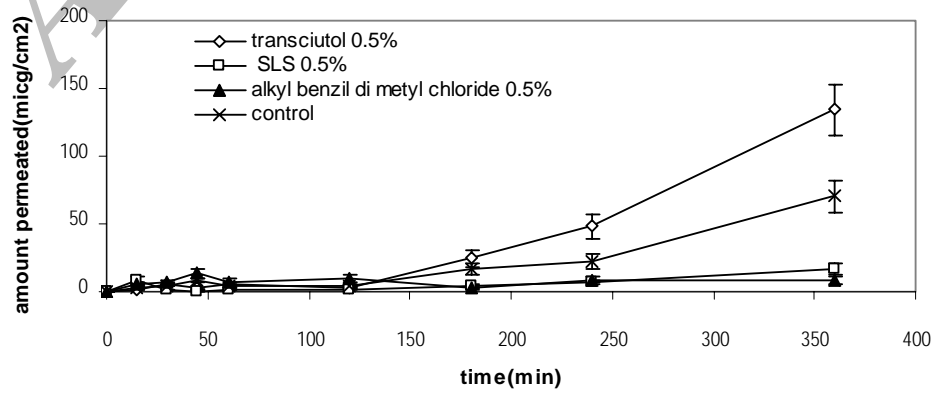
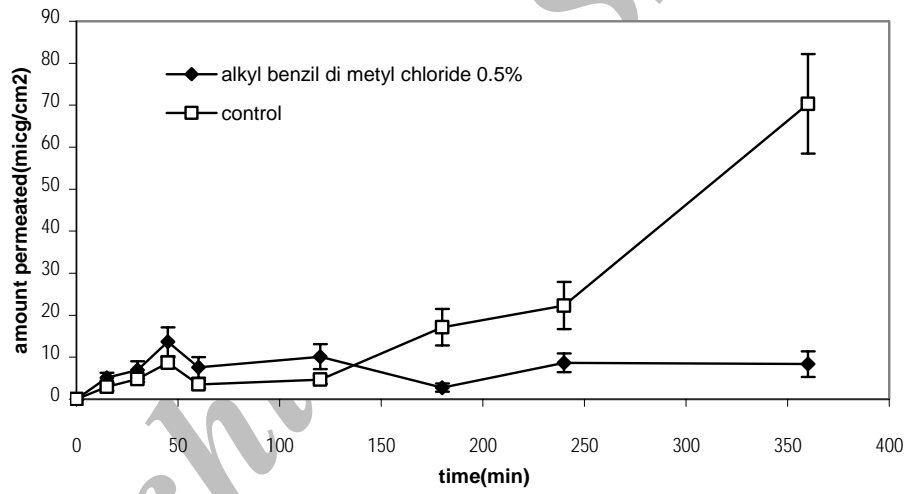
(:W : Iso. :PG) :



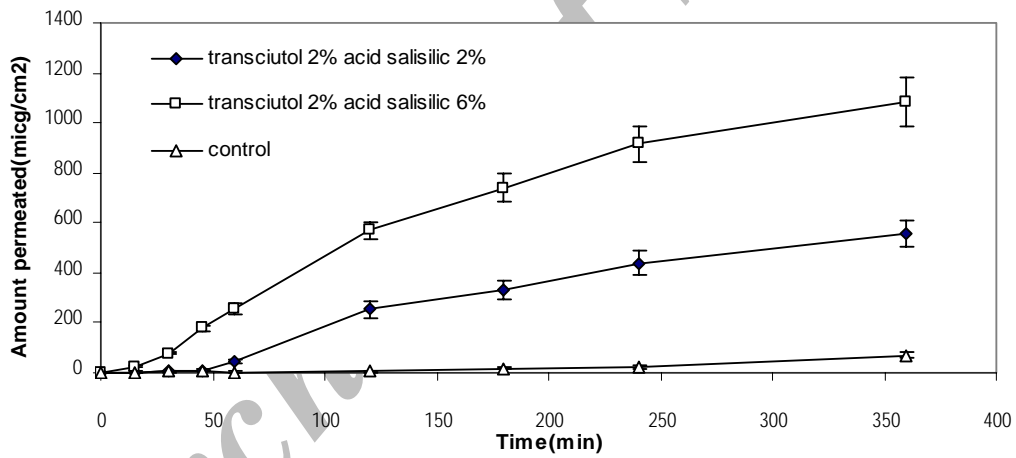
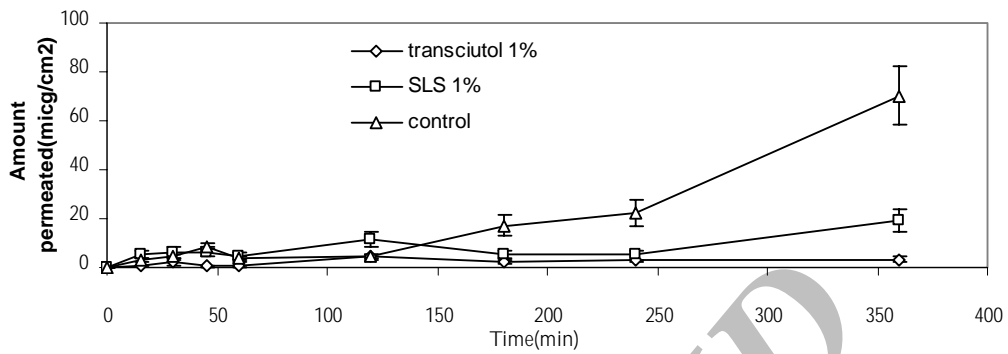
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SLS



% /



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