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pharmaceutics



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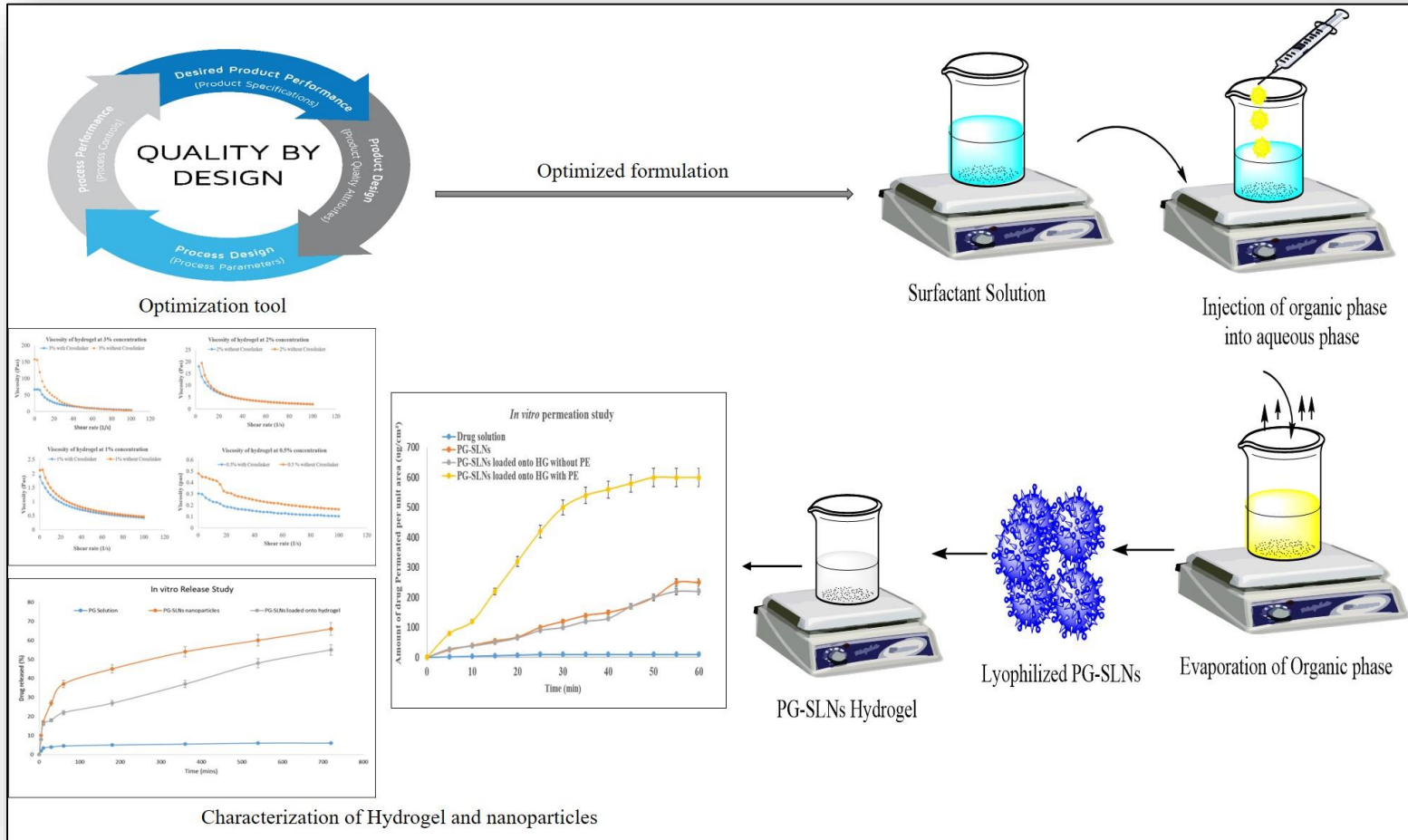


Development and Optimization of N-Propyl gallate Encapsulated Hyaluronic Acid Based Hydrogel for Nose to Brain Delivery by Applying Quality by Design Methodology

Abstract: The aim of this research work was to develop *n*-propylgallate encapsulated solid lipid nanoparticles (PG-SLNs) and load them into a Hyaluronic acid (HA) based hydrogel (HG) for intranasal delivery. Simple modified solvent injection technique was used for the preparation of the PG-SLNs via the Quality-by Design (QbD) approach. The optimized PG-SLNs with an average hydrodynamic diameter of 103 ± 46.04 nm with polydispersity index (PDI) of 0.16 ± 0.001 and zeta potential of -36 ± 4.78 mV of were obtained. The percentage yield of PG-SLNs was found to be $80.78\pm 0.1\%$ with an encapsulation efficiency of $84\pm 0.5\%$ and loading capacity of $60\pm 0.1\%$. In vitro drug release from the hydrogel containing PG-SLNs showed sustained release profile with a lower burst effect (less than 20%) and controlled release to a greater extent within 720 mints following diffusion based release kinetics. The in vitro permeability studies showed the total permeation of PG from HG was $600\ \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ within 60 mints that showed significant permeation of PG. Findings of this work strongly emphasize that PG-SLNs loaded hydrogel and permeation enhancer holds significant potential to be delivered through intranasal route.

Keywords: nose to brain; *n*-propylgallate; SLN; hydrogel; Quality by Design

Graphical Abstract



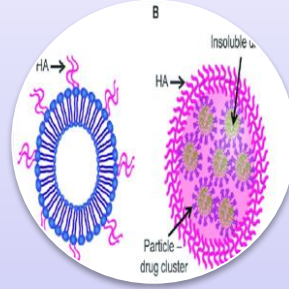
Aims and Objective of study

- Development and loading of PG-SLNs into chemically linked HA hydrogel with permeation enhancer (Transcutol-P) and crosslinker glutaraldehyde suitable for nose to brain delivery by applying QbD.
- Characterization of developed nanoparticles encapsulated with PG and PG loaded HA-hydrogel for intranasal delivery.

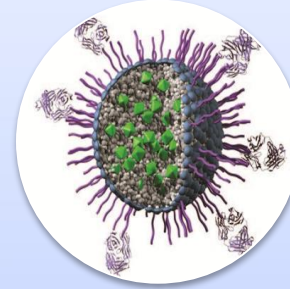
Methodology



Application of QbD design and DOE for development of PG-SLNs



Development of Optimized PG-SLNs via Solvent injection method



Development of PG-SLNs loaded HA based Hydrogel

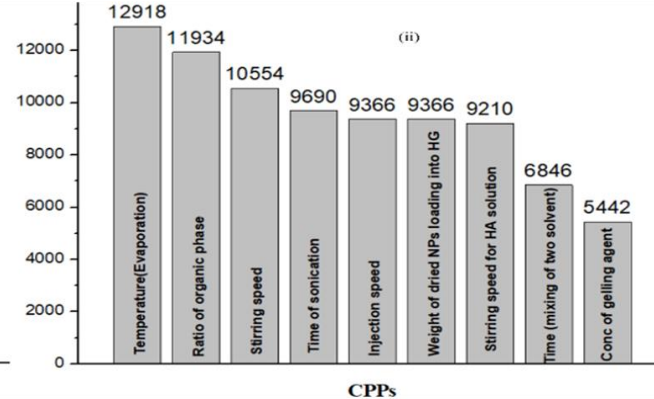
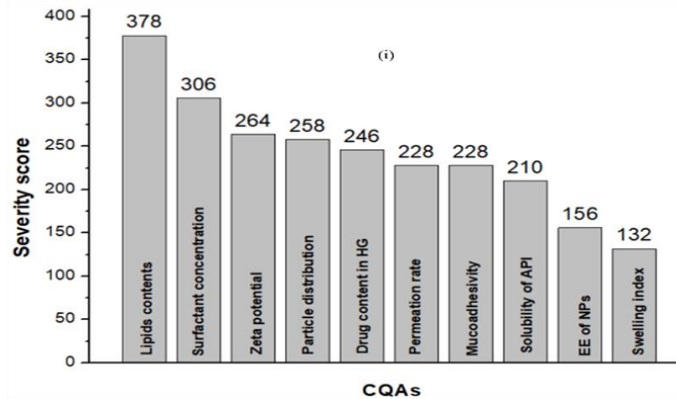


Characterization of NPs and Hydrogel
Particle size, Zeta potential, PDI, mucoadhesivity, viscosity, permeability, release studies

Results and Discussion

Risk Assessment

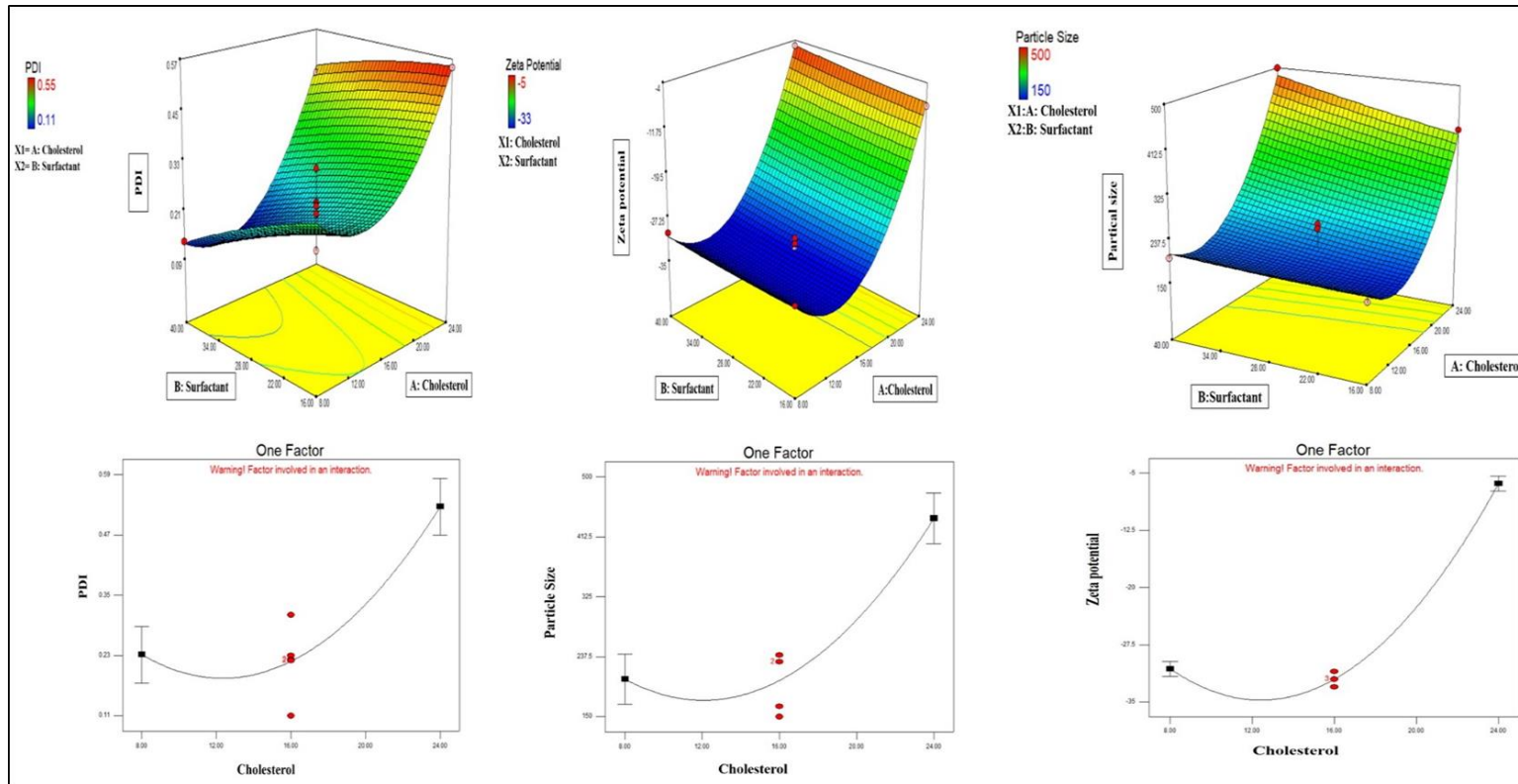
CQA	CPP	Ratio of organic phase (Preparation of lipid solution)	Sonication time (Preparation of lipid solution)	Stirring speed (Preparation of surfactant solution)	Injection speed (Mixing of organic and aqueous phase)	Stirring speed (Mixing of organic and aqueous phase)	Temperature (Evaporation)	Stirring speed (Hydrogel preparation) (Preparation of HA Solution)	Weight of dried PG-SLNs added (Preparation of HA Solution)	Time in hours for mixing (Addition of GA and phenoethanolamine)
Particle size		High	High	High	High	High	High	Low	Low	Low
Zeta potential		Low	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Low
Permeation rate		Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Mucoadhesivity		Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High
Swelling index		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High	High
Drug contents of HG		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
EE of NPs		Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Low	Low	Low
Viscosity of gel		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High
Lipids contents		High	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	High	Low	Low	Low
Surfactant concentration		High	Medium	High	High	High	High	Low	Low	Low
QTPP	CQA	Route of administration	Dissolution profile	Stability	Therapeutic indication	Permeation	Brain distribution	Process Preparation of lipid solution	CPP	Occurrence
Particle size		High	High	High	High	High	High	Preparation of lipid solution	Ratio of organic phase	High
Zeta potential		Medium	Low	High	High	High	High	Preparation of lipid solution	Sonication time	Medium
Permeation rate		High	High	Medium	Low	High	High	Preparation of surfactant solution	Stirring speed	Low
Mucoadhesivity		High	High	Medium	Low	High	Medium	Mixing of organic and aqueous phase	Injection speed	High
Swelling index		Low	Medium	Low	Low	High	Medium	Mixing of organic and aqueous phase	Stirring speed	Low
Drug contents of HG		Low	High	Medium	High	High	High	Evaporation	Temperature	High
EE of NPs		Low	High	Medium	Medium	High	High	Preparation of HA Solution	Stirring speed (Hydrogel preparation)	Medium
Viscosity of gel		High	High	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	Preparation of HA Solution	Weight of dried PG-SLNs added	Medium
Lipids contents		High	High	High	Medium	High	High	Preparation of HA Solution	Time in hours for mixing	High
Surfactant concentration		High	High	High	Medium	High	High	Addition of GA and phenoethanolamine		



***Interdependence rating and estimation of the QTPP and CQAs and CQAs-CPPs, and Pareto charts showing the severity/impact among selected

Results and Discussion

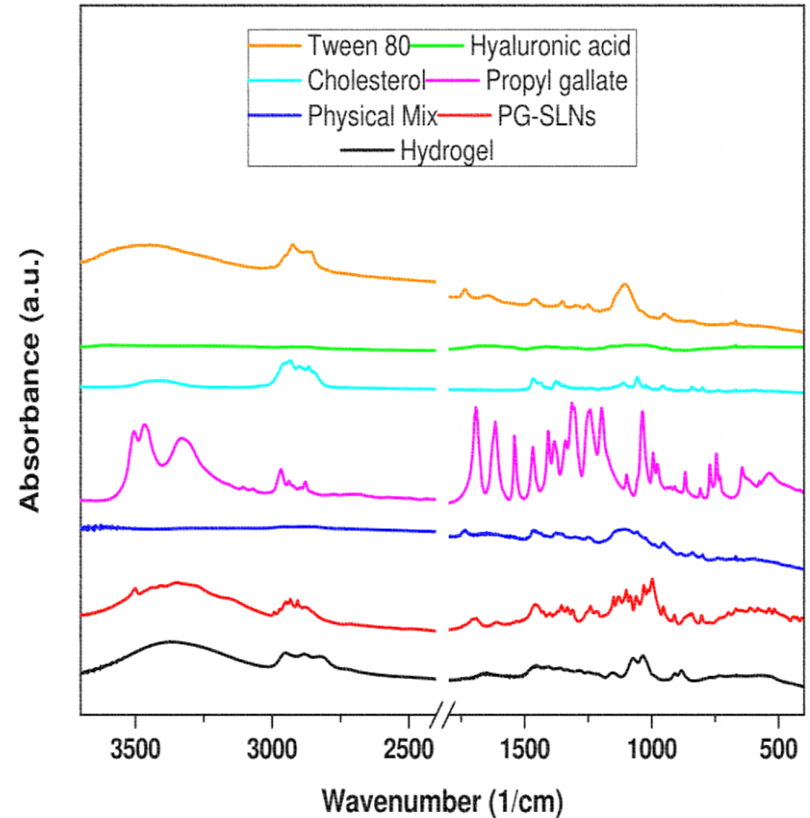
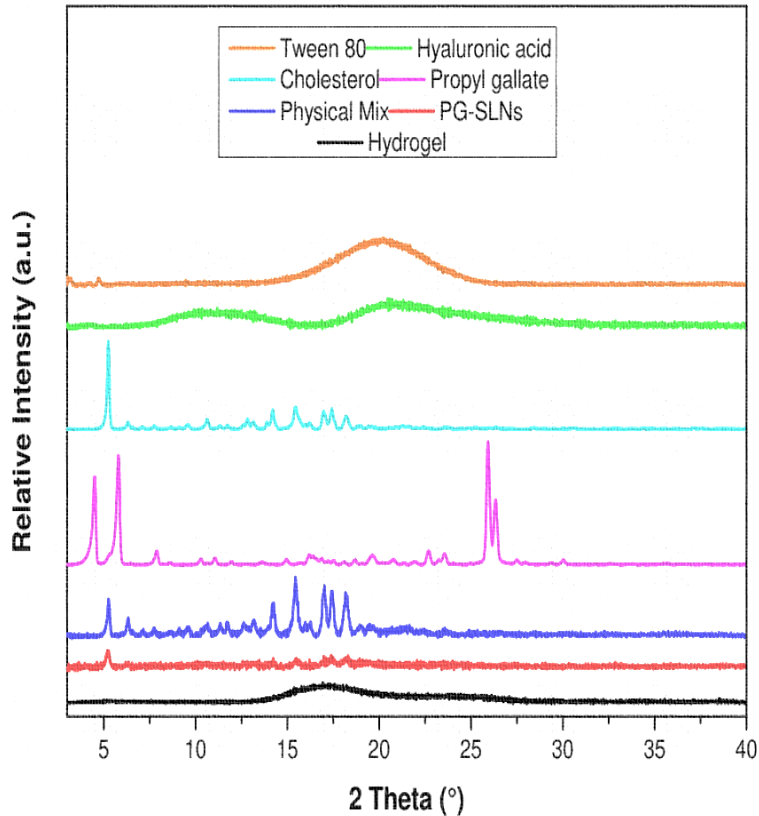
Response Surface Quadratic Model



3D surface plot show combine effect of cholesterol and surfactant on Particle size, PDI and Zeta potential. One factor interaction plot showed Cholesterol was significantly involved in effecting the all studies factors under observation.

Results and Discussion

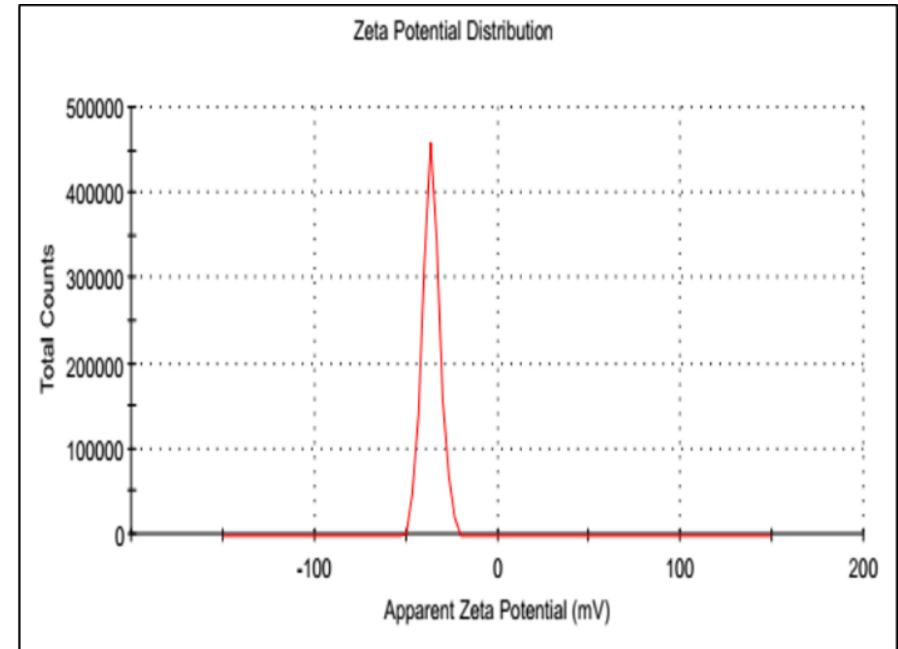
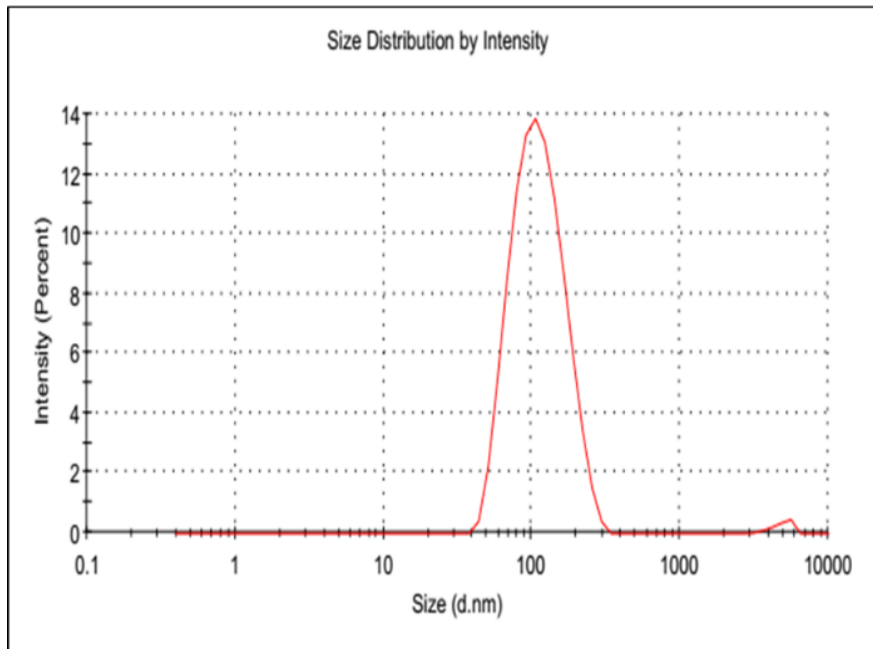
FTIR and XRPD



****No interaction was found between the formulation component and final formulation, XRPD results show conversion of crystalline form of PG into amorphous form in PG-SLNs

Results and Discussion

Particle Size, Zeta Potential, PDI



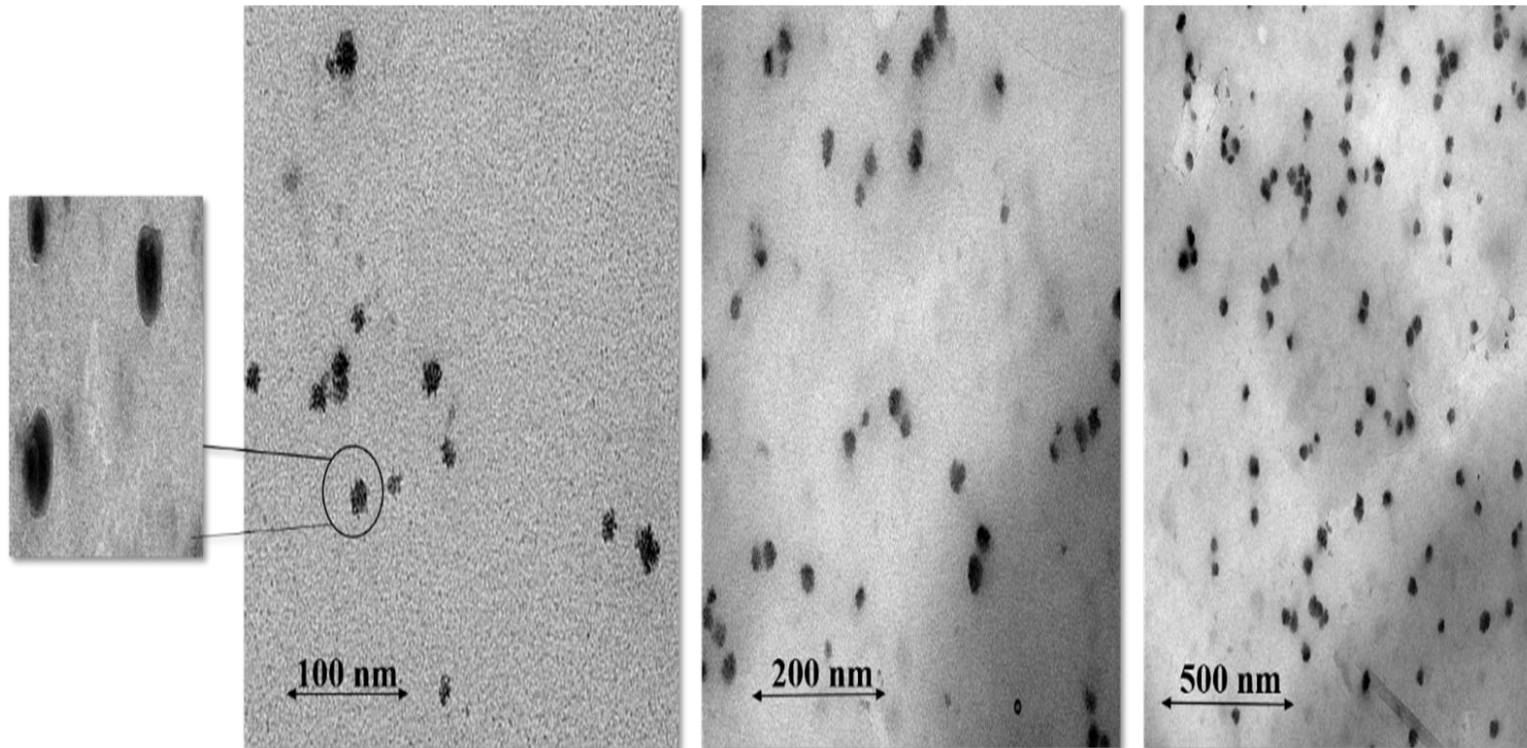
Zeta sizer were used for analysis

PG-SLNs with an average size of 103 ± 46.04 nm, PDI of 0.16 ± 0.001 , Zeta potential of -36 ± 4.78 mv

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Results and Discussion

Morphological study (TEM analysis)



*****Particles were spherical in shape and within nanorange
And results were comparable with particle size analysis of zeta
sizer**

Results and Discussion

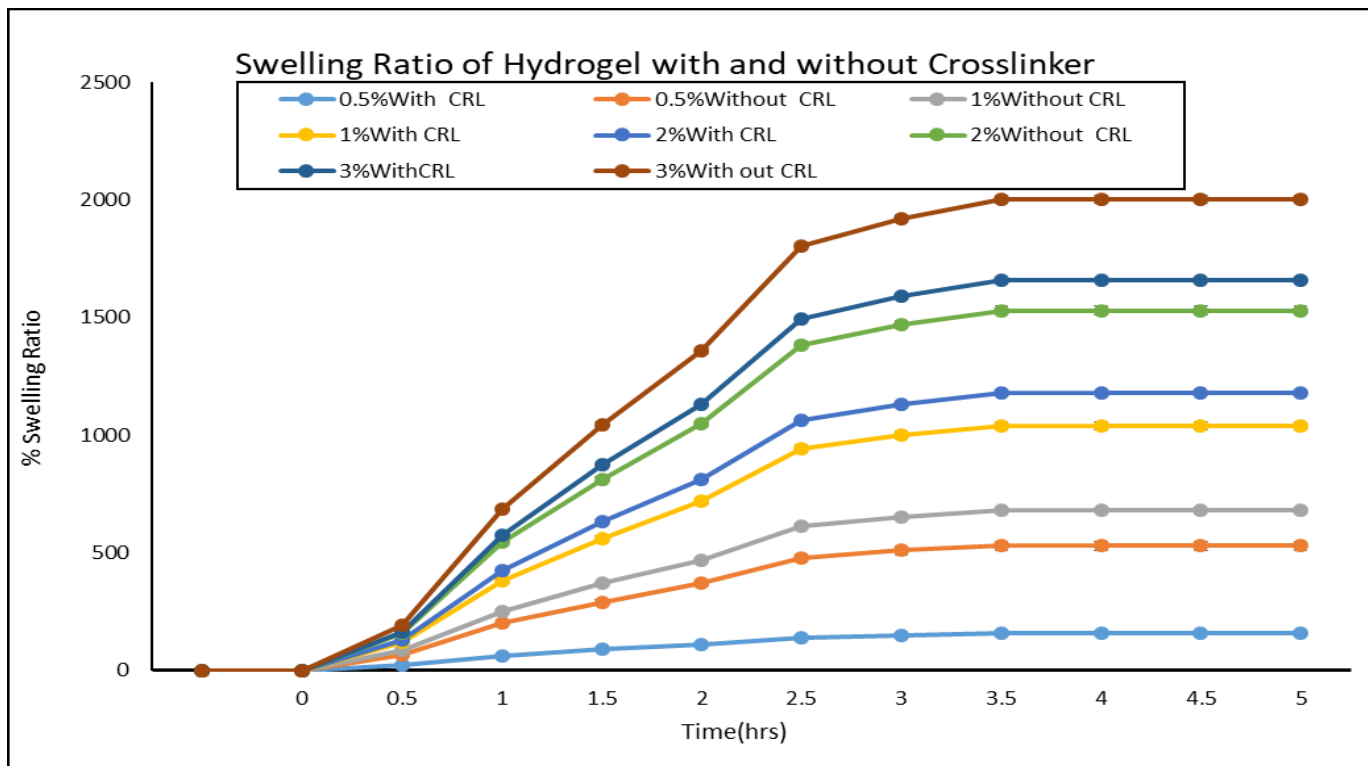
Characterization of Hydrogel

Conc. Hydro gel	pH value of different conc of HA-Hydrogel	% Swelling ratio	% Drug Contents	Spread ability mm ²	Muco-adhesivity	Viscosity with CL(Pas)	Viscosity without CL(Pas)
0.5	5.3±0.2	400	78± 2.5	222.45 ± 0.22	***	0.112	0.181
1	5.2±0.3	900	82±3.3	360±0.33	Good	1.88	2.11
2	5.5±0.4	1300	80±1.4	320±0.44	Good	14.29	15.45
3	5.9±0.6	2000	79±4.2	340±0.012	Good	66.34	157

***The hydrogel at concentration 1% show best results in all performed studies. We selected this concentration for further in vitro release and permeation testing

Results and Discussion

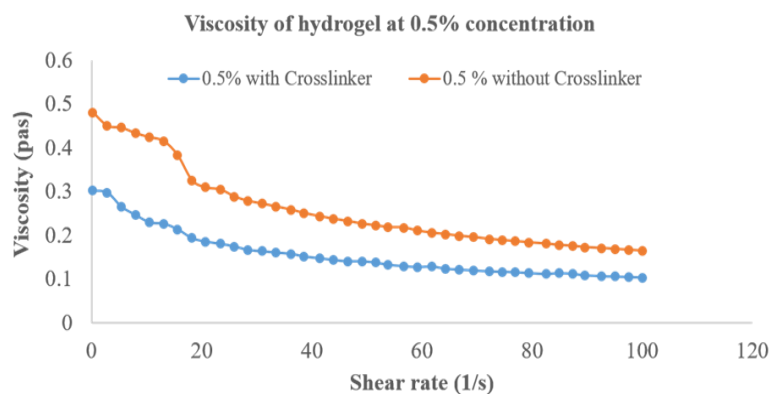
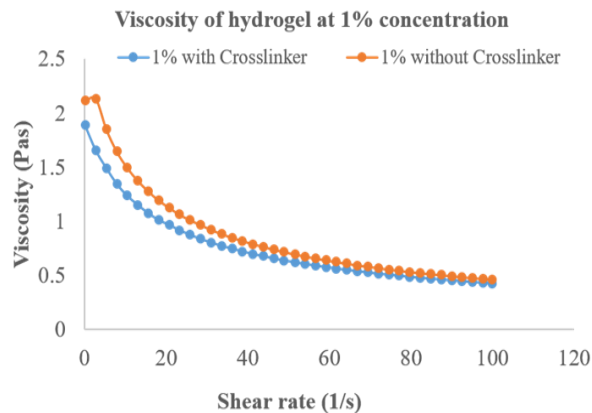
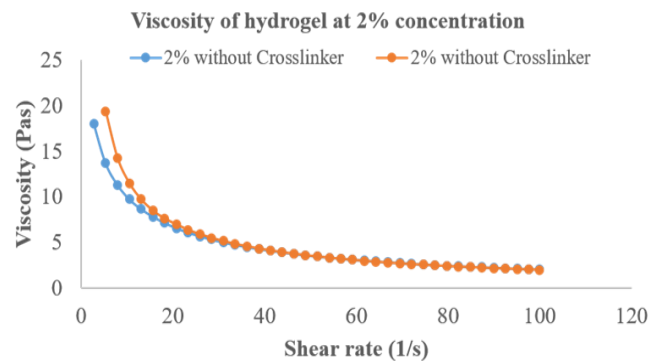
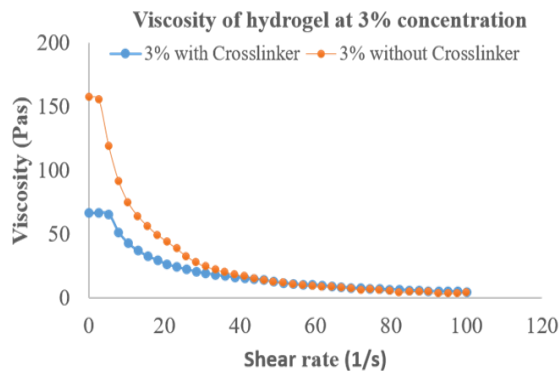
Swelling study results showed that hydrogel without cross linker showed greater swelling index. it can be concluded that by adding cross-linker, mechanical strength of hydrogel enhances and has more precise control on release of nano-carrier from gel matrix as compare to simple hydrogel which is mechanically fragile that can get fractured easily thus larger pores may be created through which nano-carriers can easily escape with initiating a burst release



Results and Discussion

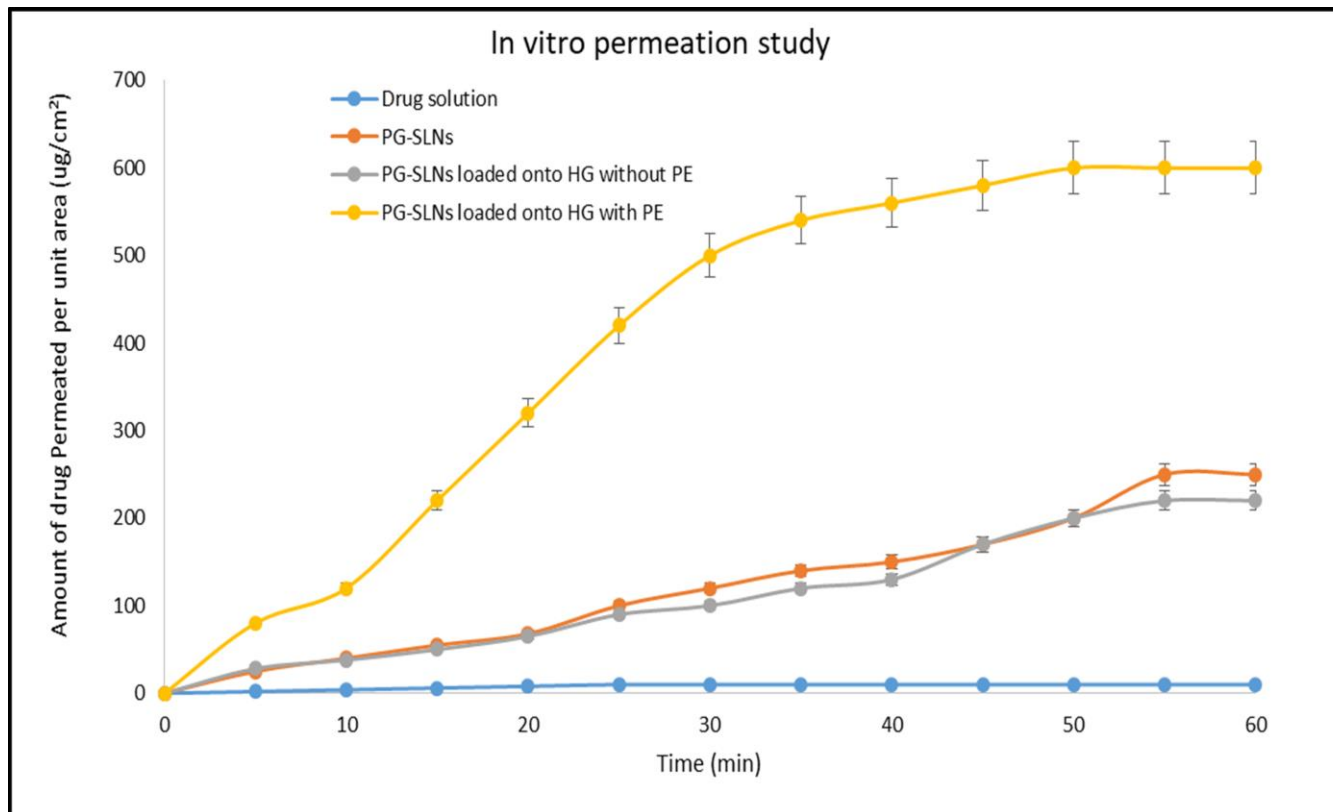
Viscosity measurement

At different concentration of hyaluronic acid viscosity of hydrogel was measured to get optimized concentration suitable for intranasal administration



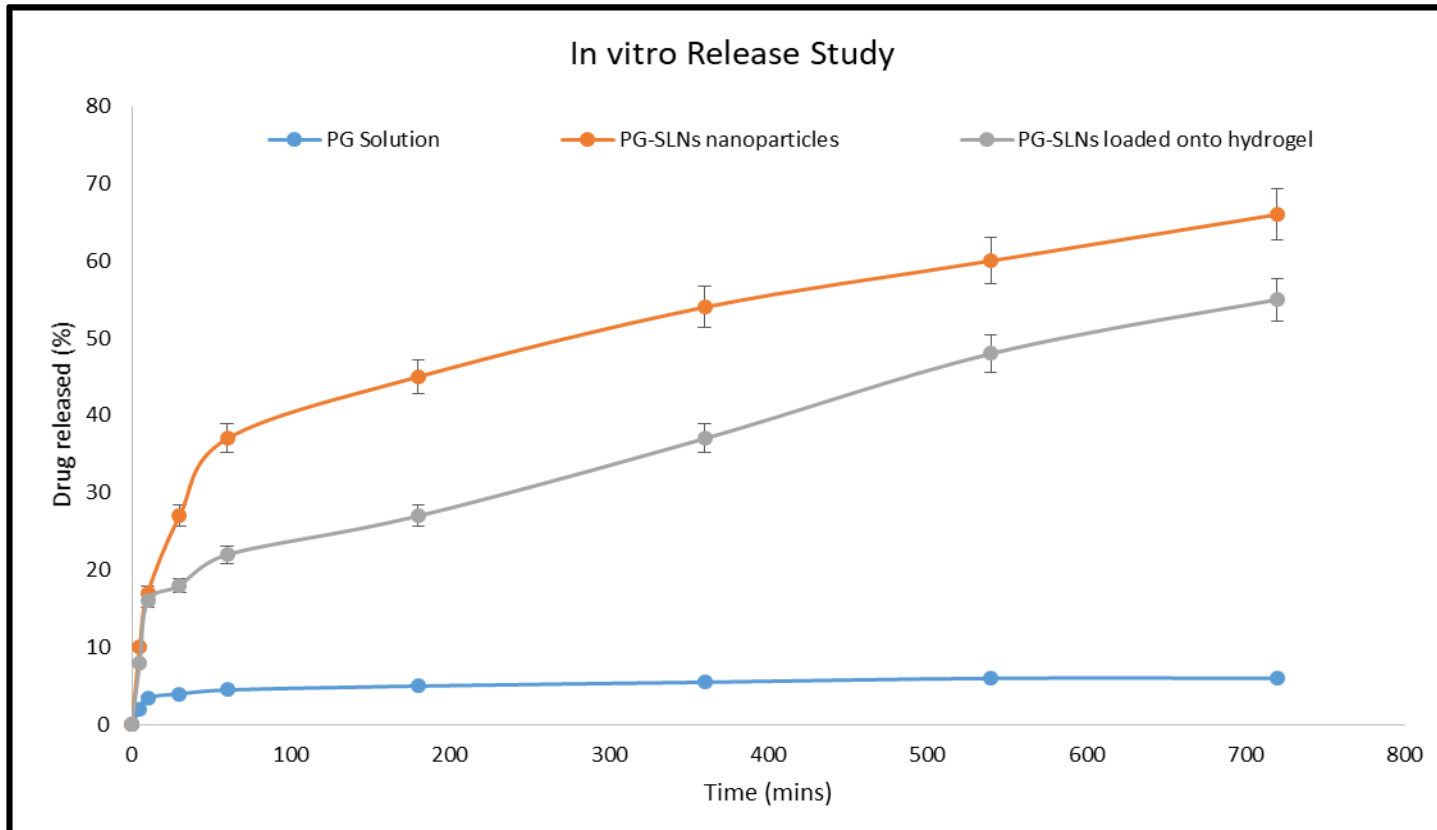
Results and Discussion

For In vitro permeability study of nano-formulation and hydrogel Side bi side equipment was used for permeation study



Results and Discussion

In vitro Release study of Nano-formulation and Hydrogel showed initial burst released in case of hydrogel has been slower and controlled to a greater extent



Conclusions

- PG-SLNs were successfully prepared in this study using the modified injection method. For the optimization of formulation and process parameters, initial risk assessment study was applied as a part of QbD approach.
- The PG-SLNs showed an average size of roughly 100 nm with a homogenous distribution, negative surface charge, drug release reaching roughly 60% and high EE (> 80%) (complying with the predefined QTPP).
- The viscosity and mucoadhesivity results reflect enhanced adherence property of optimized HA-HG loaded with PG-SLNs. Compared to PG-SLNs, in vitro permeation studies showed the superiority of the PG-SLNs loaded into HA-HG and transuctol-P system with a less initial burst effect and more sustained release.
- The optimized platform provides in vitro proof of the potential of combining the advantages of lipid based NPs with HG as a promising intranasal delivery system.

Acknowledgments

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