Emerging Trends In Transdermal Therapy: The Role of Ethosomes, Transfersomes, And Menthosomes.

Shraddha R.Shelke[1], Kajal G.Kamble[2], Sanika A.Suryawanshi[3], Shivkumar Padalkar[4], U.S. Jadhav.[5]
Ashokrao mane collage of pharmacy , pethvadgaon

Abstract- *Transdermal drug delivery systems offer a non-invasive and patient-friendly method for administering medications, particularly for chronic conditions requiring sustained release. Among the various nanocarrier-based systems, ethosomes, transfersomes, and menthosomes have emerged as advanced vesicular carriers due to their capability to improve drug permeation through skin. Ethosomes, developed by Touitou, are ethanol-based flexible vesicles composed of high concentrations of alcohol, phospholipids, and water, facilitating deep skin penetration and systemic delivery. Transfersomes, comprising phospholipids and edge activators, are ultra-deformable vesicles known for their capability to traverse stratum corneum efficiently. Menthosomes, a newer class, incorporate menthol, phospholipids, and surfactants to improve skin permeability and drug diffusion. These carriers are especially suitable for delivering large molecules like peptides and proteins, offering improved patient compliance and effectiveness in treating a variety of dermatological and systemic conditions. However, challenges such as chemical instability, limited skin adhesion, and potential skin irritation remain. Despite these limitations, their enhanced skin permeation, potential for gene and anticancer drug delivery, and sustained release capabilities position them as promising tools in transdermal therapy. Further studies are needed to fully explore the comparative efficacy of these novel vesicular systems.*

I. INTRODUCTION

When applied to healthy skin, transdermal treatment systems are discrete dose forms that slowly release medicine into the bloodstream [1]. Given its convenience and safety, the transdermal route is an intriguing choice in this regard. Ethosomes "Ethanolic vesicles are called ethersomes." Because ethanol is present in the vesicular structure, Touitou created a novel vesicular system that he called ethosomes. (2) Drugs can enter the systemic circulation or penetrate deeply into the epidermal layers thanks to ethersomes, which are non-invasive delivery vehicles .(3) Alcohol in relatively high concentrations (20–45%), water, and phospholipid make up the majority of ethersomes, which are soft, flexible lipidvesicles.(3).

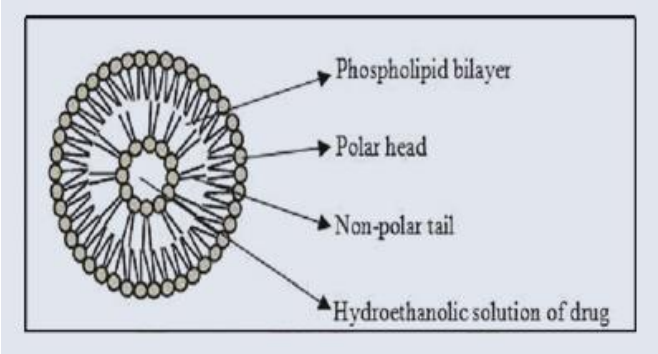

Fig .structure of Ethosome (1)

Topical drug administration using liposomes was one of the drug delivery strategies used. Just one Liposomes are lipid bilayers encapsulated in typically hollow spherical forms. Phospholipids and edge activators (EAs) such sodium cholate (NaCo), sodium deoxycholate, dipotassium glycyrrhizinate, Span 60, Span 65, Span 80, Tween 20, Tween 60, and Tween 80.8 essentially make up transfersomes, which are elastic nanovesicles (4).

Translocation complexes A lipid bilayer and an edge activator (surfactant) encase the vesicular carrier system's minimum need of one water-filled interior compartment. (5) Along with their elastic nature, the lipid bilayers that encircle the aqueous compartment enhance the vesicles' ultra-deformability and self-regulating and optimizing capabilities. (6)

As carriers for transdermal or dermal delivery of several medications, transfersomes have been investigated. (7) The new deformable carriers known as menthosomes are made of menthol, surfactant, and phospholipids. MX is a viable choice for transdermal delivery development. (8)

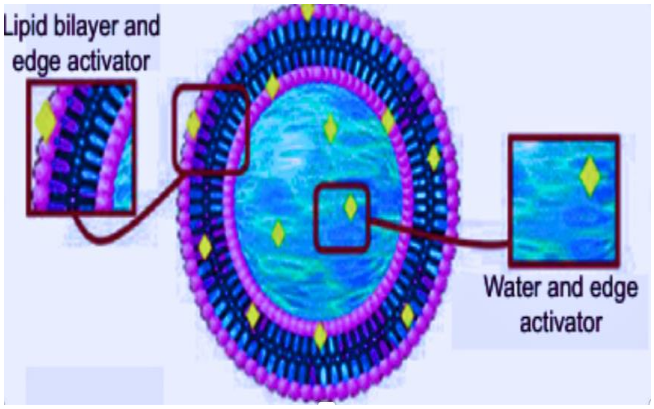

Fig. Transfersomes (2)

Liposomal carriers have been effectively used to improve the topical delivery of numerous medicines (9). Liposomes with a high membrane elasticity may result in better drug transport over the skin than vesicles with a stiff membrane (10). Vesicle membrane flexibility may be increased by incorporating ethanol into lipids. (11)

II. MATERIAL

Lipoid of Ludwigshafen, Germany, supplied us with the soybean phosphatidylcholine (SPC) S 100®. (12) Goldschimidt of Essen, Germany, was the source for TAGAT CH 40®. Using a MILLI-Q System, EMD Millipore supplied ultrapure water. The analytical grade was maintained for all other reagents.

Lipoid S75, a soybean lecithin product (Lipoid KG, Germany). From Sigma Aldrich (Taufkirchen, Germany), 1, 8-cineole was acquired. Serva (Germany) supplies sodium deoxycholate. We bought Tween 80 from Sigma Aldrich in Taufkirchen, Germany. The supplier of flufenamic acid was Sigma (Sigma-Aldrich Inc., St. Louis, Missouri, USA). We bought HPLC-grade methanol from Carl Roth GmbH & Co. in Germany. Making the stretchy liposomes Conventional rotary evaporation was used to create the deformable liposomes (DL1) and conventional liposomes (CL) . For DL1, sodium deoxycholate and the lipoids S75 were utilised to maximise the liposomes' flexibility .(14)

III. METHODS

In order to create an ethosomal formulation, the cold treatment is the most common method. The lipid components, including phospholipids and medications, are dissolved in ethanol in a closed container while let to stand at room temperature by the use of a mixer and rapid churning. (13) Add propylene glycol or another polyol while stirring. Elevated to 300 degrees Celsius, this concoction is cooked in a water bath. (14) In a separate pot, bring water to a boil. Then, add the boiling water and stir the mixture for five minutes while covering it. The ethosomal formulation's vesicle size can be adjusted using the sonication or extrusion procedures. The last step in storage is to put the formulation in the fridge. The surfactant (vesicle formers) and PL are combined in a round-bottomed flask (RBF) with the correct volume-to-volume (v/v) ratio of methanol and chloroform according to the thin-film hydration method. This is the window of opportunity to introduce lipophilic medications. A thin layer is created by reducing the pressure of the organic solvent in a rotary vacuum evaporator to a level where it evaporates above the lipid transition temperature. Following the addition of a hydrophilic drug, the resultant film is hydrated by rotating it at the correct temperature for the specified duration in a buffer with the appropriate pH.(14)

The hot approach uses a water bath heated to 40ºC to create a colloidal solution, which disperses phospholipid in water. Propylene glycol and ethanol are combined in a different vessel and heated to 40ºC. After both mixes have reached 40ºC, the aqueous phase is supplemented with the organic phase. (2)Depending on whether it is hydrophilic or hydrophobic, the medication dissolves in either ethanol or water. Extrusion and probing sonication are two ways to decrease the vesicle size of an ethosomal formulation to the desired level. (6)

Preparing MX-Loaded Thromboxans Experimental designs for methylosome synthesis were based on a two-factor spherical second-order composite. The 10 MX-loaded menthosome formulations are shown in Table 1. Each formulation has a variable amount of Chol, which stabilizes the membrane, and CPC, which enhances penetration. Additionally, each formulation has a regulated amount of PC, MEN, and MX.According to reports, MEN increases drug diffusion and partition, which enhances the skin penetration of a variety of medications. (13)

IV. ADVANTAGES

- Large molecules, likeprotein and peptides molecules, can be delivered. Its formulation includes non-toxic raw materials.(15)
- Improved medication penetration via the skin for transdermal administration. A straightforward approach to drug delivery as opposed to more complex techniques like iontophoresis and phonophoresis Both topical and systemic medicines benefit from high vesicle deformation since it allows for the delivery of drugs via the skin without the obvious loss of intact vesicles.(17)

- Patients follow the ethosomal regimen to a really high degree. Since the ethosomal drug is administered through a semisolid gel or cream, patients are highly likely to comply with its instructions.(16)

V. DISADVANTAGES

- For the medicine to be absorbed via the skin, its molecular size needs to be just right. Not all skin types will be able to cling to adhesive.
- The oxidative stress that TFs induce makes them chemically unstable; synthetic phospholipids are preferable to natural polymers due to theirpurity.(2)
- Medication molecular size should be such that it can be absorbed via the skin. Unfortunately, not every type of skin will adhere nicely to the adhesive.(18)
- It might not be economical. Dermatitis or skin irritation brought on by medication delivery system enhancers and excipients.(19)Ethosomal administration is typically intended to provide steady, sustained drug delivery rather than a quick bolus-style drug input. (15)

VI. APPLICATION

Medications used to treat cancer In their study on topical melanoma therapy, Jiang et al. (2018) used oligopeptide hydrogels TFs filled with paclitaxel and implanted via the thin-film dispersion method. (20) The ability of transfersomes, which are made up of tween80, sodium deoxycholate, and phosphatidylcholine, to enter cancerous tissues has been demonstrated. .

In multiple trials, ethersomes have demonstrated efficacy in treating microbial and viral skin infections. (8) The ability of the bacitracin and erythromycin ethosomal systems to treat deep skin infections was developed and tested in animal models .

According to research, ethosomes may be used to topically transport DNA molecules such that specific genes are expressed by skin cells.

VII. COCNCLUSION

Drugs can be delivered to the systemic circulation using ethosomes, which are non-invasive carriers. They reach the deep layers of the skin.

It transports big molecules like proteins and peptides. Benefits of ethosome application include deeper targeting of skin layers and greater penetration through skin for a variety of skin conditions. (17) The most see-through formulation was found to be transethosomes, while both transfersomes and ethosomes were white. However, due to the reduced contrast, transfersomes were extremely challenging to see.

The best menthosome formulation, which is described as the one with the right amount of MX penetration. (21) The comparative potential of menthosomes and traditional liposomes needs further research.

Because of its unique and varied qualities, the transdermal route of administration is highly preferred for drug delivery (22-23). These transethosomes have superior skin permeability and systemic circulation. They have steadily gained popularity as an innovative carrier system due to their potent medicinal effects, both topically and systemically, when administered via the skin.(19)

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