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Formulation and Evaluation of Sustained Release Matrix Tablet of Lornoxicam

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ABSTRACT

The present study relates to formulation and evaluation of sustained release matrix tablet of Lornoxicam. Lornoxicam, a potent non- steroidal anti-inflammatory drug of oxicam class. Lornoxicam as a non- steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, its use in relieving the symptoms of osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis and low back pain. However due to its weak acidic nature, its release from SR delivery system is limited to lower gastrointestinal tract which consequently leads to delayed onset of its analgesic action. Lornoxicam sustained release tablet was prepared by using polymers Hydroxyl Propyl Methyl Cellulose K100 as sustained release polymer and Polyvinylpyrrolidone, Hydroxyl Propyl Methyl Cellulose K30 as binder by direct compression method. A 3^2 full factorial design was used to formulate different batches containing different concentration of Hydroxyl Propyl Methyl Cellulose K 100 and Polyvinylpyrrolidone K30. The prepared tablets were evaluated for different parameters like Hardness, Friability, and Dissolution. Response surface plots and counter plots were generated using Design Expert software version 10, the optimized formulation was achieved by numerical and graphical optimization. Out of all factorial design batches   F7 batch shows sustained release drug release for 24hr as compared to other all batches.

 KEY WORDS: Lornoxicam, Sustained release matrix tablet, Hydroxyl Propyl Methyl Cellulose K100, Polyvinylpyrollidone K30.

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1. INTRODUCTION:

For many decades treatment of an acute disease or a chronic illness has been mostly accomplished by delivery of drugs to capsules, pills, suppositories, creams, ointments, liquids, aerosols, and injectables, as drug carriers. Oral route is the most commonly employed route of drug administration. For many decades treatment of an acute disease or a chronic illness has been mostly accomplished. Oral route remain the preferred route. Even for sustained release systems the oral route of administration has been investigated the most because of flexibility in dosage forms design that the oral route offers.

These agents are formulated to produce maximum stability, activity and bioavailability. This type of drug delivery system is known to provide a prompt release of drug or immediate release product. Such immediate release products result in relatively rapid drug absorption and onset of accompanying pharmacodynamic effects.
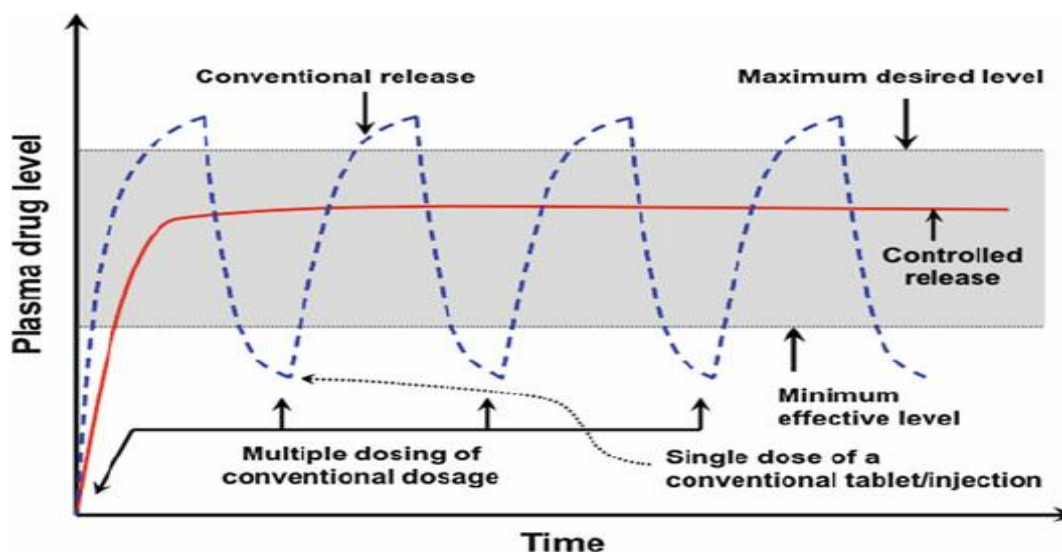

Fig. I. Plasma drug concentration-profiles for conventional tablet and a sustained release formulation.

To overcome these problems sustained release systems were introduced three decades ago. Sustained release, sustained action, prolonged release, controlled release, extended action, timed release, depot and repository dosage forms are the terms used to identify drug delivery systems that are designed to achieve a prolonged therapeutic effect by continuously releasing medication over an extended period of time after administration of a single dose. The term "controlled release" has become associated with those systems from which therapeutic agents may be automatically delivered at predefined rate over long period of time.

Mechanism of drug release from matrix tablet: Tablet surface wets and hydrophilic polymer begins to hydrate, forming a gel layer. Drug near the surface of the tablet is released. Water permeates into the tablet increasing thickness of the gel layer, soluble drug diffuse through the gel layer. Polymer relaxation in the dry core also contributes to dosage swelling. Outer polymer layer becomes fully hydrated eventually dissolving in the gastric fluid. Water continues to penetrate towards the tablet core. Soluble drug is released primarily by diffusion tablet erosion and insoluble drug is released primarily through the gel layer.

2. METHODS:

2.1 Materials: All materials used in this study include lornoxicam, matrix system include hydrophilic and hydrophobic polymers. Commonly used hydrophilic polymers are Hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC), povidone, Hydroxypropylcellulose (HPC), Hydroxyethylcellulose (HEC), Xanthan gum (XG), Sodium alginate, Polyethylene oxide and Cross linked homopolymers and Copolymers of acrylic acid. They are usually supplied in micronized forms, as small particle size is critical for rapid gelatinous layer formation on tablet surface.

HPMC is nonionic water-soluble cellulose ether. It is available in four different categories based on varying degrees of hydroxypropyl and methyl substitution namely E, F, J and K series. Carbopol also been used as sustaining agent. Xanthan gum is water soluble polysaccharide gum. It is composed of D - glucosyl, D- mannosyl and D-glucosyluronic acid residues and differing proportions of o-acetyl and pyruvic acid acetal. Hydrophobic and monolithic polymer matrix systems usually of waxes and water insoluble polymers. i.e. of waxes are carnauba wax, bees wax, paraffin wax, microcrystalline wax etc. Insoluble polymers: e.g. Eudragit RL 100, RS 100, PO, Ethyl cellulose, Cellulose acetate, Cellulose acetate butyrate etc.

Table.I. Examples of different types of matrices:

Types of matrices	Examples
Hydrophilic matrices	Methylcellulose, Hydroxyethylcellulose, Hydroxypropyl-methylcellulose, Carbopol, Sodium carboxymethylcellulose
Fat-wax matrices	Carnauba wax, Stearyl alcohol, Stearic acid, cetyl alcohol, Triglycerides.

2.2 Manufacturing method:

2.2.1. Preliminary trial batches: Composition of preliminary trials batches for sustained release formulation is shown in Table II. In all the formulations dose of Lornoxicam 18 mg was taken. Lornoxicam matrix tablets were prepared by direct compression method. The excipients used were PVP K30 and HPMC K100 M (matrix forming material), Micro crystalline cellulose (MCC) PH102 (filler), Talc (glidant) and Magnesium stearate (lubricating agent).

Table. II. Composition of trial batches

Ingredients (mg)/batch	T1	T2	T3	T4
Lornoxicam	18	18	18	18
HPMC K100M	40	50	60	80
PVP K30	6	10	8	6
MCC 102	127	113	105	87
Mg. Stearate	4	4	4	4
Talc	5	5	5	5
Total	200	200	200	200

2.2.2 Direct compression technique:

Lornoxicam, PVP K 30, HPMC K100M and MCC were mixed properly. The powder blends were lubricated using Magnesium stearate and Talc was added finally. Tablets were prepared using 10-station rotary compression machine. The prepared tablets were evaluated for hardness and in vitro drug release.

2.2.3 Factorial design:

Based on the results obtained with T4 trial batch preliminary formulations, 3^2 randomized full factorial design was applied in the present study. In this design 2 factors were evaluated, each at 3 levels, and experimental trials were performed at all 9 possible combination. The independent variables selected for the present study was HPMC K100 (X1) and PVP K30 (X2). The translation of coded values for 3^2 factorial experimental designs is shown in Table.III. The levels of independent variables had been selected from the preliminary batches and the literature envisaged.   Dependent (response) variables evaluated include:

Y_1 = % of drug release

Y_2 = Hardness

Table. III. Translation of coded values for 3^2 factorial experimental design

Sr. No	Coded value	Level	Experimental actual value	
			X1	X2
1.	-1	Low	70	5
2.	0	Intermediate	80	6
3.	+1	High	90	7

Table IV: Formulation of Factorial design

Ingredients(mg)/Batch	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9
Lornoxicam	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
HPMC K100	70	70	70	80	80	80	90	90	90
PVP K30	5	6	7	5	6	7	5	6	7
Mg. stearate	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Talc	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
MCC 102	98	97	96	88	87	86	78	77	76
Total	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200

2.2.4 Drug content

Ten tablets were weighed and average weight is calculated. All tablets were crushed and powder equivalent to 18 mg was dissolved in 8 ml of 0.1 N NaOH and the volume was made upto 100 ml with pH 6.8 Phosphate buffer. The solution was shaken for 1 hr and kept for 24 hr. From the stock solution, 1ml solution was taken in 10ml volumetric flask and the volume was made with pH 6.8 phosphate buffer. Solution was filtered and absorbance was measured spectrophotometrically at 376 nm against pH 6.8 phoshate buffer as a blank. Amount of drug present in one tablet was calculated.

2.2.5 In vitro drug release study

The drug release rate from Lornoxicam SR matrix tablets was determined using USP apparatus type II (lab India, India) at 37 ± 0.5 0C. The agitation speed was 50 rpm. The dissolution study was carried out in 900 ml 0.1 N HCl at 37 ± 0.5 0C for first 2 hrs and then in 900ml of Phosphate buffer (pH 6.8) upto 24 hrs. 10ml of sample was withdrawn at regular intervals and the same volume of fresh dissolution medium was replace to maintain the volume constant. The samples withdrawn were filtered through a 0.45 µ membrane filter and the drug content in each sample was analysed with UV

spectrophotometer (UV-2450 SHIMADZU). The amount of drug content present in the sample was calculated with the help of calibration curve constructed from reference standard.

2.2.6 Swelling characteristics of matrix tablet:

The extent of swelling was measured in terms of % weight gain by the tablets. The swelling behavior of formulations was studied. One tablet from each formulation was kept in a petri dish containing phosphate buffer pH 6.8. At the end of 2 hr, the tablet was withdrawn, kept on tissue paper and weighed, repeated for every 2 hr till the end of 24 hrs.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION:

3.1 Formulation studies

Table.V. Preliminary trial batches:

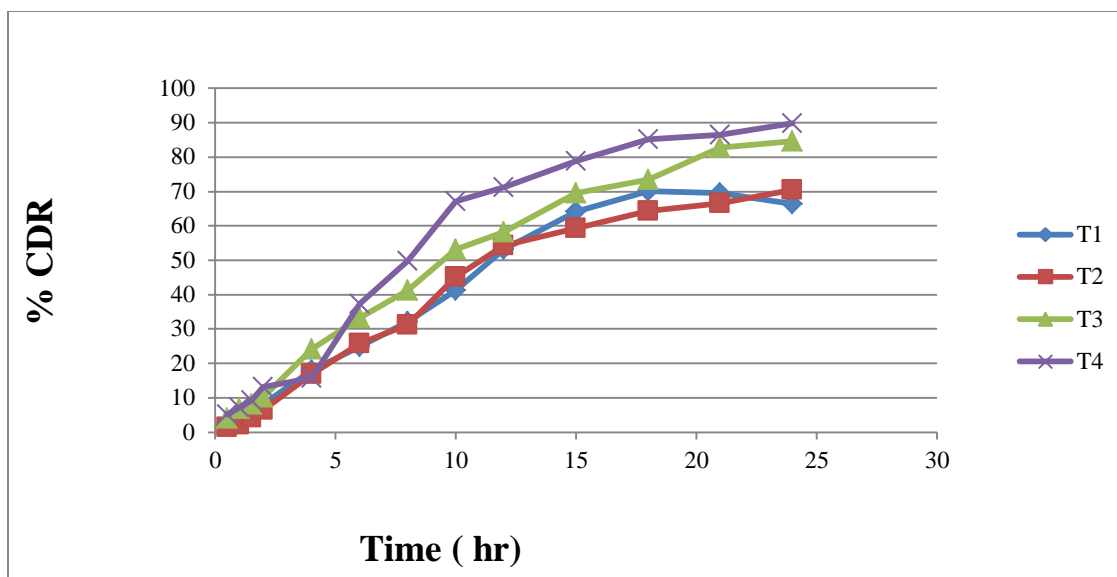| Time (hrs)	% Drug Release of trial formulations			
	T1	T2	T3	T4
0.5	2.18	1.52	4.13	5.21
1	4.05	2.16	6.89	7.12
1.5	7.19	4.19	8.11	9.32
2	8.12	6.53	10.26	13.24
4	17.99	16.83	24.18	15.81
6	24.89	25.81	33.21	37.41
8	32.17	31.14	41.26	49.81
10	41.22	45.23	53.13	67.12
12	53.18	54.32	58.11	71.23
15	64.23	59.23	69.63	78.83
18	70.16	64.26	73.36	85.23
21	69.52	66.49	82.71	86.52
24	66.34	70.52	84.67	89.92

Fig. II. Drug Release of Preliminary trial batches

The release profile of trial formulations (T1 to T4) given in Table.V. Formulation T1 to T4 drug release studied for 24 Hrs. T3 and T4 batch shows better drug release profile than others. Concentration of HPMC K100 shows impact on release of active ingredient in formulations. T3 shows 84.67 and T4 shows 89.92.

Table no VI : Evaluation of flow properties of powder blends of factorial batches:

Batches	Bulk density	Tapped density	Hausner's ratio	Carr's index	Angle of repose
F1	0.709 ±0.001	0.829 ±0.005	1.16 ±0.004	14.47 ±0.01	26.43 ±0.51
F2	0.712 ±0.0005	0.825 ±0.005	1.15 ±0.01	13.69 ±0.005	28.81 ±0.63
F3	0.706 ±0.001	0.83 ±0.005	1.17 ±0.005	14.93 ±0.01	28.95 ±0.50
F4	0.711 ±0.0005	0.832 ±0.001	1.17 ±0.01	14.54 ±0.005	26.51 ±0.50
F5	0.701 ±0.0005	0.828 ±0.001	1.18±0.01	15.33 ±0.01	29.22 ±0.76
F6	0.713 ±0.001	0.824 ±0.001	1.15±0.01	13.47±0.01	27.13 ±1.39
F7	0.708 ±0.001	0.833 ± 0.0005	1.17 ±0.01	15.00±0.01	26.36 ±1.13
F8	0.71 ±0.0005	0.833 ±0.001	1.17 ±0.01	14.76 ±0.005	27.58 ±0.44
F9	0.705 ±0.001	0.83 ±0.001	1.17 ±0.005	15.06 ±0.01	28.35 ±0.13

3.2 Evaluation of Lornoxicam Sustained release matrix tablets

The tablets from the factorial batches were evaluated for different evaluation parameters of tablets.

3.2.1 Drug content

The drug content of the nine formulations was found to be between 91.16 to 98.90 % (i.e. variation of ±2.5%). The value ensures good uniformity of the drug content in the tablet. Thus all the physical parameters of the compressed matrices were found to be practically within control.

Table.VII. Evaluation of Lornoxicam Sustained release matrix tablets:

Batches	Weight variation (mg)	Hardness (Kg/cm²)	Friability (%)	Thickness (mm)	Drug content (%)
F1	200 ± 1.6	6.8± 0.12	0.33 ± 0.05	4.18 ± 0.1	98.74
F2	201 ±1.2	7.0 ±0.11	0.59 ±0.01	4.20 ±0.13	98.29
F3	202 ±1.9	6.9 ±0.46	0.63 ±0.01	4.18 ±0.15	96.23
F4	199 ±1.9	6.8±0.21	0.68 ±0.009	4.14 ±0.25	91.16
F5	205 ±1.0	6.8 ±0.33	0.51 ±0.008	4.12 ±0.3	96.90
F6	202 ±1.3	6.9±0.31	0.54 ±0.017	4.25 ±0.25	99.57
F7	200 ±1.8	6.7 ±0.05	0.67 ±0.012	4.12 ±0.1	98.90
F8	200 ±1.3	6.9± 0.06	0.69 ±0.014	4.12 ±0.2	99.24
F9	203 ±1.6	6.9 ±0.15	0.63 ±0.02	4.14 ±0.1	98.52

3.2.2 In vitro drug release studies:

Formulation containing combination of HPMC K100M and PVP K30 retarded the drug release up to 24 Hrs.

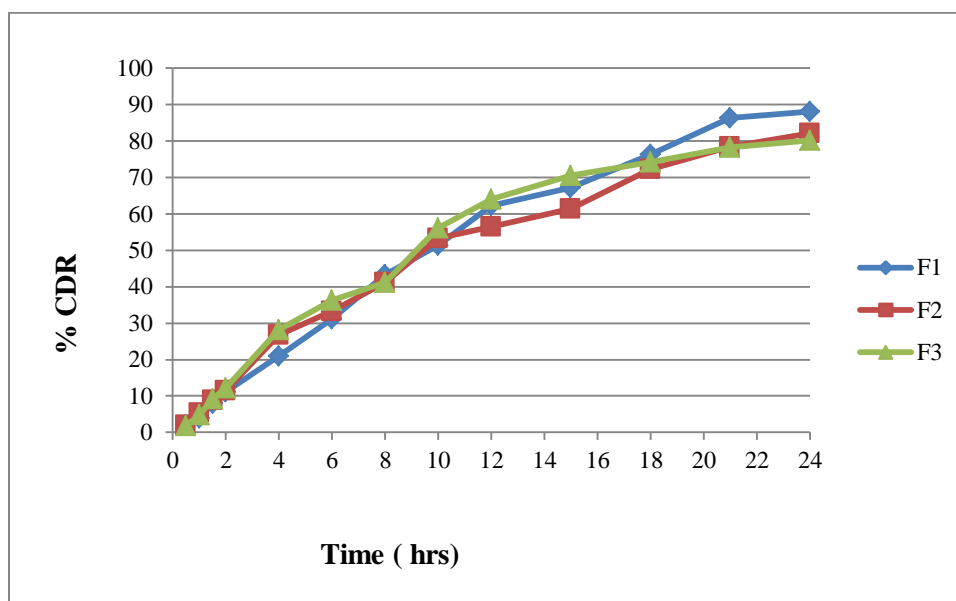### 3.2.3 Comparative drug release profile of Lornoxicam matrix tablet: -

Fig III: Dissolution studies of formulation F1, F2 and F3

Table no. VIII. Invitro release studies of factorial batches:

| Time in hrs	Cumulative Drug Release Of Formulation (%)								
	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9
0.5	2.05	2.03	1.81	2.21	2.05	2.03	3.41	2.03	1.78
1	3.91	5.43	4.90	4.01	4.36	3.34	8.26	6.16	3.23
1.5	8.03	8.79	9.13	9.26	9.32	6.08	11.50	10.93	6.68
2	11.16	11.48	12.16	13.72	14.38	7.19	15.13	14.31	14.31
4	20.93	26.71	28.19	23.21	25.78	19.55	29.14	28.16	27.13
6	31.12	33.21	36.23	32.92	38.13	28.16	43.99	41.13	39.26
8	43.33	41.21	41.16	43.33	49.13	36.23	55.10	46.23	43.31
10	51.42	53.29	56.13	50.41	67.72	48.41	71.34	65.14	56.29
12	62.32	56.53	63.92	68.56	73.21	67.18	81.21	71.99	68.19
15	67.16	61.37	70.54	78.21	81.33	78.26	86.56	81.25	78.28
18	76.24	72.20	74.16	88.03	86.29	82.34	90.02	87.54	84.32
21	86.23	78.45	78.21	90.34	88.21	85.12	94.31	91.25	87.11
24	88.12	82.04	80.12	93.45	91.88	86.28	96.92	95.01	91.23
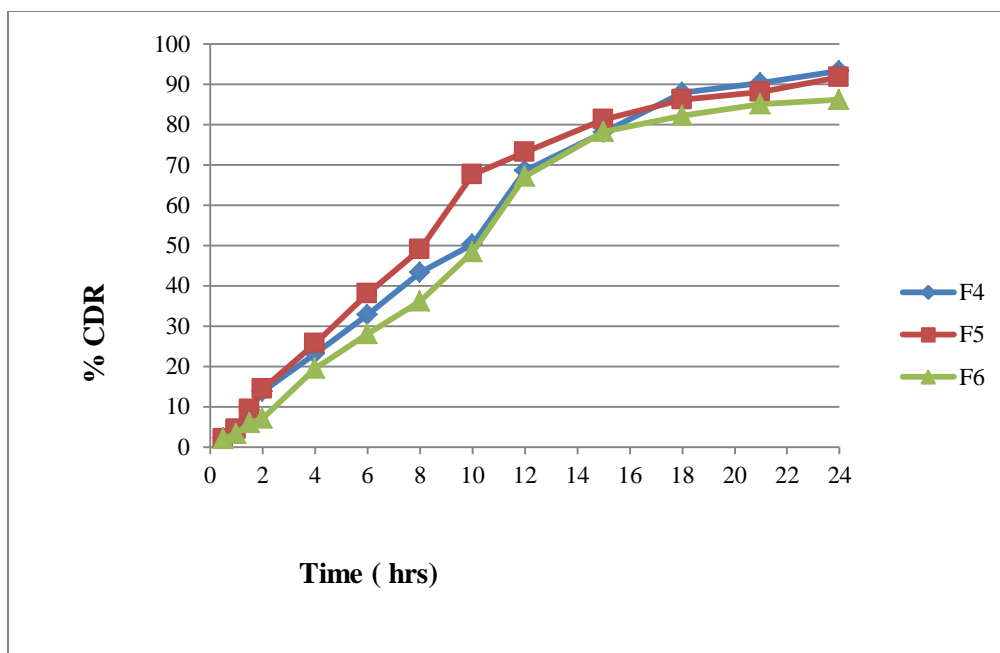
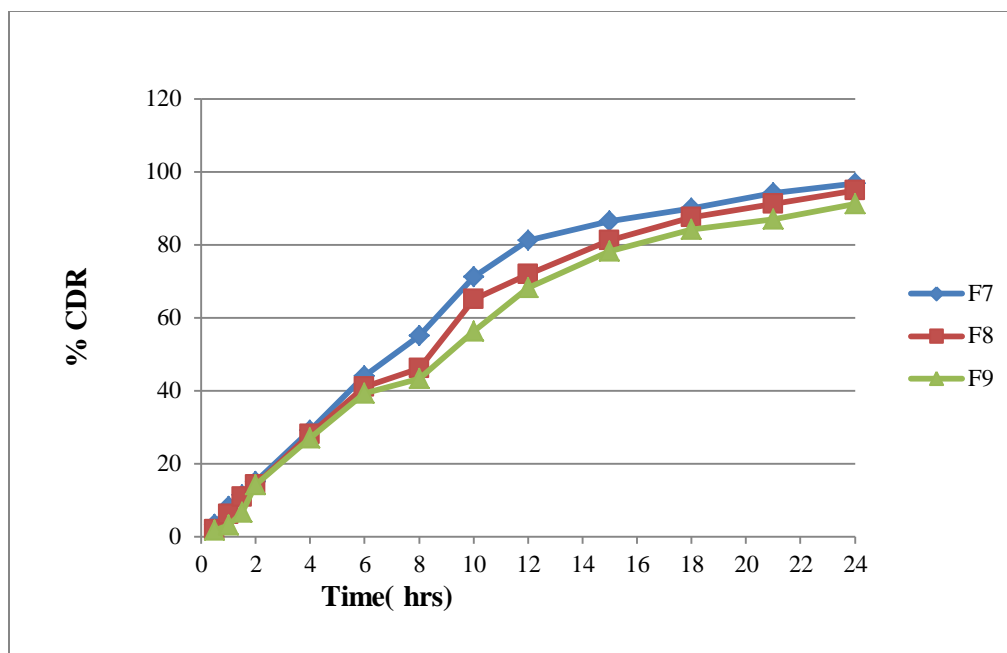**Fig IV: Dissolution studies of formulation F4, F5 and F6.**

Fig V: Dissolution studies of formulation F7, F8 and F9.

3.2.4 Swelling characteristics of matrix tablet

Table.IX: Swelling index of batch F1 to F9

| Time in hrs	Swelling Index (%)								
	F1	**F2**	**F3**	**F4**	**F5**	**F6**	**F7**	**F8**	**F9**
2	38.05	28.34	22.04	38.78	42.98	34.03	48.89	42.45	38.89
4	45.52	36.67	28.85	45.54	46.78	38.02	59.45	52.21	48.78
6	47.61	52.31	42.12	48.67	59.07	44.25	62.34	65.14	60.05
8	59.12	68.18	52.08	52.18	68.03	51.03	66.73	79.76	73.78
10	72.63	73.13	66.26	66.45	72.45	64.25	78.23	81.02	81.45
12	81.34	76.54	72.45	76.34	78.08	72.16	81.34	87.08	85.52
15	85.56	82.03	76.58	85.78	88.06	82.34	98.45	94.14	89.56
18	81.08	73.29	66.13	81.23	86.34	76.41	90.22	88.58	76.14
21	73.56	69.53	59.12	76.55	75.45	68.15	87.75	72.34	68.78
24	68.69	61.37	52.92	66.56	71.12	62.83	83.32	68.66	62.12
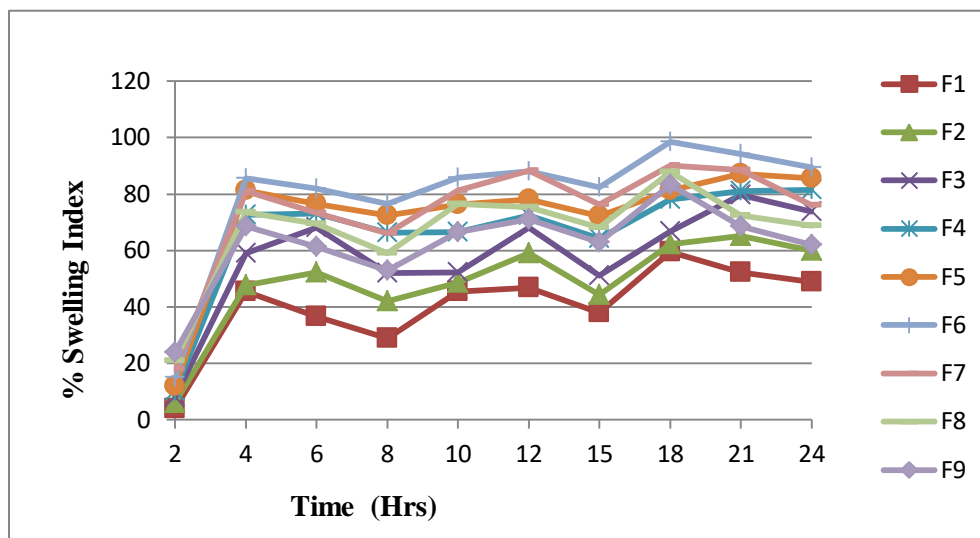
Fig.V: Swelling index of factorial batches F1 to F9.

3.2.5 Statistical treatment

In case of trial batches, the concentration was decided as suggested in the book of excipients. Depending on results obtained from those trials the final formulation concentration was decided. The T4 batch showed best results for the drug release and hence that point was considered to be center point for optimization. Thus, DOE suggested following batches having concentration in given range keeping trial optimized concentration as middle one.

Table. X : Experimental batches as per DOE

Std.	Run	Factor 1 A: HPMC K 100 Mg	Factor 2 B: PVP K30 Mg	Response 1 Drug release %	Response 2 Hardness Kg/cm2
1	1	70	5	88.21	6.8
3	2	90	5	96.92	6.7
5	3	80	6	91.88	6.8
7	4	70	7	80.12	6.9
4	5	70	6	82.04	7.0
12	6	80	6	91.88	6.8
6	7	90	6	95.01	6.9
2	8	80	5	93.45	6.8
9	9	90	7	91.23	6.9
10	10	80	6	91.88	6.8
11	11	80	6	91.88	6.8
13	12	80	6	91.88	6.8
8	13	80	7	86.28	6.9

3.2.6. Optimized batch:

The optimized batch was suggested by the DOE software depending on the onses entered in software.

Table XI: Optimized batch as per DOE

Constraints						
Name	Goal	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Lower Weight	Upper Weight	
HPMC K100M	is in range	70	90	1	1	
PVP K30	is in range	5	7	1	1	
CDR	is target= 96.92	80.12	96.92	1	1	
Hardness	is in range	6.7	7	1	1	
Sol NO	HPMC K100M	PVP K30	CDR	Hardness	Desirability	
1	89.41	5.04	96.9198	6.74317	1.000	
2	**88.93**	**5.01**	**96.92**	**6.74251**	**1.000**	**Selected**

Table.XII :Composition of Optimized Formulation

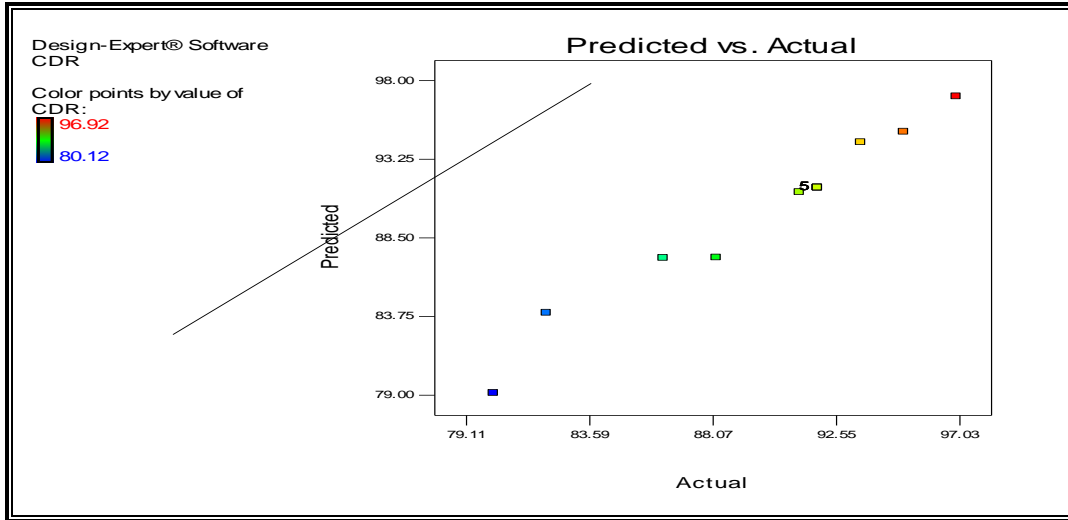| Optimized Formulation	Quantity (mg)
Lornoxicam	18
HPMC K100M	89.51
PVP K30	5.75
Avicel pH 102	77.74
Magnesium stearate	4
Talc	5
Total	200

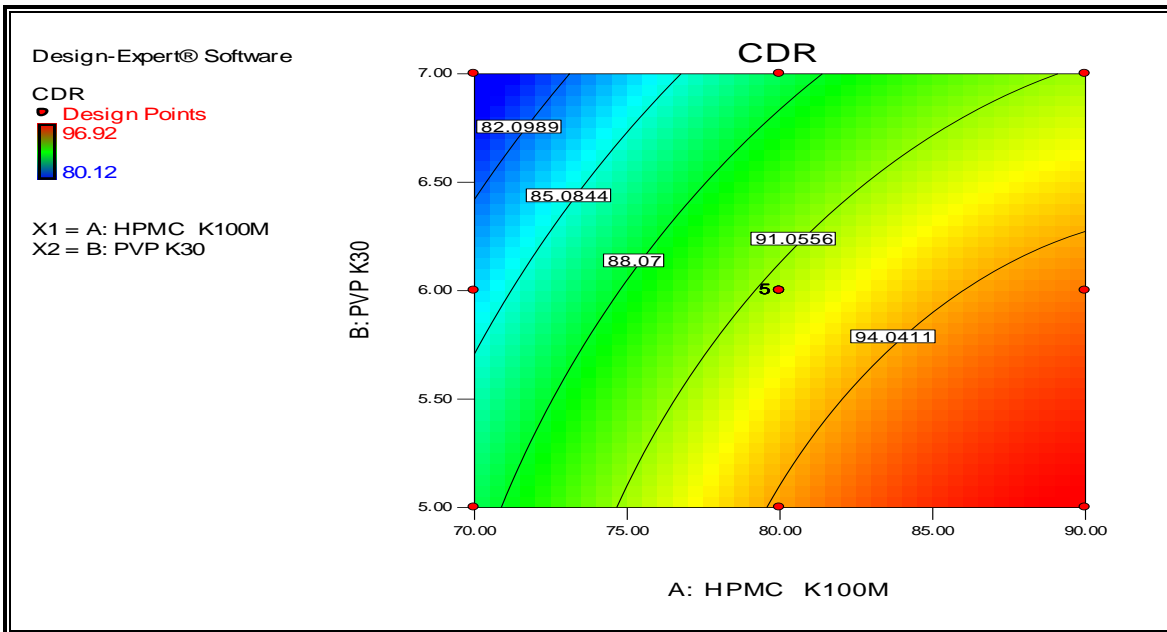**Fig. VI: Predicted V/s Actual Plot of Drug release**
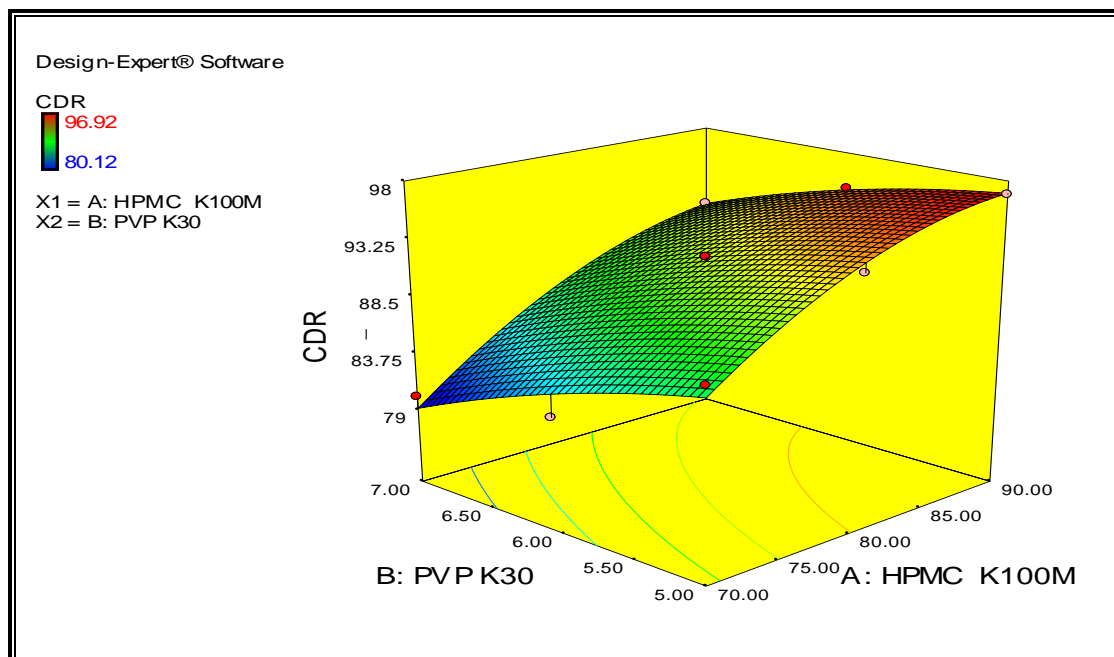

Fig. VII: Contour plot of Drug release

Fig.VIII : 3D plot of drug release

4. CONCLUSIONS:

The study was undertaken with an aim to formulation, development and evaluation of Lornoxicam sustained release matrix tablets using combination of two different polymers as release retarding agent. The conclusions drawn from the investigations were summarized below:

The polymer was selected for the sustaining the release i.e. HPMC K100M and PVP K30 are compatible with the Lornoxicam. Sustained release matrix tablets of Lornoxicam were successfully prepared using HPMC K100M (45%), PVP K30 (2.5%) and other excipients. The tablets were evaluated for pharmacopoeial and non-pharmacopoeial tests. The 3^2 factorial design can be successfully applied for the optimization of the batches. The selected independent variable exhibits significant effect on dependent variables. The oral sustained release drug delivery system of Lornoxicam provides the drug release for 24 Hrs. in a sustained manner to achieve the desired therapeutic profile with maximum drug utilization, improve patient compliance. In the trial batches the HPMC K100 (80mg) and PVP K30(6mg) show the better results, according to that the levels for factorial batches were decided. The formulation F7 containing 90mg HPMC K100M and 6mg PVP K30 shows the maximum drug release in 24hrs in sustained release manner and follows Higuchi model. Thus, an attempt to design an effective formulation technology was feasible.

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