

## COMPATIBILITY STUDIES OF VITAMIN C WITH PHARMACEUTICAL EXCIPIENTS TO DEVELOPMENT CREAM COSMECEUTICAL AS NOVEL DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEMS FOR STRETCH MARKS

Mahmoud Mahyoob Alburyhi<sup>1\*</sup>, Maged Alwan Noman<sup>1</sup>, Abdalwali Ahmed Saif<sup>1</sup>,  
Amina El-Shaibany<sup>2</sup>, Mohammed Abbas Hamidaddin<sup>3</sup>

\*<sup>1</sup>Professor Dr. of Pharmaceutics and Industrial Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutics and Industrial Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy, Sana'a University, Sana'a, Yemen.

<sup>2</sup>Professor Dr. of Pharmacognosy, Department of Pharmacognosy, Faculty of Pharmacy, Sana'a University, Sana'a, Yemen.

<sup>3</sup>Asst. Prof. Dr. of Pharmaceutical Analytical Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, Sana'a University, Sana'a, Yemen.

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### \*Corresponding Author

**Mahmoud Mahyoob Alburyhi**

Professor Dr. of Pharmaceutics and Industrial Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutics and Industrial Pharmacy, Faculty of Pharmacy, Sana'a University, Sana'a, Yemen.



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### ABSTRACT

Stretch marks, also known as striae distensae (SD), are visible linear scars that form in areas of dermal damage as a result of stretching of the skin. Stretch marks do not represent a serious health issue, but they can have a profound psychological impact on patients, especially on young, healthy women who are frequently affected by this problem. The breasts, upper arms, abdomen, buttocks, and thighs are the area's most frequently affected by this condition. The main objective of the present study was to the preformulation studies were performed to know the development of formulation and evaluation of Vitamin C Creams NDDS for topical application. In the present study that the compatibility was assessed by, FTIR spectroscopy, and preformulation parameters. Results showed that physical mixtures of drug and various excipients such as Vitamin C, Vitamin E, caffeine, and a blend of natural oils were evaluated for preformulation studies parameters. It was

concluded that the drug Vitamin C was found to be compatible with various excipients which were selected for the formulation development of the Vitamin C Creams NDDS. Formulation scientist from his experience and knowledge have to significantly in the preformulation study stage and is an important factor in the NDDS (Novel Drug Delivery Systems) product development process.

**KEYWORDS:** Vitamin C (Ascorbic acid), NDDS, Compatibility, Excipients, Development, Preformulation, Creams, Stretch marks.

## INTRODUCTION

### Background on Stretch Marks<sup>[1-21]</sup>

Stretch marks, also known as striae distensae (SD), are visible linear scars that form in areas of dermal damage as a result of stretching of the skin. Stretch marks do not represent a serious health issue, but they can have a profound psychological impact on patients, especially on young, healthy women who are frequently affected by this problem. The breasts, upper arms, abdomen, buttocks, and thighs are the area's most frequently affected by this condition.

For the treatment of SD. numerous techniques have been tried that work to stimulate the formation of collagen. These include topical creams, chemical peels, microdermabrasion, pulse dye laser, diode laser, ablative and nonablative lasers, intense pulse light, micro-needling, fractionated microneedle radiofrequency, dermal filler injections, and others. None is advised as standard therapy due to inadequate skin color improvement or persistent skin atrophy.

### Types of Stretch Marks

Striae atrophicans (thinned skin), striae gravidarum (following pregnancy), striae rubrae (red), striae albae (white), striae nigra (black) and striae caerulea (dark blue).

Striae are a form of dermal scarring associated with stretching of the dermis. They often result from a rapid change in weight (gain and loss) or are associated with endogenous or exogenous corticosteroids. Proposed mechanisms relate to hormones, physical stretch, and structural alterations of dermal collagen and elastic tissue. Adrenocorticotrophic hormones promote fibroblast activity and increase protein catabolism. Pregnancy-related hormones may

also contribute. Serum relaxin has been described to be lower in women with striae distensae. Deficiency of fibrillin has also been proposed.

Striae distensae occur in pregnancy (43% to 88%), puberty (6% to 86%) and obesity (43%). Striae atrophicans follow medical conditions, particularly Cushing syndrome/disease, and treatments, usually exogenous topical or systemic corticosteroids, or surgery. Other associated diseases are Marfan syndrome anorexia nervosa various febrile illnesses, and chronic liver disease. Medications associated with striae also include chemotherapy, prolonged antibiotic therapy, contraceptives and neuroleptics.

Striae are more common in females than in males and may be more common in certain races. They can appear more prominent in dark-skinned individuals. A positive family history is a risk factor for striae. During pregnancy, striae are more common in younger women than in older women. Several studies have noted greater prevalence with large abdominal circumference and large weight gain (due to fetal size or polyhydramnios). One study reported that striae were more prevalent in smokers than non-smokers.

Pathophysiology is thought to involve elastases released from mast cells and macrophage activity. Elastolysis of the mid-dermis is followed by a reorganization of collagen and fibrillin. Histopathology of striae rubrae reveals excessive fine elastic fibers in the papillary dermis with thicker tortuous fibers in the periphery, with perivascular lymphocytes, dilated dermal vessels and edema. There are reduction and reorganization of elastin and fibrillin fibers, and structural changes in collagen fibers, which are thicker and densely packed in parallel rows. Histopathology of striae albae shows epidermal atrophy, loss of rete ridges, less vascularity, and densely packed, thin and scar-like horizontal collagen bundles. They appear similar to mature atrophic scars. Electron microscopy studies have also reported mast cell degranulation, macrophage activation, and elastolysis of mid dermis.

### **Pharmaceutical Research Paths<sup>[22-92]</sup>**

Pharmaceutical research is characterized by having both a natural source and synthetic source for primary active raw materials and excipients, each source is mainly prepared to the effectiveness and safety of the drug.

The Pharmaceutical Research Paths include: Pharmacognosy deals with natural sources of drug, Pharmaceutical Chemistry specializes in synthetic sources of drug, Pharmaceutics

specializes in designing of pharmaceutical dosage forms and drug delivery systems from natural and synthetic sources of active pharmaceutical ingredients and excipients that help in developing dosage forms and drug delivery systems.

The Pharmaceutical Research Paths link steps are manufacturing and development of drug according to the standard parameters evaluation such as physiochemical properties, preformulation, formulation, evaluation, drug stability, Pharmaceutical analysis, pre-clinical, post-clinical stages, pre-marketing, post-marketing, Pharmacovigilance, Pharmacoeconomics, Pharmacy Management, Pharmacology, Toxicology, Therapeutics, Pharmaceutical Care, Health Care, Advanced Industrial Pharmacy, Biopharmaceutics and Pharmacokinetics, Advanced Clinical Pharmacokinetics, Pharmaceuticals Cosmetics, Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, Drug Design, Pharmacy Law and Ethics, Pharmacogenomics, Good Manufacturing Practice, and Good Pharmacy Practice etc.

All of these Pharmaceutical Research Paths are interconnected, and whenever the link between them is made in a scientific relationship and the goal of pharmaceutical care is achieved gradually according to plan of a scientific pharmaceutical research path.

Pharmaceutical Research Paths are the scientific methods through which the scientific relationship between the pharmaceutical team, research, supervisor or specialist researcher, the scientific research materials, equipment's, scientific institution, pharmaceutical companies, reference standards, and the goals of pharmaceutical research improve and development of community services of pharmaceutical care and health care.

Pharmaceutical Scientists are considering natural sources and medicinal herbs in the pharmaceutical industry an important part of drug development because natural sources of drugs have properties that are greater than industrial sources of drugs in NDDS. And the pharmaceutical industry strategies depend on the development of different pharmaceutical dosage forms and recent novel drug delivery systems. Using medicinal herbs and natural sources as important goals of drug development. It is part of the art of innovation in drug development with different of novel drug delivery systems and pharmaceutical care for patients and society, it's the basic of development of the new pharmaceutical industry by developing different novel drug delivery systems from different sources.

**Compatibility Studies**<sup>[93-130]</sup>

Preformulation is essential of pharmaceutical science that utilizes biopharmaceutical principles in the determination of physicochemical properties of the drug substance. Prior to the development of any dosage form new drug, it is essential that certain fundamental physical and chemical properties of drug powder are determined. This information may dictate many of subsequent event and approaches in formulation development. The safety, efficacy, quality and stability of a formulation are major concepts of any API development process. In API development process, a detailed characterization of the API and other formulation components is usually carried out during the preformulation stage. Formulation scientist from his experience and knowledge have to significantly in the preformulation study stage and is an important factor in the ADDS (Advanced Drug Delivery Systems) product development process.

One of the objectives of this study is to development of drug delivery systems by building scientific pharmaceutical research information depend on formulation scientists to join the knowledge and experience as well as experimental and practical results of this study with regard to information in previous studies, and approved references. It was found to be that the most important concepts and basics of preformulation studies such as definitions, methods, conclusion, idea, and types of pharmaceutical analysis techniques using in evaluation of preformulation studies parameters, in this study that we focused on developing drug delivery systems and linking the formulation development to establish the basics of pharmaceutical research in studying the drug-excipient compatibility, dug with various excipients, which is important for the safety, effectiveness, quality, formulation, stability, bioavailability, and pharmacokinetics of the drug etc.

Determination of physical chemical properties of API substance with the goal of developing a new drug which is safe stable and efficacious, each API, has intrinsic chemical and physical properties that were considered prior to the development of pharmaceutical formulation, the purpose of preformulation study is to generate useful information for the formulator in the development of stable and bioavailable dosage form, inappropriate preformulation study results in poor stability of active ingredients increase the overall cost of development and increased development time, preformulation studies help to fortify the pharmaceutical scientific foundation of the guidance, provide regulatory relief and conserve resources in the drug development and evaluation process, enhance public safety standards, improve product

quality, promote the implementation of new technologies, aids policy development and regulatory decision making and after compiling all data it is transferred to the development pharmacist and for the day work on formulation of dosage form.

**Preformulation Study Objectives:** To establish the Physico-chemical parameters of a new API entity, determine its kinetics and stability, establish its compatibility with common excipients, it provides insights into how drug products should be processed and stored to ensure their quality, estimate problem may arise during formulation that is stability problem poor *in-vivo* dissolution, poor bioavailability, to interpret BCS classification of drugs and its significance and develop optimal drug delivery system.

**Drug-Excipient Compatibility Study:** The primary objective of this investigation was to identify a stable storage condition for API in solid state and identification of compatible excipients for its formulation. Incompatibilities are major concerns in formulation development. Selection of the proper excipient during preformulation studies is of prime importance.

**Dosage Forms:** DF contain API and pharmaceutical excipients, which are intended to generate an ideal formulation and manufacturability of pharmaceutical products, thereby enabling a much safer and more effective administration. Pharmaceutical excipients are ideally inactive and have no impact on the stability or therapeutic effect of the active ingredient. On the other hand, there are studies that have presented that some pharmaceutical excipients are just allegedly described as inactive ingredient. Some pharmaceutical excipients have the capacity to affect API, efficacy by affecting its pharmacokinetics. Excipients can affect the physical and chemical form of pharmaceuticals by several factors such as hydrogen bond interaction, polymorphic conversion, and others. Accordingly, drug-excipient compatibility should be conducted so as to determine any drug-excipient interactions that may obstruct the stability, bioavailability, and manufacturability of pharmaceutical dosage forms.

### **Importance of Drug-Excipient Compatibility**

Studies of active pharmaceutical ingredient (API)-excipient compatibility represent an important study in the preformulation stage of the development of new dosage forms, stability of the dosage form can be maximized, any physical or chemical interaction between API, and excipient can affect bioavailability and stability of drug, it helps to avoid the

surprise problem, by performing drug excipient compatibility studies (DECS) we can know the possible reaction before formulating final dosage form, DECS data is essential for IND (investigational new drug) submission, and now, USFDA has made it compulsory to submit DECS data for any new coming formulation before its approval.

The potential physical and chemical interactions between an API, and the excipients can affect the chemical nature, the stability and bioavailability of the former and, consequently, its therapeutic efficacy and safety, solid dosage forms are generally less stable than their API components and despite the importance of API-excipient compatibility testing, there is no universally accepted protocol to assess such interactions.

**Pharmaceutical Excipients:** Excipients are additive substances used to improve the bulkiness, disintegration, dissolution rate, and bioavailability of a formulation etc. Different dosage forms like powders, granules, capsules, tablets, oral liquids, injectable products, implants, eye products, nasal products, inhalers, topical creams, ointments, gels, transdermal patches and suppositories etc, contains different types of excipients. To make it acceptable and compatible various pharmaceutical excipients are added in pharmaceutical dosage form for their direct therapeutic action, manufacturing process, to protect, support or enhance stability, for bioavailability or patient compliance. These must be physiologically and chemically stable, must not have any incompatibility with the API, and must meet the standards of regulatory requirements.

### **Evaluation of Drug-Excipient Compatibility**

The compatibility study of API and excipients is important to predict the stability of the API, in the final pharmaceutical product. It's the first time that API was compatible with excipients promoted physical and chemical compatibility studies was achieved by thermal and non-thermal methods. As a part of preformulation study, a compatibility study of API with the other excipients was carried out using physical blends in analytical techniques for the evaluation of drug-excipient interactions. The most commonly used pharmaceutical analytical techniques include, thermal techniques such as Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC), Thermogravimetric Analysis (TGA), Isothermal Microcalorimetry (IMC) and Hot stage microscopy (HSM) etc, and non-thermal techniques such as UV-Visible Spectrophotometric (UV), Infrared, Near-Infrared and Raman Spectroscopy (FT-IR), (NIR), Powder X-Ray Diffraction (PXRD), Solid-State Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (ssNMR), Microscopic techniques: Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM), Chromatographic

techniques: Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC), and High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) etc.

Preformulation Parameters: According to dosage form of API, mainly solid state, particle size, shape, pKa, pH determination, common ion effect, temperature, partition coefficient, solubility studies, dissolution rate, melting point, powder flow properties, crystallinity, polymorphism, hygroscopicity, stability study and drug-excipient compatibility etc. While other dosage forms according to important of preformulation parameters used in study before start in development of formulation.

Drug-excipient compatibility and formulation stability is not depended on API only but also its affected by excipient. Excipient play important role in dosage form but side by side it also increases compatibility problem so proper selection of excipient is very important in development of formulation. Incompatibility can be result mainly in any of following changes: Changes in organoleptic properties, changes in dissolution performance, decrease in potency, and increase in degradation rate etc.

Drug excipient physicochemical characterization is a systematic approach towards design of therapeutically active and stable dosage forms. The rapid advancements in novel drug delivery systems development have led to an interest by formulation scientists in the role and functionality of the excipients.

In the present study, it was proposed to Vitamin C -excipient compatibility studies of the safety, efficacy, quality and stability of a formulation are major concepts of any API development process. In API development process, a detailed characterization of the API and other formulation components is usually carried out during the preformulation stage, with commonly different excipients using for formulation development of Vitamin C Cream NDDS for topical application.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Vitamin C and all raw materials used in the preformulation and formulation including active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), excipients, and analytical reagents were obtained as a gift sample from (Shaphaco Pharma Pharmaceutical Industry Company - Yemen), (Yedco Pharma Pharmaceutical Industry Company - Yemen) and from local market.

As shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: List of Materials Used.**

NO	Name of Materials
1	Turmeric powder ( <i>Local market</i> ), (Yemen)
2	Argan Oil ( <i>Hemani</i> ), (Pakistan)
3	Almond Oil ( <i>Hemani</i> ), (Pakistan)
4	Aloe vera Oil ( <i>Hemani</i> ), (Pakistan)
5	Chamomile Oil ( <i>Hemani</i> ), (Pakistan)
6	Coconut Oil ( <i>Hemani</i> ), (Pakistan)
7	Vitamin C ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
8	Vitamin E ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
9	Caffeine ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
10	Liquid Paraffin ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
11	Ceto stearyl Alcohol ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
12	Cremonophor A25 ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
13	Methyl paraben ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
14	Propyl paraben ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
15	Propylene glycol ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
16	Zinc oxide ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
17	Cetyl alcohol ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
18	Stearic acid ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
19	Isopropyl myristate ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
20	Dimethicone ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
21	Glycerin ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
22	Menthol ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
23	Lanolin ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
24	Hexylene glycol ( <i>Yedco</i> ), (Yemen)
25	Phenyl trimethicone ( <i>Yedco</i> ), (Yemen)
26	Titanium dioxide ( <i>Yedco</i> ), (Yemen)
27	Triethanolamine ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
28	Sodium dihydrogen phosphate ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
29	Peppermint oil ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)
30	Lime fragrance ( <i>Shaphaco</i> ), (Yemen)

**Equipment**

All equipment used are listed in

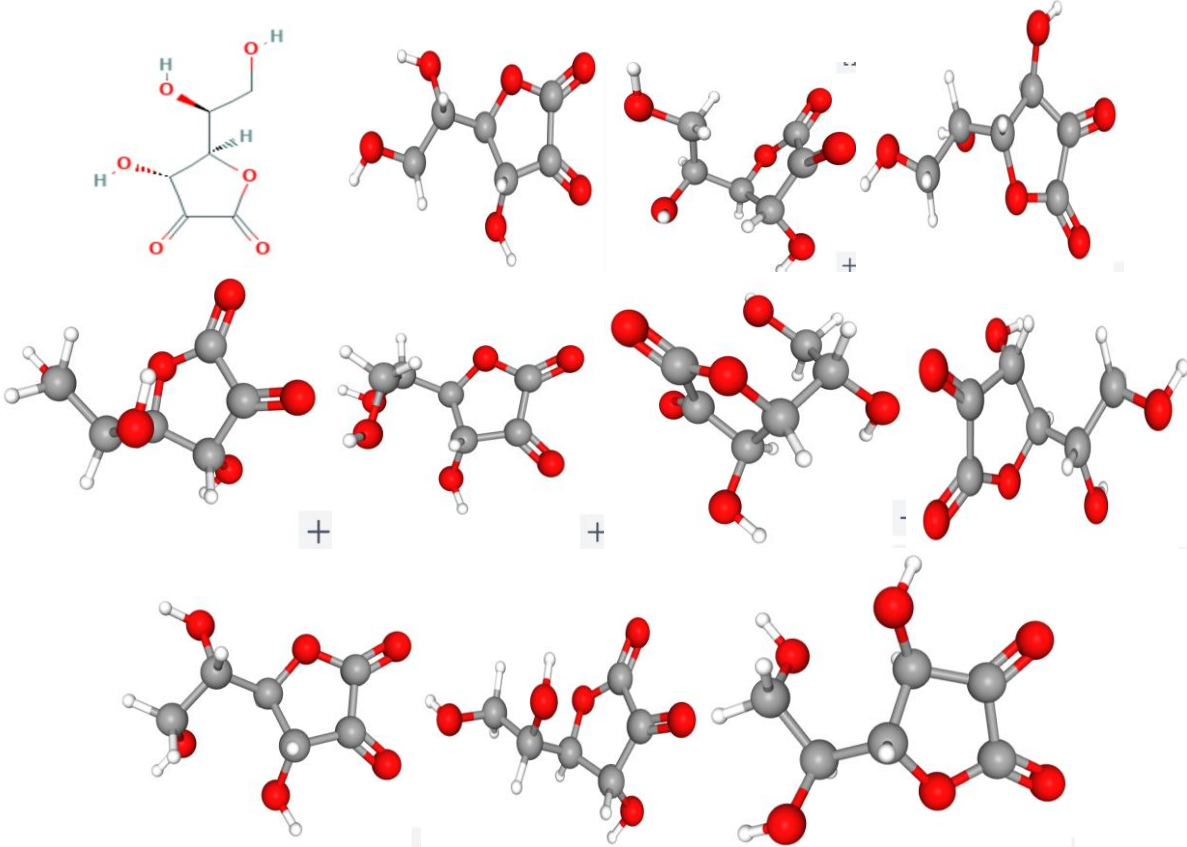
Table Error! No text of specified style in document.

Table Error! No text of specified style in document.: **List of Instruments.**

NO	Instruments
1	FTIR Spectrophotometer
2	pH Meter
3	Viscometer
4	Magnetic Stirrer
5	Electronic Balance
6	Digital Thermostatic Water Bath

Evaluation of Drug-Excipient Compatibility Studies Methods<sup>[110-188]</sup>

Table 3: Vitamin C Data.

Characterization of Vitamin C			
 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Vitamin C Structure and 3D Conformer</b></p>			
<b>Chemical Structure</b>	(4 <i>R</i> ,5 <i>R</i> )-5-[(1 <i>S</i> )-1,2-dihydroxyethyl]-4-hydroxyoxolane-2,3-dione	<b>Appearance</b>	Is a fine, dry, white-to-off-white, crystalline powder that resembles fine sugar or cornstarch.
<b>Chemical Formula</b>	$C_6H_8O_6$	<b>Drug Solubility</b>	Solubility: Is a water-soluble vitamin, solubility in water. 330 g/L. <b>Melting Point:</b> 190 °C to 192 °C.
<b>Molecular Weight</b>	176.12 g/mol	BCS	Class-I Drug
<b>Drug Action and Use</b>	<p>Vitamin C is needed for the growth and repair of tissues in all parts of your body. It is used to: Form an important protein called collagen, used to make skin, tendons, ligaments, and blood vessels. Heal wounds and form scar tissue.</p> <p><b>Benefits of Vitamin C</b> Helping to protect cells and keeping them healthy, maintaining healthy skin, supporting blood vessels, maintaining bones and cartilage, Helping with wound healing, encouraging immune defence, protecting from cardiovascular</p>		

	<p>disease and supports the reduction of tiredness and fatigue.</p> <p>Vitamin C (ascorbic acid) is a vital nutrient that acts as a potent antioxidant, protects cells from free radical damage, and supports immune function. It is essential for collagen synthesis—crucial for skin, bone, and connective tissue health—and aids in the absorption of iron.</p> <p>Vitamin C is a substance the body needs to form blood vessels, cartilage, muscle and collagen in bones. The body also needs vitamin C for healing. Also called ascorbic acid, vitamin C helps protect cells from damage. Substances like vitamin C that protect against cell damage are called antioxidants.</p>		
<b>Vitamin C Pharmacokinetics</b>			
<b>Drug Absorption</b>	<p>Vitamin C (ascorbic acid) absorption is a complex, dose-dependent process primarily occurring in the distal small intestine, utilizing sodium-dependent active transport for efficiency. At typical dietary doses (up to 200 mg), nearly 100% of vitamin C is absorbed, with efficiency decreasing as intake increases.</p> <p>Active Transport (Primary Mechanism): Sodium-dependent vitamin C transporters (SVCTs).</p> <p>The pharmacokinetics of Vit C is complex, dose-dependent, and compartmentalized at physiological levels, while independent of dose and first order at pharmacological levels.</p>	<b>Drug Distribution</b>	<p><b>Volume of Distribution:</b> Vd is small (~0.2 L/kg). is a <b>water-soluble</b> vitamin. It dissolves in water, meaning it is not stored extensively in the body and any excess is excreted through urine. Because it is not stored, it must be consumed daily through diet or supplements to support collagen synthesis, immunity, and tissue repair. Its distribution is regulated by Sodium-dependent Vitamin C Transporters (SVCT1 and SVCT2), allowing tissues to maintain concentrations 10–100 times higher than in plasma.</p> <p><b>Protein binding:</b> Vitamin C (ascorbic acid) generally shows low, negligible binding to plasma proteins in the blood, allowing it to transport freely, though it can bind to serum proteins like albumin via ionic interactions. It primarily acts as a cofactor for enzymes, a radical scavenger, and an electron donor rather than a protein-bound carrier.</p>
<b>Drug Metabolism</b>	<p>It acts as an electron donor (antioxidant), converting to dehydroascorbate, which is recycled or metabolized into oxalate and excreted.</p>	<b>Drug Excretion</b>	<p><b>Route of Elimination:</b> Vitamin C (ascorbic acid) is primarily eliminated via the kidneys through urine. It is freely filtered at the glomerulus and, when plasma</p>

			levels are saturated, excess unmetabolized ascorbate and its metabolites (such as oxalate) are excreted in the urine. A smaller percentage is eliminated through feces, and it is rarely metabolized to CO <sub>2</sub> in humans. <b>Clearance:</b> Is primarily renal, with excess amounts excreted via urine, particularly when intake exceeds 200–400 mg/day.
<b>The Elimination Half-Life (T<sub>1/2</sub>)</b>	Plasma elimination half-life around 2–3 hours in plasma. Renal excretion is highly efficient; at doses over 1 gram (g), over 50% is excreted, while daily intake below 80 mg is largely retained.	<b>Availability</b>	Tablets, Effervcent Tablets, Effervcent Powder, Solutions, Serum, Injections, lozenges.

According to Vitamin C data as shown in Table 3, it was selected that the different excipients to preformulation study with Vitamin C in the present study.

### Pre-Formulation Study

A stage of development during which the physicochemical properties of the drug substance are characterized and established. A complete knowledge of the relevant therapeutic and physicochemical properties of the drug enables determination of its proper formulation and delivery method. Preformulation study is to develop the elegant (stable, effective, and safe) dosage form by establishing kinetic rate profile, compatibility with the other ingredients and establish physico-chemical parameter of new drug substance.

### Drug and Excipients Compatibility Study

#### FTIR Spectroscopy Study

IR study was aimed to study the compatibility of excipients with drug in room condition. Each excipient was mixed with drug in equal amounts, then from each sample a small amount was taken (approx 1:1 %) and mixed with about 100 mg of potassium bromide. The KBr-sample mixtures were grinded separately for each sample using agate mortar and pestle. The grinded powders were compressed into discs under pressure of about 10000 pounds per square inch. The tablets were mounted in IR compartment and analyzed. The infrared spectra of the drug - excipient mixtures were recorded over a wave number of 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> to 500 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

On analysis of the IR spectra of the reference spectra given in British Pharmacopoeia and pure drug, no major differences were observed in the characteristic absorption peak pattern as shown in Table 4.

**Table 4: The Drug and Excipients Compatibility Studies.**

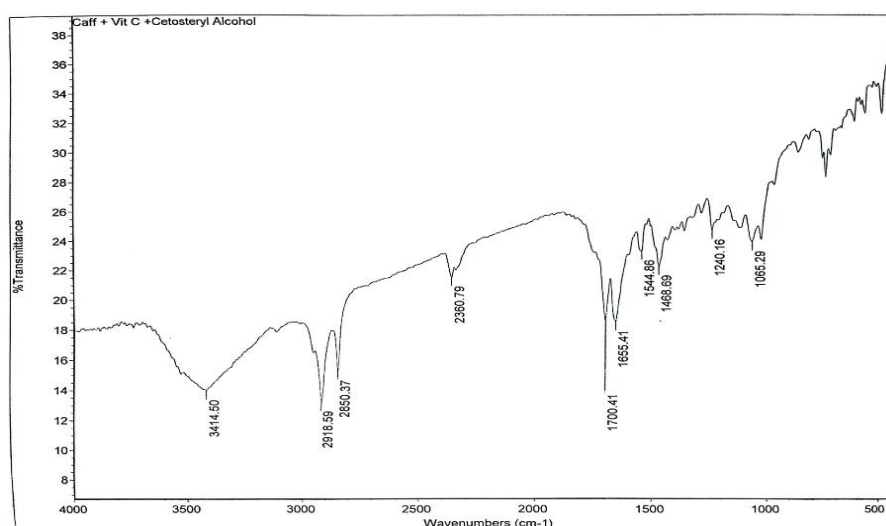
Sample Code	Drug with Excipients	Ratio (Drug: Excipient)
1	Vitamin C + Caffeine	1
2	Vitamin C + Caffeine + Cetostearyl Alcohol	1:1
3	Vitamin C + Caffeine + Cremophor A25	1:1
4	Vitamin C + Caffeine + Menthol	1:1
5	Vitamin C + Caffeine + Zinc Oxide	1:1
6	Vitamin C + Caffeine + Cetyl Alcohol	1:1
7	Vitamin C + Caffeine + Propyl Paraben	1:1
8	Vitamin C + Caffeine + Methyl Paraben	1:1
9	Vitamin C + Caffeine + Stearic Acid	1:1

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

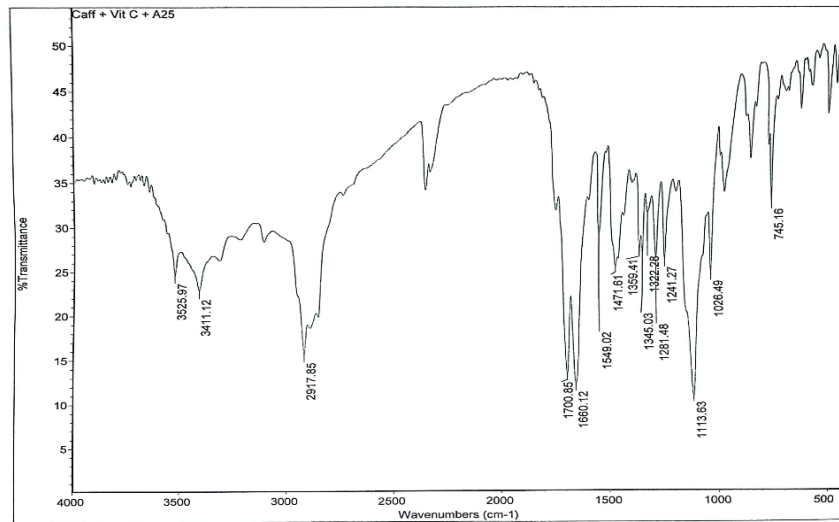
### Excipient and Drug Compatibility Study

#### Characterization of Drug by FTIR

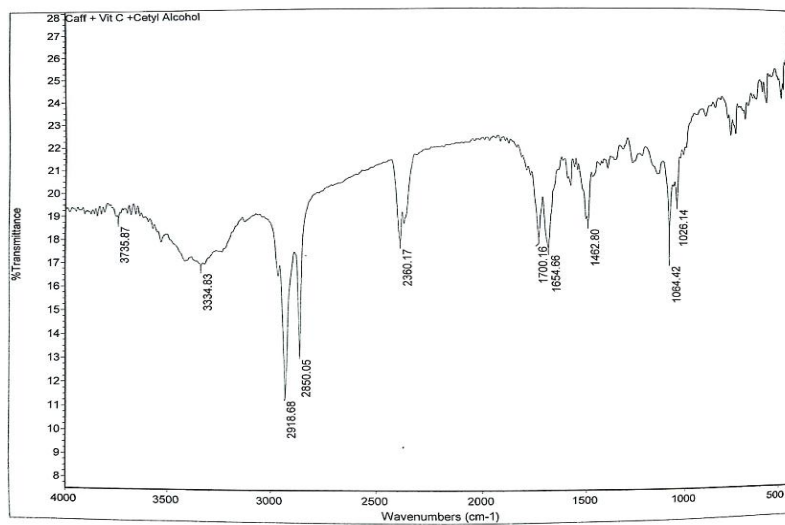
FTIR spectrum studies indicated that major functional groups present in drug show characteristic peaks in IR spectrum. Figures (1) to (7) show peaks observed at different wave numbers and the functional group associated with these peaks for drug and drug with different excipients. The major peaks are identical to functional group of drug. Hence, it was confirmed that there was compatibility between drug and various excipients, thus conforming that no interaction of drug occurred with the components of the formulation excipients.



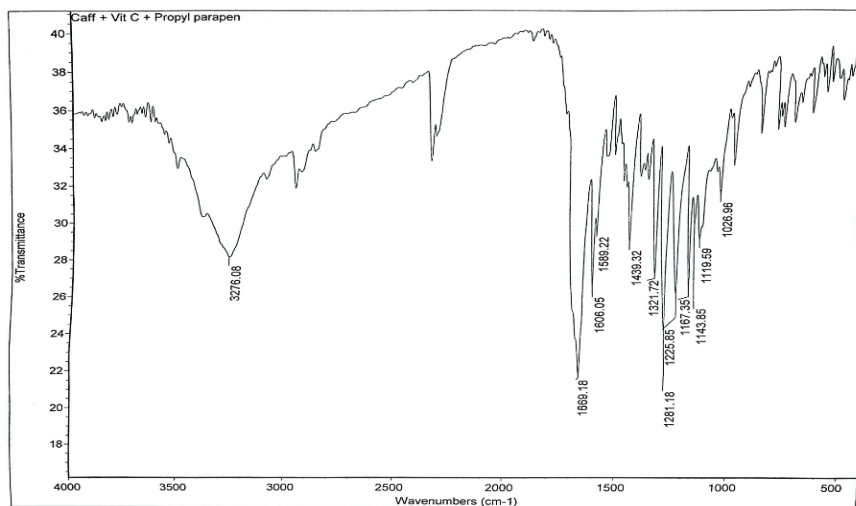
**Fig. 1: FTIR Spectra of Active ingredient and Cetostearyl alcohol.**



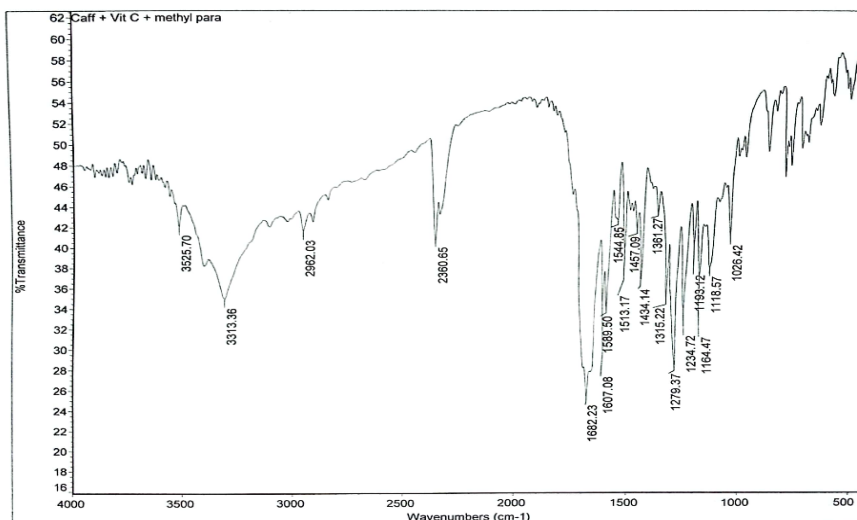
**Fig. 2: FTIR Spectra of Active ingredient and Cremophor A25.**



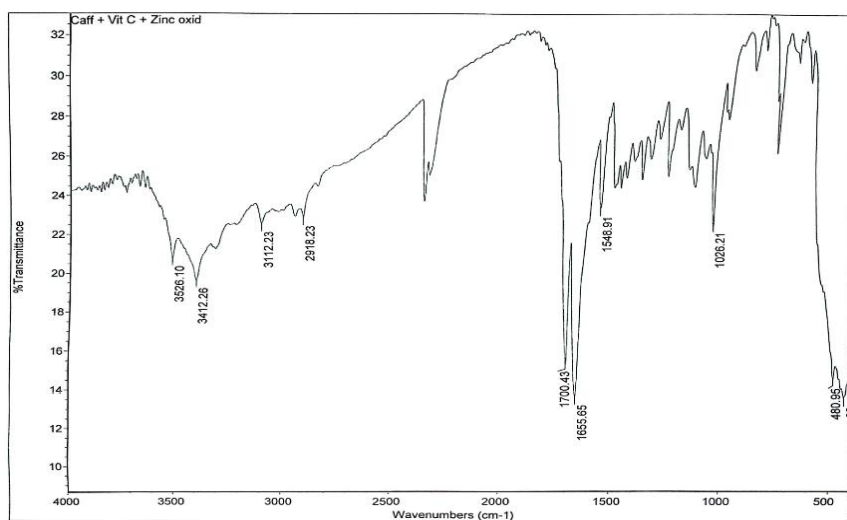
**Fig. 3: FTIR Spectra of Active ingredient and Cetyl alcohol.**



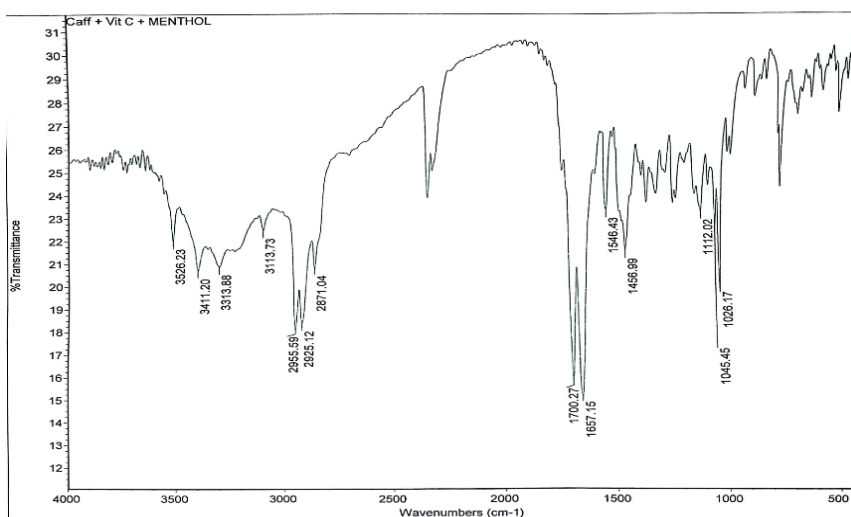
**Fig. 4: FTIR Spectra of Active ingredient and Propyl Paraben.**



**Fig. 5: FTIR Spectra of Active ingredient and Methyl paraben.**



**Fig. 6: FTIR Spectra of Active ingredient and Zinc oxide.**



**Fig. 7: FTIR Spectra of Active ingredient and Menthol.**

The pre-formulation studies confirmed the identity and purity of the active drugs. FTIR analysis showed that Vitamin C retained its diagnostic bands and in mixtures with formulation excipients. These findings demonstrate full physicochemical compatibility of Vitamin C with all components. In other words, none of the excipients caused chemical degradation or new interactions with the drug.

## CONCLUSION

The compatibility studies of physical mixtures of drug with different used excipients such as Vitamin C, Vitamin E, caffeine, and a blend of natural oils were evaluated for preformulation studies parameters were investigated by FTIR it was detected that there was no variation or minor deviation in the characteristic peaks in FTIR spectroscopy. It was concluded that the drug Vitamin C was found to be compatible with various excipients which were selected for the formulation development of the Vitamin C Cream NDDS. Formulation scientist from his experience and knowledge have to significantly in the preformulation study stage and is an important factor in the NDDS (Novel Drug Delivery Systems) product development process.

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