

**Review Article** 

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# Formulation, Characterization and Evaluation of Ethosomal Gel of Azathioprine for the Treatment of Vitiligo

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#### Abstract

The Current Investigation focuses on developing and evaluating an ethosomal gel formulation of azathioprine for topical treatment of vitligo. Administration of topical medications allows for higher drug concentrations at the site of action compared to systemic therapy. The Efficiency of topical treatments can be enhanced using delivery systems such as liposomes, proliposomes, and ethosomes. Ethosomes are phospholipid- based vesicular systems with high alcohol content, which enhances the transport of hydrophilic and lipophilic substances both dermally and transdermally. In this research, ethosomes were produced using phospholipid, ethanol, and distilled water through a mechanical dispersion method. The ethosomes will be assessed for vesicle size, shape, microscopy, and entrapment efficiency. Carbopol 934 was used as a gelling agent to formulate the gel.

Keywords: Omission; environment; multinationals

### Introduction

Vesicles are tiny structures with a bilayer arrangement comparable to the natural bilipid layer structure of our body's membrane. They are particularly effective at encapsulating pharmaceuticals with varying physicochemical properties. The Skin (SC) is regarded as the most significant barrier to good transdermal medication penetration and is easily overcome by these vesicular structures (Cevc, 2004) . The amphiphilic character of vesicles permits lipophobic and lipophilic medicines to their respective destinations with reasonable ease (Tyagi LK, 2013). Liposomes had earlier been established as a pioneer model in vesicular delivery systems.

Vesicles provide significant contributions to both cellular communication and particle movement.Researchers have stated there that the form of vesicles helps them to deliver medications in an efficient manner, and Vesicles are marked for cell specificity, producing a targeted effect. The liposomes were additionally changed for superior features, resulting in the ethosomes, which willlead to significant progression and benefit in vesicular research.(W., 2001)

#### Advantages:

More permeability through the dermis can be achieved via ethosomes, which is perfect for transdermal and intercellular drug administration. They aid in the more effective and efficient distribution of bigger component groups, such as peptides and proteins. With respect, to alternative physical methods like iontophoresis and sonophoresis, the approach is comparatively easier to use. There are advantages to using non-toxic raw materials, and as a non-toxicusing a passive and intrusive method It might be commercially utilized and is immediately marketable. Compared to many other methods, it offers superiorcompliance by patients with increased stability and solubility.

Additionally, size of particle is decreased to allowable limits. Another crucial component is the simplicity in industrial scale-up, which makes proprietary technology more appealing overall since it makes it simple to create vast amounts of ethosomes without complex machinery or technology. As a result, they are more beneficial in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical, cosmetic, and veterinary industries. Medications that are hydrophilic or lipophilic can be added to vesicles to facilitate the transport of most drugs that are not soluble or permeable. The vesicle can improve focused and more effective therapy by increasing a strong medication at thelocation of action since it resembles the skin's bilipid structure

#### Limitations:

When ethosomes are not prepared correctly, the yield can occasionally be low. The drug loss while the shifting is very significant. In, some cases, shell locking can cause coalescence and the loss of vital stability. The medication that will be loaded must have a reasonable molecular size; otherwise, the procedure cannot deliver all drug kinds. They may occasionally be irritating to wear or uncomfortable, which would reduce their usefulness. Another significant obstacle is the unprofitable part of their price.



Fig:1.2 Advantages and Limitations of Ethosomes



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Literature Review

**1.E.Toutiou et.al(2000)[5]** this article describes about the ethosomal system composed of phospholipids, ethanol, and water which is novelcarrier for enhanced skin delivery. In terms of quantity and depth, ethosomal systems were far more effective than liposomes or hydroalcoholicsolutions in delivering a fluorescent probe to the skin. This research article describes the ethosomal system, a new carrier for improved skin delivery that is made of phospholipid, ethanol, and water. When it came to both amount and depth of delivery of a probe with a to the skin, ethosomal systems outperformed hydroalcoholic solution and liposomes. By using electron microscopy, it was demonstrated that ethosomal systems consisting of 2% soy phosphatidylcholine, 30% ethanol, and water had multilamellar vesicles. P-NMR analyses verified the lipids' bilayer structure. When compared to liposomes produced without ethanol, calorimetry and fluorescence tests indicated that the vesicular bilayers are flexible and have a comparatively low Tm and fluorescence anisotropy. According to dynamic light scattering tests, the vesicles acquired a negative charge from the ethanol.

**Fang YP et al.(2008)[22]** Its foundation is topical photodynamic therapy (PDT), which is analternate treatment for a variety of skin malignancies other than melanoma that uses 5-aminolevulinic acid (ALA). However, the main drawback of this treatment is that ALA has a lowpermeability through the skin's stratum corneum (SC).

**Zhang JP et al (2012) [29]** the purpose of was to compare the skin penetration of Terbinafine Hydrochloride (TH) under non –occlusive settings by ethosomes, binary ethosomes and transferosomes. These lipid vesicles were made, and their size, shape, zeta –potential, and entrapment effectiveness were assessed. Franz diffusion cells and confocal laser scanning microscopy (CLSM) were used to study percutaneous absorption. In comparison to conventional liposomes (control), the amount of medication in the skin from ethosomes, binary ethosomes (ethanol to propylene glycol weight ratio: 7:3, ethanol-PG=7:3,w/w), and transfeorsomes all had skin deposition rates of 3.34(p<0.05), 9.88(p<0.01), 2.52 times more than the control group's TH value. The findings of the CLSM investigations

demonstrated that Rhodamine B from binary ethosomes had a significantly higher fluorescenceintensity and penetration depth than that of ethosomes and transferosmes. According to these finding, transferosomes made it simplest for drugs to concentrate in the skin , while binaryethosomes(ethanol-PG=7:3,w/w)most successfully allowed drug penetration through skin.

With more improvement in skin penetration than in skin deposition, ethosomes enhancedmedication delivery

**Zhu X et al.(2013)[28]'s** the goal was to prepare lidocaine base ethosomes by employing theinjection- sonication – filter technique. High performance liquid chromatography and a zetasizerwere used to assess size, loading efficiency, encapsulation efficiency in the orthogonal test, Formulation was ascertained. A Franz-type diffusion cell experiment was used to examine thepercutaneous penetration efficiency in vitro. The pinprick test was used to assess in vivoeffectiveness. White guinea pigs underwent cutaneous irritancy testing, which were followed by histopathologic examination. The outcomes were contrasted between lidocaine administrated in ahydroethanolic solution and

lidocaine liposomes. Egg phosphatidyl

choline (5%w/w),35%w/wEthanol, 0.2% w/w cholesterol, and 5%w/w) are the constituents of lidocainebase ethosomes When compared to lidocaine base liposome base liposomes or lidocaine administered in a hydroethanolic solution, lidocaine base

ethosomes demonstrated a quickeronset time and a longer endurance in vivo. Ethosomes are potential transporters of local anaesthetics over the skin and may be applicable for other percutaneous medicines that requirequick onset.

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**Shen S. et al.'s (2015)[34]** Developing a novel antimalarial agent is the main goal of investigation. The purpose of this work was to create ethosomal cataplasm, a novel chemical antimalarial transdermal nanosystem, and to examine it's properties and effectiveness as well as methodically research the mechanisms that facilitate ethosomal cataplasm's penetration. Both febrifugine and artesunate – loaded ethosomes were made made, and their properties were assessed. The compound anti-malarial ethosomes cataplasm was created by integrating drug-loaded ethosomes into the cataplasmic matrix. The cumulative permeation quantity of artesunate increased dramatically with the use of ethosomal technology at 8 hours post –administration; this rise was 1.57 times more than that of conventional cataplasm. A significant amount anti malarial medication could swiftly pass through the epidermis following injection because to the ethosomalcataplasm, and the remaining drug in the ethosomal cataplasm could be steadily released

**Moghal.Roohi Shabreen (2020) [13]** Several uses of ethosomes, such as the delivery of antibiotics NSAIDS, anti- cancer, anti- fungal, anti-acne, and skin cancer, will be covered in this review. Drugs including fluconazole (an antibiotic), clotrimazole (an antifungal), raloxifene HCl (an anti-cancer agent), and indomethacin (a NSAID's) are among those found in ethosomes.

In this review ,the preparation techniques for ethosomes - such as the cold .hot.injection, mechanical dispersion, and classic methods - are explained. The ethosomes conduct evaluation tests such as size analysis, zeta potential , FT-IR research , stability studies , drug entrapment efficiency, permeation properties and HPLC assay. The composition ethosomes included the use of several penetration enhancers including Labrasol, Transcutol and Terpens . Increase the amount of medication that permeates the stratum corneum [SC] and reaches deeper levels of the Skin far more successfully than liposomes. Ethosomes have wide range of uses in the biotechnological, cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries as well as the ability to transpory ahuge and diverse range of medications with various physicochemical characteristics. Theutilization of an ethosomal transporter to facilitate the transfer of bioactive compounds acrosscellular membranes and the skin presents a multiple of opportunities and challenges for future Study and development of enhanced therapeutics. Ethosomes formulation has a bright future in efficient transdermal or dermal administration of bioactive compounds.

Conclusion

The formulation and evaluation of ethosomes loaded with azathioprine represent a promising advancement in the treatment of vitiligo. Ethosomes, with their lipid-based structure and ethanol content, offer enhanced transdermal administration of azathioprine, potentially improving its therapeutic effectiveness in contrast to traditional formulations. The successful development of ethosomes involves optimizing the phospholipid and ethanol concentrations, ensuring high entrapment efficiency, and achieving a desirable release profile of azathioprine.

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