

# Preparation and evaluation of orodispersible tablet of Aripiperazole

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**Abstract:** Aripiperazole is a bitter drug, freely soluble in organic solvents but it is practically insoluble in water & its solubility is pH dependent. Therefore, In order to ensure adequate bioavailability, aripiperazole and betacyclodextrine are subjected to three different weight ratios (B5 1:1, 1:1.5, and 1:2). ARP-BCD complexes, are prepared by solid dispersion technique to improve dissolution & bioavailability of this poorly water soluble drug. Batch B5 (ii), in which the drug was complexed with  $\beta$ -Cyclodextrin in the ratio (1:1.5) shows 100% drug release within 60 minutes & it releases above 90% drug within 10 minutes. Wet granulation technique was implemented to compressed tablets of best resulted ARP-BCD complex B5 1:1.5 (B6), Finally the compressed tablets were evaluated for their different parameter, like, crushing strength, friability, disintegration time, and dissolution, **In vivo disintegration time, Bitterness Index**, resulted a successful formulation. Batch B6 (iv) the combination of MCC (ceolus KG 802) & xylitol as a filler shows best disintegration characteristics, acceptable friability, good mouth feel, sufficient hardness and 100% dissolution profile. To the optimized batch of B6 (iv) Acesulfame potassium, and other sweeteners and flavours were added. The intensity of the bitterness was found out by comparing the bitter index level of prepared 3 batches i.e. X1, X2, and X3. Batch X3 with 2% sweetening & flavouring agent produces tasteless tablets with good & pleasant mouthfeel. So it was concluded that by means of addition of 2% of sweetening & flavouring agent the bitter taste masking was achieved upto the required level.

**Keywords:** Aripiperazole dispersible unit,, Taste masking of ARP, Antipsychotic drug formulation with superdisintegrants, solubility enhancement of aripiperazole,, solubility enhancement, of poorly water soluble drug.

## INTRODUCTION:

## DRUG INFORMATION <sup>6,7,8,9</sup>

It is chemically 7-[4-[4-(2, 3-dichlorophenyl) piperazin-1-yl]butoxy]-3, 4-dihydro-1H-quinolin-2-on or 7-[4-[4-(2, 3-dichlorophenyl)-1-piperazinyl] butoxy]-3, 4-dihydrocarbostyryl **Proprietary Name- Abilify** [Molecular formula  $C_{23}H_{27}Cl_2N_3O_2$ ] [Molecular Weight :448.385.] **Aripiperazole** having indication for the treatment of schizophrenia .is a white crystalline powder and is practically insoluble in water and its Solubility is pH dependent. Aripiperazole can exist in several crystalline forms, Form I was chosen for the development and commercialization. The active substance does not contain any chiral centers and does not exhibit any optical isomerism. Mechanism of action of aripiperazole is novel as it involves a combination

of partial agonist action (agonist/antagonism) at dopamine D2 and serotonin 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> receptors and antagonism at serotonin 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> receptors. It is well absorbed after administration of the tablet, with peak plasma concentrations occurring within 3 to 5 hours; the absolute oral bioavailability of the tablet formulation is 87%, can be administered with or without food. The steady-state volume of distribution of aripiprazole following intravenous administration is high (404 L or 4.9 L/kg), indicating extensive extra vascular distribution. At therapeutic concentrations, aripiprazole and its major metabolite are greater than 99% bound to serum proteins, primarily to albumin. The drug is metabolized primarily by three biotransformation pathways. Dehydrogenation, hydroxylation, and N-dealkylation. Based on *in vitro* studies, CYP3A4 and CYP2D6 enzymes are responsible for dehydrogenation and hydroxylation of aripiprazole, and N-dealkylation is catalyzed by CYP3A4. It is the predominant drug moiety in the systemic circulation. At steady state, dehydroaripiprazole, the active metabolite, represents about 40% of aripiprazole AUC in plasma. Approximately 25 % of aripiprazole eliminated through urine & 55% eliminated through feces. Less than 1% of unchanged ARP was excreted in the urine and approximately 18% of the oral dose was recovered unchanged in the feces. Its **half-life** is 75 hours for extensive metabolizer, 146 hours for poor metabolizer.

The ideal characteristic for a drug to formulate it into an ODT dosage form is that it must possess highly soluble characteristics in water & in saliva & also it has the ability to permeate the mucosal tissue. But aripiprazole is a BCS class-II drug i.e having poor solubility & high permeability. The objective of present study is to enhance its solubility with optimum dissolution and bioavailability.

Solid dispersion technique is a commonly used technique that has been used to improve dissolution & bioavailability of poorly water soluble drugs by means of following ways

- Drug – carrier interaction
- Amorphous precipitation
- Compound or complex formation
- Wet ability enhancement
- Reduction of aggregation & agglomeration & Solubilization of the drug by the carrier at the diffusion layer.

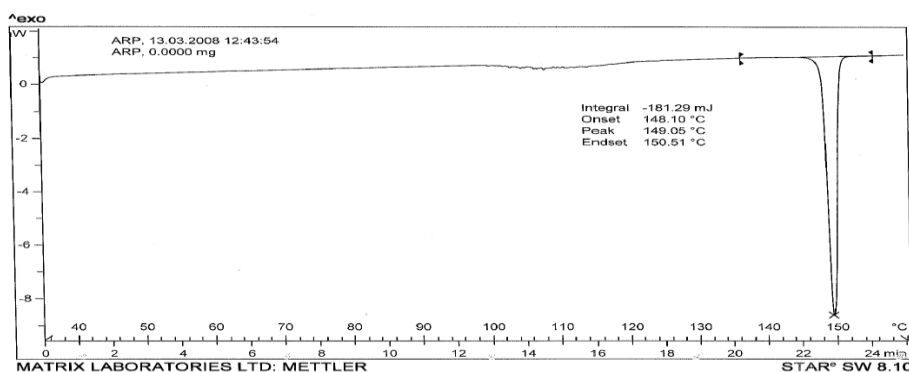
## **MATERIAL AND METHODS:**

### **a. Material**

Aripiperazole I.P, Acesulfame Potassium, cross carmellose sodium, cross povidone, sodium starch glycolate, magnesium stearate, aerosol, xylitol, mannitol, ferric oxide red, aerosol, citric acid, MCC PVP K 30 was obtained as a gift sample from Matrix Laboratories Ltd. Hyderabad. All other chemicals and solvents were of analytical grade and used as received. Distilled water was prepared in laboratory using all glass distillation apparatus.

**Methods:**

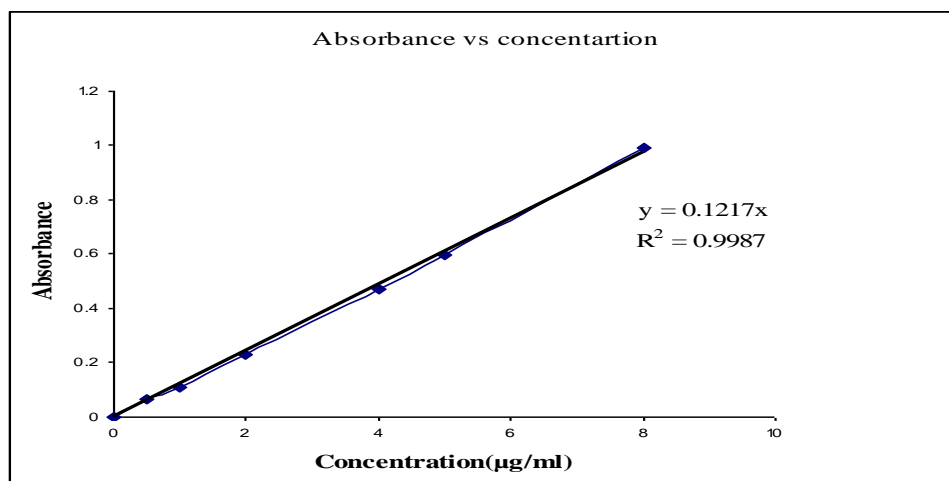
NMR spectra, X-ray diffraction patterns & DSC thermograms are typically used to measure changes in the characteristics, analytical features of a drug molecule upon complexation as an indication that a complex has been formed. Dissolution profile for the drug, and complex of drug & BCD are often presented to demonstrate the influence of BCD on dissolution kinetics & the total amount of drug in solution. In addition, pharmacokinetic parameters resulting from dosing a physical mixture of drug & BCD or a preformed complex in comparison to drug alone are often presented to demonstrate an overall improvement in bioavailability upon dosing with BCD

**Fig:1 (DSC report of aripiprazole: Drug (1:1.5) complexation)****Stock solution: Aripiprazole in pH 6.8 phosphate buffer/Preparation**

Accurately weighed 6.810gm of potassium dihydrogen phosphate ( $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$ ) was taken in 1lit. beaker with water content up to 500ml, to that 0.94 gm of sodium hydroxide (NaOH) pellet was added & continuously stirring by means of glass rod. Then the volume was adjusted to 1lit, & the pH was adjusted by means of sodium hydroxide. 1 ml of stock solution was transferred into 1000 ml volumetric flask & the volume was made up to 1000ml with pH 6.8 phosphate buffer i.e. concentration is  $10\mu\text{g/ml}$ . then the solution was further diluted to obtain 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  & their absorbance was measured UV scan was taken between the wavelengths of 200-400 nm. The spectrum is shown in figure. The absorption maxima for aripiprazole were observed at 217 nm, which was used for further studies. The concentration range & the absorbance are reported in table-1 and curve shown in graph-1

**Table-1 concentration range & the absorbance Table**

Concentration( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	Absorbance
0.0	0.0
0.5	0.068
1.0	0.112
2.0	0.230
4.0	0.472
5.0	0.598
8.0	0.992

**Fig-2 Standard plot of Aripiprazole in pH 6.8 phosphate buffer:**

### SOLUBILITY ENHANCEMENT BY COMPLEXATION WITH B-CYCLODEXTRIN BY SOLID DISPERSION METHOD AND PREPARATION OF ARIPIPERAZOLE ORAL DISPERSIBLE TABLET(ODT)

Complexation & physical mixture of ARP & BCD containing three different weight ratios (1:1, 1:1.5, and 1:2) were prepared by trituration method. Accurately weighed aripiprazole & respective weight.ratio of BCD were mixed thoroughly in a mortar, paste by trituration continuously for 2 hrs. Then the physical mixture were passed through 40(#) & stored in desiccators for further use. Citric acid is a carrier to solid dispersion and increasing release rate.Magnesium stearate ,aerosil are libricants.PVK 130 is a binder.MCC,Cross povidone,cross carmellose sodium are intragranular proportional superdisintegrants gives better disintegrating properties compearatively. Iron oxide red is a durable inexpensive pigment.

**Table-2 Formula for Preparation of Aripiprazole ODT**

Ingredients	B-5(i) 1:1,	B-5(ii) 1:1.5	B-5(iii) 1:2
	Mg/tab	Mg/tab	Mg/tab
ARP-β-CD(mg)	20	25	30
Crosscarmellose sodium	14.5	14.5	14.5
Crosspvidone	7.5	7.5	7.5
MCC	95.16	90.16	85.16
PVP K30	5.25	5.25	5.25
Crosspvidone	3.0	3.0	3.0
Mg.stearate	1.5	1.5	1.5
Aerosil	0.75	0.75	0.75
Citric acid	3.0	3.0	3.0
Iron oxide red	0.015	0.015	0.015

**Preparation of tablet:**

**B-5(ii) 1:1.5**, 25 mg was compressed into tablets to Four ODT formulations **B 6 (i) B 6(ii) B 6(iii) B 6(iv)** same concentration of superdisintegrants, filler contains microcrystalline cellulose (MCC, Avicel pH 101), Xylitol, Mannitol, & a combination of MCC (Ceolous KG 802) & Xylitol respectively. Batch B6 (iv) The combination of MCC (ceolus KG 802) & xylitol as a extragranular filler shows best disintegration characteristics, Good mouth feel, Sufficient hardness, friability So the combination of MCC (Ceolus KG 802) & Xylitol based (as filler) ODT were taken for further studies. To the optimized batch of B6 (iv) Acesulfame potassium ,and other given ingredients shown in **table:** were added. The intensity of the bitterness was found out by comparing the bitter index level of the above 3 batches i.e. **X1, X2, and X3..**

From the best resulted premix **B-5(ii) 1:1.5**, 25 mg was taken & mixed with other ingredients of required amount passed through sieve (#) 40. Mixture was granulated by means of using binding solution prepared by PVPK-30 and IPA & thoroughly mixed & kneaded continuously..Then the wet mass was dried in a tray drier for 30-40 min at 40<sup>0</sup> C. The dried granules were passed through 30 sieves (#) & mixed thoroughly .Then the dried blend was lubricated by means of aerosol & Mg .stearate. The dried granules are continued with the Four ODT formulations **B 6 (i) B 6(ii) B 6(iii) B 6(iv) formulation process**, successively compressed into tablet by using 7.5 mm flat faced edge punch in a rotary cadmach punch machine. Finally the compressed tablets were evaluated for their different parameter. to characterise the technological properties of these different formulations ..

**Tablet evaluation****Crushing strength**

A Crushing strength tester (Schleuniger Hardness tester–Dr Schleuniger, Pharmatron) was used to determine the load (N) required to diametrically break the tablets into two equal halves. The crushing strength of tablets was determined after compression. Tablets with sign of lamination or capping were not used.

Determinations were made in triplicate, and the mean values are reported with 5-7kp shown in table:8

**% Friability**

The Crushing strength test may not be the best measure of the potential tablet behaviour during handling and packaging. The resistance to surface abrasion may be more relevant parameter in such cases. In some formulation when compressed into very hard tablets, tend to “cap” on attrition, losing their crown portions. So in that case tablet’s strength can be measured by means of its friability and found in between 1%. **(table: 8)**

The percent friability of the tablets was determined using Roche friabilator operated at 25 revolutions per minute (RPM) for 4 minutes.

Twenty tablets tumbled in the friabilator after weighing them accurately. The tablets were then dedusting by soft muslin cloth and the loss in weight caused by fracture or abrasion was recorded as percentage weight loss.

$$\text{Percentage Friability} = 100 \times \frac{\text{Loss in weight}}{\text{Initial weight}}$$

Initial weight

### **Disintegration Time**

The time required for disintegration of six tablets, placed in each tube of disintegration test apparatus, was measured at  $37 \pm 2^\circ \text{C}$  using 900 ml distilled water recorded as 80-100 seconds(**table:8**).

### **In vivo disintegration time**

In measuring in vivo disintegration time, the amount of the time needed for tablet to completely disintegrate in a test subject mouth was measured. The tablet was placed on the tongue of subject and the time was recorded. The subject was instructed to gently move the tablet against the upper part of the mouth with the tongue. It is emphasized to the subject that this is a gentle motion with no biting of the tablet. Immediately after the last noticeable granule is disintegrated, the time was again recorded. Test was conducted in duplicate and average time is reported as 55-60 seconds.(**table:8**)

### **Dissolution Testing**

was performed using a USP apparatus fitted with paddles (50 RPM) at  $37^\circ\text{C}$  using Acetate buffer (pH4.0) as dissolution media. At a predetermined time interval (10minute); 10ml samples were withdrawn, filtered through  $0.45\mu\text{m}$  PVDF filter, from that only 5ml was taken & diluted to 10ml with pH 4.0 acetate buffer and assayed at 217nm using UV visible Spectrometer. Shown 99% - 100% release (**table: 9**)

### **Wetting time:**

Wetting time of the ODT is another important parameter, with the help of which we can assess the disintegration properties of the tablets. Wetting time of dosage form is related with the contact angle. A conventional method was used to measure the wetting time as well as capillarity of the orodispersible tablets. Five circular tissue papers of diameter 5.5cm are placed in a petridish with diameter 5.5cm. Ten ml of water containing Eosin, a water soluble dye, is added to petridish at room temperature. A tablet was carefully placed on the surface of the tissue paper. The time required for water to reach upper surface of tablet is noted as wetting time. This wetting time detects the action of saliva in contact with the tablet. To illustrate the water uptake & the subsequent wetting of tablet Eosin dye was added to the water.All formulations found within10 seconds

### **Capping and Lamination tendency:**

Due to the poor compaction property of the selected drug, the tablets were also examined for capping and lamination. Tablets were assessed visually for capping by observation of the final tablets for horizontal striation. Determination was made immediately after compression, immediately after friability testing and after 24 hours. The tablets were signs depending on their capping and lamination tendency

No capping (-), Low capping (+), High Capping (++) , Very high Capping (+++).

### **Bitterness Index**

Arbitrary bitter level index was needed to be developed. A numerical value was assigned to various level of bitterness as given in the Table below.

**Table:3 Bitter Index Level**

Numerical value	Scale
3.0	Strong bitter
2.5	Moderate to strong
2.0	Slight to moderate
1.5	Slight
1.0	Very slight
0	Taste less

This bitter level Index was used further in the study for the taste evaluation of the formulations. Along with bitterness test, certain other test are also highly essential for oral /Fast / rapid disintegrating tablets.

### Result & Discussion:

From the dissolution profile of these above 3 batches i.e. [B5 (i), (ii), (iii)] it was concluded that the batch B5 (ii), in which the drug was complexed with  $\beta$ -Cyclodextrin in the ratio (1:1.5) shows 100% drug release within 60 minutes & it releases above 90% drug within 10 minutes. So in comparison to other batches the batch B5 (ii) shows better bioavailability. It's hardness, friability, disintegration time are also have optimum results (**table:23**) So this batch was used for further study.

From the above results it was concluded that Batch B6 (i) shows good disintegration time at maximum compression force, but in case of friability consideration it was exceeding 1.0%. Also in this batch where MCC (ceolus KG 802) was used as a filler produces unacceptable mouth feel. Batch B6(ii) Xylitol based ODT preparation shows good disintegration times .but only at lowest compression force, with increase in the compression force ,the tablet disintegration performance gets worse. So ODT with Xylitol as a filler only possible when lowest compression force was applied, so that the required disintegration time was achieved. For this formulation it is possible to evidence high increase of the disintegration time as a function of low increase of the compression force, but this condition is incompatible with large scale industrial tablet production. Batch B6(iii) Mannitol based ODT formulation shows good disintegration time at different compression forces, but in this case friability was exceeding 1% which was a major limitation. Batch B6 (iv) The combination of MCC (ceolus KG 802) & xylitol as a filler shows best disintegration characteristics i.e. good disintegration times at all compression forces, simultaneously at moderate to high compression forces the tablets of these batches shows acceptable friability. These results also demonstrate that MCC (Ceolus KG802) & xylitol based ODT shows most of the desired properties i.e. Good mouth feel, Sufficient hardness, Low friability, Rapid disintegration time. So the combination of MCC (Ceolus KG 802) & Xylitol based (as filler) ODT produces an interesting prototype for industrial scaling-up. Results of evaluation parameters are shown in **Table-4**.

**Table:4 Evaluation parameter for ARP- BCD Complex**

Batch code	Hardness(kp)	Friability (%)	D.T(sec)
B5(i)(1:1)	5-6	0.92	80
B5(ii)(1:1.5)	5-6	0.97	80-90
B5(iii)(1:2)	5-6	0.85	100

**B5 (ii) Table : 5****Dissolution profile of Batch No-ARP-BCD ODT-B5(ii) (1:1.5)Complex**

STD abs	0.598	0.598	0.598							
Factor	99	99	99							
DISSOLUTION PROFILE OF BATCH NO-Arp-ODT-B5(ii)(ARP(micro):Bcd(1:1.5)complexation										
TIME	ABSORBANCE			%RELEASE			AVG.	MIN.	MAX.	%RSD
	UNIT-01	UNIT-02	UNIT-03	UNIT-01	UNIT-02	UNIT03				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0.567	0.582	0.57	93.87	96.35	94.36	94.86	93.87	96.35	1.31
20	0.578	0.603	0.595	95.69	99.83	98.50	98.01	95.69	99.83	2.11
30	0.595	0.592	0.597	98.50	98.01	98.83	98.45	98.01	98.83	0.42
45	0.604	0.598	0.602	99.99	99.00	99.66	99.55	99.00	99.99	0.38
60	0.609	0.604	0.612	100.82	99.99	101.32	100.71	99.99	101.32	0.28



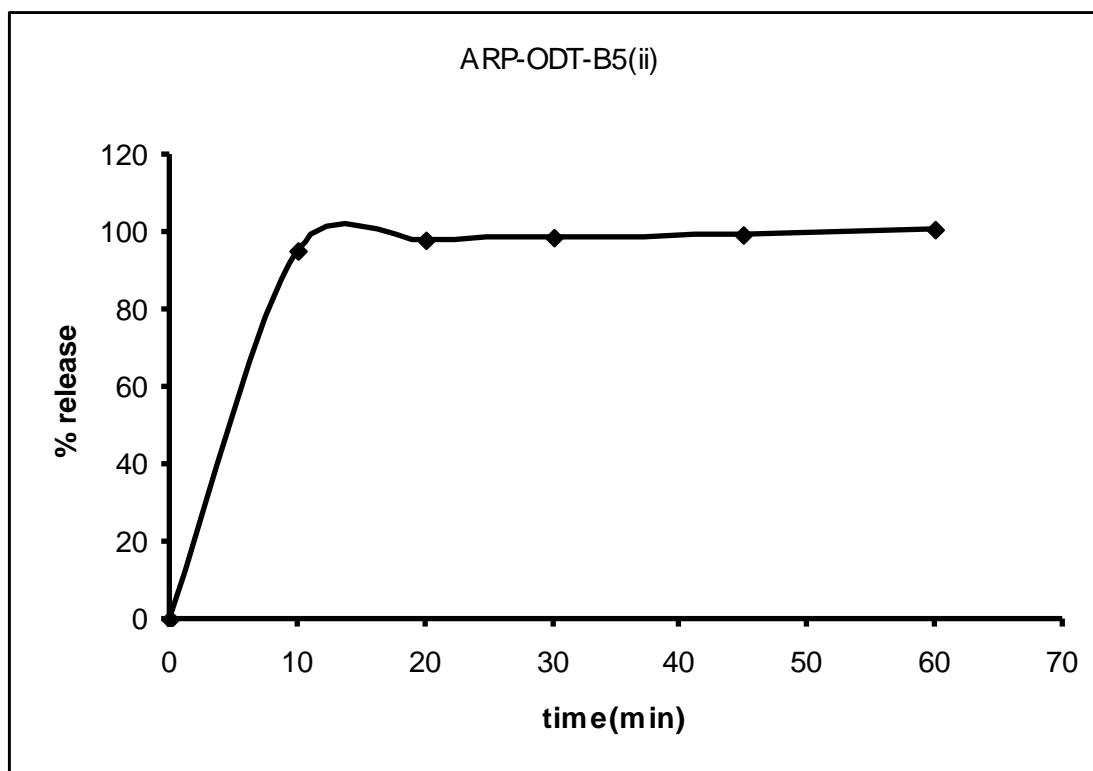


Fig :3 Zero order release for ODT B5(ii)

Table-6 Evaluation parameters of four ODT B6 (i) B6(ii) B6(iii) B6(iv) formulations

Batch code	Crushing strength(Kp)	Friability (%)	Disintegration Time(sec)
<b>B 6 (i)</b>	6-7	1.02	40
<b>B 6(ii)</b>	6-7	1.20	120
<b>B 6(iii)</b>	6-7	1.08	55
<b>B 6(iv)</b>	6-7	0.6	30

From the study of above table **B5(ii) (1:1.5)Complex** it can be concluded that increase in concentration of either of the independent variable e.g % of **Superdisintegrant** and % of **PVP as a binder** and crushing strength, percentage friability, & disintegration time were selected as dependent variables. plays an important role in disintegration time but the concentration of superdisintegrant causes more pronounced effect on the disintegration time rather the binder concentration factor is more marked as produces a significant impact on crushing strength. So to the optimized batch of **B 6(iv)** Acesulfame potassium, artificial sweetener, vanilla flavour was added, 1% in batch X2 and 2 % in batch X3 whereas X1 is without it. using sweetener and flavours: shown in **Table:8**, to mask the intensity of bitterness.

**.Table-7 Evaluation parameters of B 6(iv) Formulation**

Parameters	Observed Values	Predicted values
Crushing strength	4.5	4.525
% Friability	0.79	0.803
Disintegration time (Sec )	45	44

Observed table concluded that the combinations gave the optimized results that were acceptable from the view point of crushing strength, friability, and disintegration time and 100% dissolution profile proceed further.

**Table-8 Formulation of Taste masked tablets using sweetener and flavours**

Formulation(gm)	BatchX1	BatchX2	BatchX3
ARP-BCD complex	12.5	12.5	12.5
MCC(Ceolus KG-802)	35.75	34.5	33.75
Xylitol	14.0	14.0	14.0
PVP k30	3.0	3.0	3.0
Mg.silicate	5.0	5.0	5.0
Crosspovidone	5.0	5.0	5.0
Acesulfame k+	-	0.75	1.5
Vanilla flavor	-	0.5	0.5
Aerosil	0.35	0.35	0.35
Iron oxide(red)	0.007	0.007	0.007
Magnesium stearate	0.064	0.064	0.064
IPA	q.s	q.s	q.s

The intensity of the bitterness was found out by comparing the bitter index level of the above 3 batches i.e. X1, X2, and X3 values shown in **Table:7**

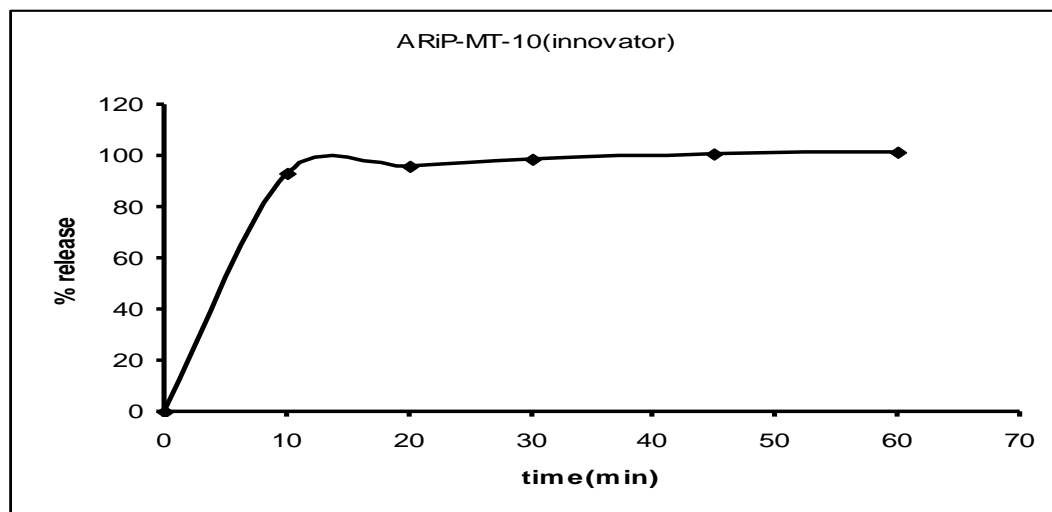
**Table:7 Evaluation test of final tablet formulations**

Characteristics of the tablets			
Parameters	Batch X1	Batch X2	Batch X3
Crushing strength	6-7kP	5-6kP	5-6kP
% Friability	0.78	0.58	0.42
Disintegration Time	60sec	45sec	40sec
In vivo disintegration time	55 sec	43 sec	40sec
Bitterness Index	2	1	0

From the above table it was concluded that the batch X1 which is without any flavouring & sweetening agent having slight to moderate bitter index level, because in the optimized batch the drug was complexed with  $\beta$ -Cyclodextrin, so its bitter taste was masked upto a certain extent. Batch X2 to which 1% of sweetening & flavouring agent was added & it was having slightly bitter index level, but the batch X3 with 2% sweetening & flavouring agent produces tasteless tablets with good & pleasant mouthfeel. So it was concluded that by means of addition of 2% of sweetening & flavouring agent the bitter taste masking was achieved upto the required level.

**Table-10**  
**Dissolution profile of B 6(iv) Formulation**

STD abs	0.598	0.598	0.598							
Factor	99	99	99							
DISSOLUTION PROFILE OF B 6(iv) Formulation										
TIME	ABSORBANCE			%RELEASE			AVg.	MIN.	MAX.	%RSD
	UNIT -01	UNIT-02	UNIT-03	UNIT-01	UNIT-02	UNIT03				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0.561	0.556	0.568	92.87	92.05	94.03	92.98	92.05	94.03	1.00
20	0.572	0.578	0.581	94.70	95.69	96.19	95.52	94.70	96.19	0.86
30	0.588	0.601	0.595	97.34	99.50	98.50	98.45	97.34	99.50	0.72
45	0.602	0.605	0.612	99.66	100.16	101.32	100.38	99.66	101.32	0.55
60	0.609	0.612	0.618	100.82	101.32	102.31	101.48	100.82	102.31	0.48

**Fig :3 Zero order release for ODT B6(iv)****CONCLUSION:**

The therapeutic effectiveness of a drug depends upon the ability of the dosage form to deliver the medicament to its site of action at a rate & amount to elicit the desired pharmacological response. The rate or rapidity with which a drug is absorbed is an important consideration in the treatment of acute condition like asthma, epilepsy, cardiac failure, pain, etc. Solubility of drug can be enhanced by various techniques, but complexation with BCD is most commonly used. In this research work, the solubility of ARP can be enhanced to the desired level by complexing it with BCD in a ratio of 1:1.5 & it was expected that cyclodextrin enhances overall absorption by influencing the dissolution kinetics. BCD is best suited for solubility enhancement of low dose drug. With low to moderate BCD: drug ratio, it increases the solubility as well as absorption significantly, but with a slightly increase in BCD: drug ratio, it decreases the dissolution kinetics & or bioavailability because a higher % bound drug limits the free drug in solution available for absorption.

The basic approach beyond the formulation of all ODTs is to maximize the porous structure of the tablet matrix & incorporating superdisintegrants at optimum concentration so as to achieve the rapid disintegration & instantaneous dissolution kinetics of the tablet. In this work, the rapid disintegration of the tablet was achieved by using 15 % of magnesium silicate & croscopolone. Magnesium silicate is a novel superdisintegrant in the concentration range of 10 to 30 % it provides better disintegration properties of the tablet. During the formulation of ODTs, selection of filler is an important criteria because of high friability & low resistance of the dosage form. It was found that Xylitol in combination with MCC (celvolon KG802) working as a good filler for ODT which provides good mouth feel, sufficient hardness, quicker disintegration & low friability. Finally, the taste masking of the prepared ODT was achieved by using 2% of acesulfame K<sup>+</sup> (as a sweetening agent) & vanilla flavor.

**ARP-Aripiperazole**

**BCD-beta cyclodextrin**

**MCC-microcrystalline cellulose**

**ARP-BCD – Aripiperazole and beta cyclodextrin complex**

**ODTs-Oral dispersible tablets**

## FUTURE PROSPECTS:

Over the last decade, ODTs have grown steadily in demand & importance as a convenient, potentially safer alternative to conventional tablets & capsules. ODTs are more popular because of its greater patient compliance. With the rapid acceptance of ODTs by patient & pharmaceutical companies, the market for the dosage form is promising & the product pipeline continuous to grow rapidly. ODTs offer life-cycle management opportunities for pharmaceutical marketers. In contrast with other technologies, such as modified release & microencapsulation, ODT will continue to provide enhanced therapeutic & commercial benefits. The main future challenge for ODT manufacturer includes reducing costs by finding ways to manufacture with conventional equipments, using versatile packaging, & improving mechanical strength & taste masking capabilities. Arbitrary bitter level index was needed to be developed.

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Crushing strength	5.5	6	7.2	4.5	5	6	4.5	4	4.2
%Friability	1.12	1.07	0.87	1.02	0.82	0.61	0.79	0.81	0.52
Disintegration time	180	240	300	120	150	170	45	60	100

<b>Formulation(gm)</b>	<b>BatchX1</b>	<b>BatchX2</b>	<b>BatchX3</b>
ARP:β-CD complex	12.5	12.5	12.5
MCC(Ceolus KG-802)	35.75	34.5	33.75
Xylitol	14.0	14.0	14.0
PVP k30	3.0	3.0	3.0
Mg.silicate	5.0	5.0	5.0
Crosspovidone	5.0	5.0	5.0
Acesulfame k+	-	0.75	1.5
Vanilla flavor	-	0.5	0.5
Aerosil	0.35	0.35	0.35
Iron oxide(red)	0.007	0.007	0.007
Magnesium stearate	0.064	0.064	0.064
IPA	q.s	q.s	q.s