





## Influence of chitosan on a polysaccharide blend *in situ* gelling powder for wound dressing

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## Wound dressing

#### **Cutaneus ulcers**

- Lower limb ulcers
- Diabetic foot
- Bedsores

#### **Conventional dressings**

- Local irritation, contact sensitization and immune reactions
- Frequent dressing changes
- Dehydration of the wound bed
- Traumatic removal

#### Ideal wound dressing

- Absorption of exudate
- Transpiration
- Adhesiveness to the wound site
- Easy application and atraumatic removal
- Drug/adiuvant release
- Inexpensive





## **Wound dressing market**

 The global advanced wound dressing market was valued at USD 6.32 billion in 2018 and it is predicted to reach an CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate) of 4.3% over the forecast period





## In situ gelling powders

## Micro particle carriers in form of dry powders



In situ



# ...and aggregates on contact with exudate,





- Easy application
- Absorption of exudate
- Conformability to the surface of the wound
- Atraumatic removal
- Release of active pharmaceutical ingredients (API)

Production by mini spray drying

> Economic Biopolymer

#### 2019 Del Gaudio P., et al. PCT /IB2018/058742 May 16th 2019 IN SITU GELIFYING POWDERS (WO/2019/092608)

#### Hydrogel

## **Polymers**



Alginate with high content of M induce the production of cytokines by human monocytes, a very useful process in the healing of chronic wounds \*

Amidated **pectin** with a low degree of methylation is able to increase in situ gel forming rate

ОН

Н

w.





Chitosan low molecular weight enhance *in situ* gelification \*

Thomas et al., (2000). Alginates from wound dressings activate human macrophages to secrete tumour necrosis factor-alpha. Biomaterials. \* R.C. Goy, D.d. Britto, O.B.G. Assis, A review of the antimicrobial activity of Chitosan, Polymeros 19 (2009) 241–247 \* \*



#### **Alginate/pectin/chitosan powders**

- Process yield depends on chitosan concentration
- Mean diameter is related to the concentration of chitosan

Sample code	Polymers concentration (w/V)	Polymers ratio	Yield (%)	Mean diameter (nm)
APC_111	0.15	1:1:1	62.12	7.23
APC_113	0.15	1:1:3	73.14	2.43
APC_117	0.15	1:1:7	73.57	2.74

• Increasing of chitosan leads to an higher surface roughness





#### **Alginate/pectin/chitosan powders**

• Fluid uptake ability: maximum swelling in about 5 minutes



<u>**Conditions</u>**: Franz cell filled with SWF (simulated wound fluid), 37°C</u>









## *In situ* gelling powders loaded doxycycline



□ Wide antibacterial spectrum against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria \*

□ Inhibition of host matrix metalloproteinases hyper expressed in chronic wounds \*\*

\* Chopra I, Roberts M. Tetracycline antibiotics: mode of action, applications, molecular biology, and epidemiology of bacterial resistance. *Microbiol Mol Biol Rev.* 2001;65(2):232-260. doi:10.1128/MMBR.65.2.232-260.2001

\* \* García, R. A., et al., (2005). Molecular Interactions between Matrilysin and the Matrix Metalloproteinase Inhibitor Doxycycline Investigated by Deuterium Exchange Mass Spectrometry. 67(4), 1128-1136.



#### Alginate/pectin/chitosan powders loaded doxycycline

• Encapsulation efficiency (e.e.) depending on the relative amount of chitosan into the feed

Sample code	Polymers concentration (w/V)	Polymers ratio	Doxycycline concentration % (w/w)	Yield (%)	Mean diameter (nm)	Drug content (%)	E.E. (%)
d) APCD_111_2D	0.15	1:1:1	2	62.1	9.64	1.32	67.39
e) APCD_113_2D		1:1:3	2	70.82	3.09	1.42	71.73
f) APCD_117_2D		1:1:7	2	73.88	2.43	1.51	77.24





#### Alginate/pectin/chitosan powders loaded doxycycline

• Fluid uptake ability: APCD\_117\_2%D showed a lower swelling than blank formulation





#### **Doxycycline release**

- In vitro doxyclycine release
- Similiar trend for APCD 117\_2%D and APCD 113\_2%D
- Higher amount of doxycycline released for APCD 111\_2%D





## Biological test



#### Antimicrobial test

 Disc diffusion assay on Staphylococcus aureus (ATCC 6538)

Sample	Amount of doxy (µg)	Area (mm²)	Amount of doxy N (µg)	Area N (mm <sup>2)</sup>	∆ area
Doxy	1.55	759.36	1.55	759.36	
APCD _111_2D	1.59	780.83	1.55	761.18	0.24%
APCD_ 113_2D	1.58	878.88	1.55	862.19	13.54%
APCD_117_2D	1.55	934.29	1.55	934.29	23.04%



## Biological test

• **SDS-PAGE gelatin zymography**: *d*oxycycline released from hydrogel inhibited MMP-2 even at 0.5 µg and its effect was stable up to 72 h





## Conclusions

Chitosan affected the particles properties leading to better characteristics

Formulations did not show cytotoxic activity inducing IL-8 release at the application site

All formulations showed a prolonged release of doxycycline enabling higher efficacy against bacteria and inhibiting MMP-2 activity



## Thank you for the attention

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