

Preparation and In Vitro Evaluation of New pH-Sensitive Hydrogel Beads for Oral Delivery of Protein Drugs

El-Sherbiny, IM (El-Sherbiny, I. M.)^{1,2,1}; Abdel-Bary, EM (Abdel-Bary, E. M.)^{2,1}; Harding, DRK (Harding, D. R. K.)^{1,1}

Abstract

New biodegradable pH-responsive hydrogel beads based on chemically modified chitosan and sodium alginate were prepared and characterized for the controlled release study of protein drugs in the small intestine. The ionotropic gelation reaction was carried out under mild aqueous conditions, which should be appropriate for the retention of the biological activity of an uploaded protein drug. The equilibrium swelling studies were carried out for the hydrogel beads at 37 degrees C in simulated gastric (SGF) and simulated intestinal (SIF) fluids. Bovine serum albumin (BSA), a model for protein drugs was entrapped in the hydrogels and the in vitro drug release profiles were established at 37 degrees C in SGF and SIR. The preliminary investigation of the hydrogel beads prepared in this study showed high entrapment efficiency (up to 97%) and promising release profiles of BSA. (C) 2009 Wiley Periodicals, Inc. *J Appl Polym Sci* 115: 2828-2837, 2010

Author Keywords: hydrogels; chitosan; grafting; alginate; protein drugs

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Novel cryomilled physically cross-linked biodegradable hydrogel microparticles as carriers for inhalation therapy

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Abstract

In this study, novel biodegradable physically cross-linked hydrogel microparticles were developed and evaluated in-vitro as potential carriers for inhalation therapy. These hydrogel microparticles were prepared to be respirable (desired aerodynamic size) when dry and also designed to avoid the macrophage uptake (attain large swollen size once deposited in lung). The swellable microparticles, prepared using cryomilling, were based on Pluronic (R) F-108 in combination with PEG grafted onto both chitosan (Cs) and its N-phthaloyl derivative (NPHCs). Polymers synthesized in the study were characterized using EA, FTIR, 2D-XRD and DSC. Morphology, particle size, density, biodegradation and moisture content of the microparticles were quantified. Swelling characteristics for both drug-free and drug-loaded microparticles showed excellent size increases (between 700-1300%) and the release profiles indicated sustained release could be achieved for up to 20 days. The respirable microparticles showed drug loading efficiency up to 92%. The enzymatic degradation of developed microparticles started within the first hour and only similar to 10% weights were remaining after 10 days. In conclusion, these respirable microparticles demonstrated promising in-vitro performance for potential sustained release vectors in pulmonary drug delivery.</p></div>
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Synthesis, characterization and metal uptake capacity of a new carboxymethyl chitosan derivative

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Abstract

Chemical modification of chitosan (Cs) and its derivatives via graft copolymerization can enhance their properties and consequently expands their potential applications. Carboxymethyl chitosan (CMCs) was prepared and characterized by FTIR spectroscopy, elemental analysis and X-ray diffraction. Graft copolymerization of N-acryloylglycine (NAGly) onto CMCs; using 2,2-dimethoxy-2-phenyl acetophenone (PI) as photoinitiator was carried out under nitrogen atmosphere in aqueous solution. Evidence of grafting was confirmed by comparison of FTIR spectra of CMCs and the graft copolymers as well as the 2D-X-ray diffraction patterns, elemental analysis and the difference in solubility profiles before and after grafting. The effects of concentration of NAGly, PI and reaction time on the extent of grafting were investigated by determining the grafting percentage and grafting efficiency. With other conditions kept constant, the obtained optimum grafting conditions were: CMCs = 0.1 g, NAGly = 0.4 g, PI = 0.02 g and reaction time = 1 h. A preliminary study was then carried out to evaluate the capacity of the prepared new graft copolymer to uptake copper ions from aqueous systems. This preliminary investigation of the prepared graft copolymers showed that they may be tailored and exploited to expand the utilization of these systems in metal ions uptake and treatment of wastewater. (C) 2008 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

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Grafting Study and Antifungal Activity of a Carboxymethyl Cellulose Derivative

El-Sherbiny, IM (El-Sherbiny, I. M.)^{1,2,1}; Salama, A (Salama, A.)^{1,3,1}; Sarhan, AA (Sarhan, A. A.)^{1,1}

Abstract

Graft copolymerization of appropriate monomers onto cellulose and its derivatives can enhance their characteristics and consequently expand their potential applications. Carboxymethyl cellulose (CMC) was prepared and characterized by FTIR spectroscopy and XRD. Graft copolymerization of acrylic acid sodium salt (AAs) onto CMC using ammonium persulfate (APS) as a free radical initiator was carried out under nitrogen atmosphere in aqueous solution. Occurrence of grafting was confirmed by comparison of FTIR spectra of CMC and the graft copolymers as well as the XRD patterns and thermal analysis. The effects of concentration of AA, temperature, concentration of APS and reaction time on the grafting yield were investigated by determining the grafting percentage and grafting efficiency. With other conditions kept constant, the obtained optimum grafting conditions were: CMC = 0.2 g, [AAs] = 2 mM, [APS] = 7.5 mM, temperature 70 degrees C and reaction time = 2 h. A preliminary study was then carried out to evaluate the antifungal activity of the prepared graft copolymer. This preliminary investigation of the prepared graft copolymers showed that they may be tailored and exploited to expand the utilization of these systems in medical applications.

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Chitosan-based interpolymeric pH-responsive hydrogels for in vitro drug release

Abdelaal, MY (Abdelaal, M. Y.); Abdel-Razik, EA (Abdel-Razik, E. A.);
Abdel-Bary, EM (Abdel-Bary, E. M.); El-Sherbiny, IM (El-Sherbiny, I. M.)

Abstract

Two series of pH-responsive biodegradable interpolymeric (IPN) hydrogels based on chitosan (Ch) and poly(vinyl alcohol) (PVA) were prepared for controlled drug release investigations. The first series was chemically crosslinked with different concentrations of glutaraldehyde and the second was crosslinked upon gamma-irradiation by different doses. The equilibrium swelling characteristics were investigated for the gels at 37 degrees C in buffer solutions of pH 2.1 and 7.4 as simulated gastric and intestinal fluids, respectively. 5-Fluorouracil (FU) was entrapped in the hydrogels, as a model therapeutic agent, and the in vitro release profiles of the drug were established at 37 degrees C in pH 2.1 and 7.4. FTIR, SEM, and X-ray diffraction analyses were used to characterize and investigate the structural changes of the gels with the variation of the blend composition and crosslinker content before and after the drug loading. (c) 2006 Wiley Periodicals, Inc.

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