

Resumen

En la actualidad existen numerosos fármacos con excelentes propiedades biológicas, capaces de actuar eficientemente una vez que hayan alcanzado el sitio de acción de interés, dando un tratamiento adecuado a la correspondiente patología. Sin embargo, las propiedades fisicoquímicas de muchos de ellos dificultan la vehiculización, direccionamiento y en último término, la biodisponibilidad de la sustancia activa en el sitio de acción, comprometiendo la eficacia y seguridad del tratamiento.

La farmacotecnia moderna se enfrenta a una serie de dificultades generalmente relacionadas a la baja solubilidad, inestabilidad, biodisponibilidad errática, irritación o necesidad de altas dosis de fármaco; haciendo necesario el diseño de estrategias de formulación que superen estas propiedades adversas. Una alternativa interesante es el diseño de sistemas portadores de fármacos, que constituyan plataformas capaces de superar muchos de los problemas antes mencionados. La investigación y desarrollo en esta área de las Ciencias Farmacéuticas es un campo de marcado interés científico, tecnológico y económico.

En este sentido, las formas farmacéuticas de uso ocular tradicionales, (tales como soluciones, suspensiones y ungüentos) presentan serias limitaciones, las cuales llevan a una disminución de la capacidad terapéutica en un gran número de patologías oculares. Uno de los factores determinantes que interviene en este detrimento es la pérdida rápida y extensiva de la formulación en el área precorneal en virtud del drenaje, el parpadeo y el recambio lagrimal. Por otra parte, las formas farmacéuticas inyectables perioculares como las subconjuntivales y retrobulbares no proporcionan niveles adecuados de fármaco. Finalmente, técnicas de naturaleza más invasiva como las inyecciones intravítreas o intracamerales pueden producir serias complicaciones intraoculares, por lo tanto se reservan para situaciones especiales (retinitis por citomegalovirus, intolerancia al tratamiento endovenoso, retinopatía diabética, degeneración macular húmeda, etc.)

Teniendo en cuenta lo anteriormente expuesto, se propuso como alternativa a las terapias tradicionales de uso oftálmico una plataforma bioadhesiva de aplicación tópica ocular obtenida a partir de polímeros de origen natural modificados estructuralmente. Esto permitió encontrar opciones alternativas a las limitaciones que presentan las formas farmacéuticas convencionales para dar respuesta a diversas patologías oftalmológicas en virtud de las características anatomofisiológicas que presenta el ojo.

En el presente trabajo de tesis se ha explorado exitosamente la obtención y caracterización de nuevos materiales y sistemas bioadhesivos portadores de fármacos (films y comprimidos), con potencial utilidad como plataformas farmacoterapéuticas. En ese sentido se abarcó la modificación química del material base seleccionado (ácido hialurónico) mediante reacciones de entrecruzamiento con glutaraldehído y polietilenglicol diglicidil éter, para otorgarle propiedades mecánicas y bioadhesivas adecuadas. Posteriormente se caracterizaron los materiales obtenidos en cuanto a sus propiedades fisicomecánicas y biofarmacéuticas, incluyendo liberación de fármacos, estudios de toxicidad y eficacia en cultivos celulares y modelos animales.

Abstract

Today many drugs capable of acting efficiently once they have reached the site of interest to give adequate treatment to a specific pathology are available. However, the physicochemical properties of some of these drugs difficult their vehiculization affecting the efficiency and safety of the pharmaceutical treatments.

Modern pharmacology faces a number of difficulties generally related to the low solubility, instability, erratic bioavailability, irritation or the need of high doses of drugs, requiring the design of formulation strategies to overcome these adverse properties. An interesting alternative is the design drug of carrier platforms capable of overcoming many of the aforementioned problems. Research and development in this area of Pharmaceutical Sciences is a field of important scientific, technological and economic interest.

In this sense, traditional dosage forms of ocular use, such as solutions, suspensions and ointments have serious limitations, which lead to a reduction of their therapeutic capacity in a large number of eye disorders. One of the factors involved in this reduction is the rapid and extensive loss of the formulation in the precorneal area due to drainage, blinking and tear replacement. Moreover, periocular injectable dosage forms such as subconjunctival and retrobulbar applications do not release adequate levels of drug. Finally, more invasive techniques such as intravitreal or intracameral injections can cause serious intraocular complications. For this reason they are set aside for special situations (cytomegalovirus retinitis, intolerance to endovenous treatment, diabetic retinopathy, wet macular degeneration, etc.)

Considering the limitations of conventional dosage forms to face diverse eye diseases two alternative methods to ophthalmic traditional therapies are proposed in the present thesis. The preparation and characterization of new materials and drug carrier bioadhesive systems in the form of films and tablets with potential utility as pharmacotherapeutic platforms is explored. These platforms are synthesized by crosslinking hyaluronic acid with glutaraldehyde and polyethylene

glycol diglycidyl ether in the presence of itaconic acid. New materials with suitable mechanical and bioadhesive properties were obtained and characterized in terms of their physicochemical and biopharmaceutical properties including drug delivery capacity, toxicity and efficacy studies in cell culture and animal models.

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Anexo: Producción científica

A lo largo del presente trabajo de tesis se han realizado las siguientes comunicaciones en revistas científicas, congresos nacionales e internacionales y presentaciones en concursos de ciencia y tecnología:

Publicaciones:

- Calles, J. A., Tártara, L. I., Lopez-García, A., Diebold, Y., Palma, S. D., & Vallés, E. M. (2013). Novel bioadhesive hyaluronan – itaconic acid crosslinked films for ocular therapy. *International Journal of Pharmaceutics*, 455(1-2), 48–56.
- Calles, J. A., Palma, S. D., & Vallés, E. M. (2013). Aplicaciones oftalmológicas del ácido hialurónico. *Pharmaceutical Technology*, 123, 74–82.
- Calles, J. A., Vallés, E. M., Llabot, J. M., & Palma, S. D. (2012). Dispositivos poliméricos sólidos de administración oftálmica. *Atención Farmacéutica - European Journal of Clinical Pharmacy*, 14(2), 116–122.
- Calles, J. A., Tártara, L. I., Palma, S. D., & Vallés, E. M. (2011). El ácido hialurónico y sus aplicaciones oftalmológicas. *Oftalmología Clínica Y Experimental*, 5(1), 28–32.

Patentes:

- Calles, J. A., Palma, S. D., & Vallés, E. M. (2013). Dispositivo para evaluar la disolución o liberación de fármacos. Argentina-INPI (Instituto Nacional de la Propiedad Industrial). Exp nº 20130100220 (en trámite).

Concursos de ciencia y tecnología:

- Calles, J. A., Palma, S. D., & Vallés, E. M. (2013). Dispositivo para evaluar la disolución o liberación de fármacos. Seleccionado para la categoría Investigación Aplicada en el Concurso Nacional de Innovaciones INNOVAR, 9^{na} edición, ID n^o: 14348. Catálogo INNOVAR 2013, pág. 120.

Resúmenes de congreso:

- Calles, J. A., Mora, M. J., Lopez-García, A., Palma, S. D., Vallés, E. M., Longhi, M. R., ... Diebold, Y. (2013). In vitro ocular biocompatibility of novel hp- β -cd acetazolamide complexes. Xth Spanish-Portuguese Conference on Controlled Drug Delivery (p. 78). Valencia: Controlled Release Society Spanish-Portuguese Local Chapter.
- Calles, J. A., Palma, S. D., & Vallés, E. M. (2012). Films de ácido hialurónico entrecruzado como sistemas de liberación de fármacos oftálmicos. IX Congreso de la Asociación de Investigación en Visión y Oftalmología - AIVO. Buenos Aires.
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- Lopez-García, A., Calles, J. A., Soriano Romaní, L., Palma, S. D., Vallés, E. M., & Diebold, Y. (2012). Estudio de tolerancia in vitro de películas de ácido hialurónico-ácido itacónico diseñadas para la administración tópica ocular de fármacos. XXV Congreso Nacional de Técnicos Superiores en Laboratorio de Diagnóstico Clínico y Técnicos Superiores en Anatomía Patológica y Citología (pp. 6–7). Santiago de Compostela.
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