

Special Issue

Formulation of Photosensitive Drugs

Message from the Guest Editors

The photostability studies of a drug have assumed great importance in recent decades. The most frequent effect in the drug photodegradation is the loss of its pharmacological activity, but, in several cases, the process can involve the formation of toxic products. The monitoring system is nowadays regulated by the international guidelines from ICH (International Conference on Harmonization), which arranges the photostability study of both the drug and its pharmaceutical forms. Several methods for the monitoring of photosensitive drugs have been proposed, largely based on spectrophotometric, chromatographic, and multivariate analytical data processing. Alongside the traditional methods of protecting the drug from light by means of opaque containers, there is great interest in alternative approaches based on photoprotective matrices. The most studied matrices are those enriched with photoabsorbent excipients or the polymeric and supramolecular matrices. The latter, in particular, combine the photoprotective effect with the ability to vehicular drugs with different physical–chemical features.

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