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(54) **RAPID DISSOLUTION FORMULATION OF A CALCIUM RECEPTOR-ACTIVE COMPOUND**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a calcium receptor-active compound and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein the composition has a controlled dissolution profile. The present invention further relates to a method of manufacturing the pharmaceutical composition, as well as a method of treating a disease using the pharmaceutical composition.

RAPID DISSOLUTION FORMULATION OF A CALCIUM RECEPTOR-ACTIVE COMPOUND

This application claims the benefit of priority of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/502,219, filed Sep. 12, 2003.

Calcium receptor-active compounds are known in the art. One example of a calcium receptor-active compound is cinacalcet HCl, which is described, for example, in U.S. Pat. No. 6,001,884. Such calcium receptor-active compounds may be insoluble or sparingly soluble in water, particularly in their non-ionized state. For example, cinacalcet has a solubility in water of less than about 1 μg/mL at neutral pH. The solubility of cinacalcet can reach about 1.6 mg/mL when the pH ranges from about 3 to about 5. However, when the pH is about 1, the solubility decreases to about 0.1 mg/mL. Such limited solubility can reduce the number of formulation and delivery options available for these calcium receptor-active compounds. Limited water solubility can also result in low bioavailability of the compounds.

There is therefore a need to maximize the dissolution of the calcium receptor-active compound from a dosage form, and potentially during in vivo exposure. There is also a need to improve the bioavailability of the calcium receptor-active compound during in vivo exposure.

One aspect of the present invention provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one calcium receptor active compound in combination with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. Certain embodiments of the present invention are directed to a pharmaceutical composition with a defined dissolution profile.

The invention also provides a method of manufacturing the pharmaceutical composition to achieve the desired dissolution profile, as well as a method of treating a disease using the pharmaceutical composition. In addition, certain embodiments of the present invention are directed to a method for controlling dissolution rate of a formulation comprising the pharmaceutical composition.

According to one aspect of the invention, the invention provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective dosage amount of at least one calcium receptor-active compound and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein the composition has a dissolution profile in 0.05 N HCl, measured according to a dissolution test conducted in United States Pharmacopeia (USP)-National Formulary (NF) (USP 26/NF 21), chapter 711 using a USP 2 apparatus at a temperature of 37° C. ±0.5° C., and at a rotation speed of 75 r.p.m., which comprises from about 50% to about 125% of a target amount of the calcium receptor-active compound being released from the composition no later than about 30 minutes from the start of the test.

According to another aspect of the invention, the invention provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective dosage amount of at least one calcium receptor-active compound and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, wherein the composition has a dissolution profile in 0.05 N HCl, measured according to a dissolution test conducted in USP 26/NF 21, chapter 711 using a USP 2 apparatus at a temperature of about 37° C., and at a rotation speed of about 75 r.p.m., which comprises from about 50% to about 125% of a target amount of the calcium receptor-active compound being released from the composition no later than about 30 minutes from the start of the test.

The invention also provides a method of controlling the dissolution rate of a formulation comprising an effective dos-

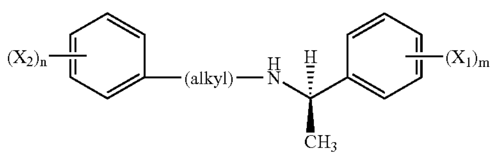
comprising producing the formulation in a granulator which has a volume ranging from about 1 L to about 2000 L, and contains water in a granulation level ranging from about 10% to about 50% relative to the weight of the dry powders in the granulator.

The calcium receptor-active compound useful in the claimed invention may be a calcimimetic compound or a calcilytic compound. As used herein, the term "calcimimetic compounds" refers to compounds that bind to a calcium receptor, and induce a conformational change that reduces the threshold for calcium receptor activation by the endogenous ligand Ca^{2+}, thereby reducing parathyroid hormone ("PTH") secretion. These calcimimetic compounds can also be considered allosteric modulators of the calcium receptor. As used herein, the term "calcilytic compounds" refers to compounds that act as calcium receptor antagonists, and stimulate PTH secretion.

The calcimimetic compounds and calcilytic compounds useful in the present invention include those disclosed in, for example, European Patent No. 933 354; International Publication Nos. WO 01/34562, WO 93/04373, WO 94/18959, WO 95/11221, WO 96/12697, WO 97/41090; U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,981,599, 6,001,884, 6,011,068, 6,031,003, 6,172,091, 6,211,244, 6,313,146, 6,342,532, 6,363,231, 6,432,656, and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0107406. The calcimimetic compounds and/or calcilytic compounds disclosed in these patents and published applications are incorporated herein by reference.

In certain embodiments, the calcium receptor-active compounds are chosen from compounds of formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof

(I)



wherein:

X_1 and X_2, which may be identical or different, are each a radical chosen from CH_3, CH_3O, CH_3CH_2O, Br, Cl, F, CF_3, CHF_2, CH_2F, CF_3O, CH_3S, OH, CH_2OH, $CONH_2$, CN, NO_2, CH_3CH_2, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, t-butyl, acetoxy, and acetyl radicals, or two of X_1 may together form an entity chosen from fused cycloaliphatic rings, fused aromatic rings, and a methylene dioxy radical, or two of X_2 may together form an entity chosen from fused cycloaliphatic rings, fused aromatic rings, and a methylene dioxy radical; provided that X_2 is not a 3-t-butyl radical;

n ranges from 0 to 5; and

m ranges from 1 to 5; and

the alkyl radical is chosen from C1-C3 alkyl radicals, which are optionally substituted with at least one group chosen from saturated and unsaturated, linear, branched, and cyclic C1-C9 alkyl groups, dihydroindolyl and thiodihydroindolyl groups, and 2-, 3-, and 4-piperid(in)yl groups; and the stereoisomers thereof.

Calcium receptor-active compounds useful in the present invention can be used in the form of pharmaceutically acceptable salts derived from inorganic or organic acids. The salts include, but are not limited to, the following: acetate, adipate, cyclopentanepropionate, dodecylsulfate, ethanesulfonate, glucoheptanoate, glycerophosphate, hemisulfate, heptanoate, hexanoate, fumarate, hydrochloride, hydrobromide, hydroiodide, 2-hydroxy-ethanesulfonate, lactate, maleate, mandelate, methansulfonate, nicotinate, 2-naphthalenesulfonate, oxalate, palmoate, pectinate, persulfate, 2-phenylpropionate, picrate, pivalate, propionate, salicylate, succinate, sulfate, tartrate, thiocyanate, tosylate, mesylate, and undecanoate. When compounds of the invention include an acidic function such as a carboxy group, then suitable pharmaceutically acceptable salts for the carboxy group are well known to those skilled in the art and include, for example, alkaline, alkaline earth, ammonium, quaternary ammonium cations and the like. For additional examples of "pharmacologically acceptable salts," see infra and Berge et al., *J. Pharm. Sci.* 66:1 (1977). In certain embodiments of the invention salts of hydrochloride and salts of methanesulfonic acid can be used.

In some embodiments of the present invention, the calcium-receptor active compound can be chosen from cinacalcet, i.e., N-(1-(R)-(1-naphthyl)ethyl]-3-[3-(trifluoromethyl) phenyl]-1-aminopropane, cinacalcet HCl, and cinacalcet methanesulfonate. The cinacalcet HCl and cinacalcet methanesulfonate can be in various forms, such as amorphous powders, crystalline powders, and mixtures thereof. For example, the crystalline powders can be in forms including polymorphs, psuedopolymorphs, crystal habits, micromeretics, and particle morphology.

The therapeutically effective amount of the calcium receptor-active compound in the compositions disclosed herein ranges from about 1 mg to about 360 mg, for example from about 5 mg to about 240 mg, or from about 20 mg to about 100 mg. As used herein, the "therapeutically effective amount" is an amount that changes in a desired manner at least one of the calcium level, the phosphorus level, the PTH level, and the calcium phosphorus product in a subject. In some embodiments, the therapeutically effective amount of cinacalcet HCl in the composition disclosed herein can be chosen from about 5 mg, about 15 mg, about 30 mg, about 50 mg, about 60 mg, about 75 mg, about 90 mg, about 120 mg, about 150 mg, about 180 mg, about 210 mg, about 240 mg, about 300 mg, or about 360 mg.

While it may be possible to administer a compound of the invention alone, the compound administered will normally be present as an active ingredient in a pharmaceutical composition. Thus, a pharmaceutical composition of the invention may comprise a therapeutically effective amount of at least one calcium receptor-active compound, or an effective dosage amount of at least one calcium receptor-active compound.

As used herein, an "effective dosage amount" is an amount that provides a therapeutically effective amount of the at least one calcium receptor active compound when provided as a single dose, in multiple doses, or as a partial dose. Thus, an effective dosage amount of the at least one calcium receptor active compound of the invention includes an amount less than, equal to or greater than an effective amount of the compound; for example, a pharmaceutical composition in which two or more unit dosages, such as in tablets, capsules and the like, are required to administer an effective amount of the compound, or alternatively, a multidose pharmaceutical composition, such as powders, liquids and the like, in which an effective amount of the at least one calcium receptor-active compound is administered by administering a portion of the composition.

Alternatively, a pharmaceutical composition in which two one calcium receptor active compound may be administered in less than an effective amount for one or more periods of time (i.e, a once-a-day administration, and a twice-a-day administration), for example to ascertain the effective dose for an individual subject, to desensitize an individual subject to potential side effects, to permit effective dosing readjustment or depletion of one or more other therapeutics administered to an individual subject, and/or the like.

The effective dosage amount of the pharmaceutical composition disclosed herein ranges from about 1 mg to about 360 mg from a unit dosage form, for example about 5 mg, about 15 mg, about 30 mg, about 50 mg, about 60 mg, about 75 mg, about 90 mg, about 120 mg, about 150 mg, about 180 mg, about 210 mg, about 240 mg, about 300 mg, or about 360 mg from a unit dosage form.

In some embodiments of the present invention, the compositions disclosed herein comprise a therapeutically effective amount of cinacalcet HCl for the treatment of hyperparathyroidism, such as primary hyperparathyroidism and secondary hyperparathyroidism, hyperphosphonia, hypercalcemia, and elevated calcium-phosphorus product. For example, in certain embodiments, the cinacalcet HCl can be present in an amount ranging from about 1% to about 70%, such as from about 5% to about 40%, from about 10% to about 30%, or from about 15% to about 20%, by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

The compositions of the invention may contain one or more active ingredients in addition to the calcium receptor-active compound. The additional active ingredient may be another calcium receptor-active compound, or it may be an active ingredient having a different therapeutic activity. Examples of such additional active ingredients include, for example, vitamins and their analogs, such as vitamin D and analogs thereof, antibiotics, and cardiovascular agents.

The cinacalcet HCl or other calcium receptor-active compound that can be used in the composition is typically present in the form of particles. For instance, the cinacalcet HCl can be in a form chosen from needle-shaped particles, rod-shaped particles, plate-shaped particles, and mixtures of any of the foregoing. These particles can have a particle D_{50} of, for example, less than or equal to about 50 μm. As used herein, the "particle D_{50}" is the particle size of the active pharmaceutical ingredient at the 50^{th} percentile of a particle size distribution. According to certain embodiments of the invention, the active pharmaceutical ingredient in the formulation has a particle D_{50} that is less than the granule D_{50} of the formulation, discussed in detail below.

The particle D_{50} of the cinacalcet HCl particles can be determined by one of ordinary skill in the art using known light scattering techniques. In one embodiment of the invention, the particle D_{50} of the cinacalcet HCl particles is determined by using a particle size analyzer, such as a Malvern Mastersizer analyzer, that uses a laser to scan a suspension of particles. The particles diffract the incoming light to detectors: smaller particles diffract light at larger angles, while larger particles diffract light at smaller angles. The light intensities observed at each detector are translated into a particle size distribution based on the diameter of a sphere that has an equivalent volume to that of the measured particles.

Specifically, the particle size distribution of the active pharmaceutical ingredient, for example, cinacalcet HCl, can be determined according to the following procedure. The fol-

Refractive Index Sample	1.630
Absorptive Index	0.1
Refractive Index Dispersant	1.375
Analysis model	General purpose spherical
Calculation sensitivity	Enhanced
Measurement snaps and time	20,000 snaps over 20 seconds
Background snaps and time	20,000 snaps over 20 seconds
Stir speed	1750 rpm

While stirring, about 170 mL of a dispersion of about 0.1% sorbitan trioleate (for example Span 85®, available from Kishida Chemical) in hexane ("dispersant-B"), is added to the sampling unit, and the laser is aligned to take a background measurement of the dispersant-B.

The entire suspension containing the cinacalcet HCl is added until a suitable obscuration range ranging from about 10 to about 20% is obtained. The sample is measured after the obscuration value has stabilized. After the measurement, the system is drained and rinsed once with about 170 mL of dispersant-B, the dispersant-B is drained, and the sampling unit is refilled with about 170 mL of dispersant-B. The measurement are repeated two more times with different riffled fractions. The riffling is performed on large samples to obtain small representative particle size fractions about 15 mg in size.

The Obscuration, D(v, 0.1), D(v, 0.5), D(v, 0.9) values are then calculated from these measurements. The average, standard deviation, and relative standard deviation (RSD) of the D(v, 0.1), D(v, 0.5), D(v, 0.9) values is also calculated. The RSD (%) is calculated as follows:

$$RSD\,(\%) = \frac{100}{X}\left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N}(X_i - \overline{X})^2}{N-1}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

where X, is an individual measurement in a set of N measurements and is the arithmetic mean of the set.

The composition disclosed herein can be in various forms, for example, in granular form. The granules that can be used in the present invention can have a granule D_{50} ranging from about 50 μm to about 150 μm, such as from about 80 μm to about 130 μm. As defined herein, the "granule D_{50}" is the particle size of the composition at the 50^{th} percentile of a particle size distribution. The granule D_{50} can readily be determined by one of ordinary skill in the art using sieve analysis techniques. Specifically, the granule D_{50} is determined according to the following procedure.

Approximately 100 g of sample is added to sieve shaker equipped with 40 mesh, 60 mesh, 80 mesh, 100 mesh, 140 mesh, 200 mesh, 325 mesh, and the bottom pan. The sieve shaker is then turned on for about 10 minutes to separate the sample according to particle size. Each sieve is weighed to determine the amount of sample retained on each sieve and the bottom pan. The individual sieve weight is normalized to generate sieve weight fraction. The individual sieve weight

$$\text{Weight Fraction of each sieve} = \frac{\text{Weight of each sieve}}{\text{Sum of all sieves}}$$

Before the particle size calculation, the mean size range must be determined for each sieve and the bottom pan. This mean size of each sieve screen represents the mean particle size retained on the screen. The mean size of each sieve screen is determined by the hole size of the screen (lower limit) and one sieve size larger (upper limit). In the case of the 40 mesh sieve screen, the hole size of about 1410 μm is used as an upper limit. Table 1 set forth below shows the particle size range of any retained material on each screen and the mean of the particle size range.

TABLE 1

Screens	Hole size of each screen (μm)	Particle size range of retained material on each screen (μm)	Median particle size of the screen (μm)
40 mesh	425	425-1410	918
60 mesh	250	250-424	337
80 mesh	180	180-249	215
100 mesh	150	150-179	165
140 mesh	106	106-149	128
200 mesh	75	75-105	90
325 mesh	45	45-74	60
Bottom pan	0	1-44	23

The weight fraction of each sieve is added to generate cumulative frequency distribution starting from the bottom pan to 40 mesh screen. Once the cumulative frequency distribution is generated, the corresponding particle size at 10 percentile (D_{10}), 50-percentile (D_{50}), and 90-percentile (D_{90}) are determined. The particle size of the corresponding percentile is determined by linear interpolation between two consecutive data from the cumulative frequency distribution. For example, particle size of 50-percentile (D_{50}) is interpolated by,

$$D_{50}(\mu m) = \frac{[(50 - X_n) * d_{n+1} + (X_{n+1} - 50) * d_n]}{(X_{n+1} - X_n)}$$

where,

X_n=cumulative quantity of sample that is just below 50-percentile (in %);

d_n=mean of the particle size range from the sieve screen where X_n occurs (in mm);

X_{n+1}=next cumulative quantity of sample that is above 50-percentile (in %).

d_{n+1}=mean of the particle size range from the sieve screen where X_{n+1} occurs (in mm).

According to all embodiments of the present invention, the particle size of active pharmaceutical ingredient is measured according to light scattering techniques, and the particle size of the granules of composition is measured according to sieve analysis.

The compositions disclosed herein can be in a form chosen from, for example, tablets, capsules, and powders. The tablets can be made by pressing the granules into the form of tablets. The capsules can also be made using the granules.

crystalline cellulose, dicalcium phosphate, lactose, sorbitol, mannitol, sucrose, methyl dextrins; binders such as povidone, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, dihydroxy propylcellulose, and sodium carboxylmethylcellulose; and disintegrants such as crospovidone, sodium starch glycolate, croscarmellose sodium, and mixtures of any of the foregoing. The at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient can further be chosen from lubricants such as magnesium stearate, calcium stearate, stearic acid, glyceryl behenate, hygrogenated vegetable oil, glycerine fumerate and glidants such as colloidal silicon dioxide, and mixtures thereof. In some embodiments of the present invention, the at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient is chosen from microcrystalline cellulose, starch, talc, povidone, crospovidone, magnesium stearate, colloidal silicon dioxide, sodium dodecyl sulfate, and mixtures of any of the foregoing. The excipients of the present invention, can be intragranular, intergranular, or mixtures thereof.

In some embodiments of the present invention, the composition and/or the granules within the composition can comprise microcrystalline cellulose and starch in a weight ratio ranging from about 1:1 to about 15:1. For example, in the composition, the weight ratio of the microcrystalline cellulose and starch can range from about 1:1 to about 15:1, such as about 10:1, and in the granules within the composition, the weight ratio of the microcrystalline cellulose and starch can range from about 1:1 to about 10:1, such as about 5:1.

The microcrystalline cellulose can be present in an amount ranging from about 25% to about 85%, for example from about 50% to about 80%, or from about 60% to about 75% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition. The starch can be present in an amount ranging from about 5% to about 35%, for example, from about 5% to about 25%, or from about 5% to about 10% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

The compositions disclosed herein can further comprise at least one ingredient chosen from coating materials that are known in the art such as, for example, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.

Certain compositions can comprise:

(a) from about 10% to about 40% by weight of a calcium receptor-active compound chosen from cinacalcet HCl and cinacalcet methanesulfonate;

(b) from about 45% to about 85% by weight of at least one diluent;

(c) from about 1% to about 5% by weight of at least one binder; and

(d) from about 1% to about 10% by weight of at least one disintegrant; wherein the percentage by weight is relative to the total weight of the composition. The compositions can further comprise from about 0.05% to about 5% by weight, relative to the total weight of the composition, of at least one additive chosen from glidants, lubricants, and adherents. The composition can additionally comprise from about 1% to about 6% by weight of at least one coating material, relative to the total weight of the composition.

In another embodiment, the composition disclosed herein comprises:

(a) from about 10% to about 40% by weight of cinacalcet HCl;

(b) from about 5% to about 10% by weight of starch;

(c) from about 40% to about 75% by weight of microcrystalline cellulose;

(d) from about 1% to about 5% by weight of povidone; and

(e) from about 1% to about 10% by weight of crospovi-

The povidone can be present in an amount ranging from about 1% to about 5%, for example, from about 1% to about 3% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition. The crospovidone can be present in an amount ranging from about 1% to about 10%, for example from about 3% to about 6%, by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

The composition can further comprise from about 0.05% to about 5% by weight, relative to the total weight of the composition, of at least one additive chosen from colloidal silicon dioxide, magnesium stearate, talc, and the like, and mixtures of any of the foregoing. In certain embodiments of the invention, the composition comprises from about 0.05% to about 1.5% of colloidal silicon dioxide, from about 0.05% to about 1.5% of magnesium stearate, from about 0.05% to about 1.5% of talc, or mixtures of any of the foregoing. The composition can even further comprise from about 1% to about 6% by weight of at least one coating material, relative to the total weight of the composition.

As mentioned above, the compositions of certain embodiments of the present invention have a dissolution profile that results in about 50% to about 125% of a target amount of the calcium receptor-active compound being released from the composition no later that about 30 minutes from the start of a dissolution test that is conducted in 0.05 N HCl in a U.S.P. 2 apparatus at a temperature of 37° C. ±0.5° C. at a rotation speed of 75 r.p.m. The dissolution test is conducted using a USP 2 apparatus, and according to the dissolution protocol described in USP 26/NF 21, chapter 711, which is incorporated herein by reference. According to this embodiment using this dissolution protocol, a stated volume of the dissolution medium (±1%) is placed in the vessel of the USP 2 apparatus, the apparatus is assembled, the dissolution medium is equilibrated to 37° C. ±0.5° C., the thermometer is removed, the dosage form is placed in the vessel, and the amount of active pharmaceutical ingredient that is released as a function of time is measured.

According to another embodiment of the invention, a stated volume of the dissolution medium is placed in the vessel of the USP 2 apparatus, the apparatus is assembled, the dissolution medium is equilibrated to about 37° C., the thermometer is removed, the dosage form is placed in the vessel, and the amount of active pharmaceutical ingredient that is released as a function of time is measured.

The dissolution profile represents the percentage of the active pharmaceutical ingredient released based on a target amount of the active pharmaceutical ingredient in the formulation. As used herein "target amount" refers to the amount of active pharmaceutical ingredient in each formulation. In certain embodiments, the target amount refers to the label amount and/or label claim.

USP 26/NF 21, chapter 905, defines a protocol used to determine the dosage-unit conformity according to the present invention, and this content uniformity protocol is incorporated herein by reference. According to this protocol, the content uniformity is determined by measuring the amount of active pharmaceutical ingredient in 10 dosage unit samples, and calculating whether the amount of active pharmaceutical ingredient in all the dosage unit samples falls within a range of 85% to 115% of the target amount. If one dosage unit sample is outside the range of 85% to 115% of the target amount and no unit is outside a range of 75% to 125% of the target amount, or if the Relative Standard Deviation (RSD), which is the sample standard deviation expressed as a percentage of the mean, is not greater than 6%, then 20 additional dosage unit samples are tested. After treating at

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