

Modified-Release Drug Delivery Technology

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Marcel Dekker, Inc.

New York · Basel

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

A catalog record for this book is available from the Library of Congress.

ISBN: 0-8247-0869-5

This book is printed on acid-free paper.

Headquarters

Marcel Dekker, Inc.
270 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016
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Marcel Dekker AG
Hutgasse 4, Postfach 812, CH-4001 Basel, Switzerland
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World Wide Web

<http://www.dekker.com>

The publisher offers discounts on this book when ordered in bulk quantities. For more information, write to Special Sales/Professional Marketing at the headquarters address above.

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Current printing (last digit):

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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To my daughter Jenna

—*M.J.R.*

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Preface

For over 50 years, interest has been expressed in optimizing drug therapy through delivery system design. For many years this revolved around incorporating drugs into erodible or inert polymers, which then acted as platforms for controlled release, an approach that has been well reviewed in the literature. In more recent times there has been a move away from simply formulating drugs into erodible or inert polymers toward the design and development of more advanced drug delivery systems that utilize sophisticated designs and manufacturing techniques and rely on novel means for controlling the release of drug from the delivery system. Over the last few decades, rapid developments have occurred in this area and we have witnessed the evolution of commercially successful companies that specialize in the design, development, and commercialization of specific (in-house) modified-release drug delivery systems.

This is an exciting and growing area of pharmaceutical research. However, to date no single volume provides detailed and specific information on even a handful of individual modified-release drug delivery systems. Therefore, we decided to edit a book comprised of chapters that collectively address this void and provide an insight into the various approaches currently adopted to achieve modified-release drug delivery.

The book is divided into parts, each of which addresses a particular route for drug delivery. Although it is assumed that the reader is already familiar with fundamental controlled-release theories, each part opens with an overview of the anatomical, physiological, and pharmaceutical challenges in formulating a modified-release drug delivery technology for each route for drug delivery. The

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chapters in each part provide examples of the different approaches that have been taken to design and develop an innovative modified-release drug delivery system. Each chapter presents a detailed account of a specific modified-release drug delivery technology, written by experts on that technology.

Our challenge in editing this book was that no single volume could be expected to describe every modified-release drug delivery technology currently marketed or under development. This is because of the vast and evolving nature of the area, and the lack of availability of the innovators to write a monograph on their particular technology, due to either time constraints or the proprietary nature of their work. Instead of using this as an excuse to reject the challenge, we set ourselves the aim to provide in the book as many examples of modified-release drug delivery technologies as possible.

Susan Charman and Bill Charman were the leaders of the first part of the book, which is devoted to the oral route. The Charmans provide an excellent overview of the challenges of this popular route for modified-release drug delivery. Their introduction is followed by 15 chapters that provide an insight into the novel and innovative approaches that have been taken for this route for drug delivery. These range from novel manipulations of tableting technologies (including geometric designs and osmotically driven technologies) through three-dimensional printing to the use of lipids. The second part, led by Professor Clive Wilson, discusses several diverse approaches that may be used to deliver compounds to the colon. Chapters demonstrating the innovativeness of workers in this field complement an incisive introduction that highlights the unique challenges associated with this site of absorption. The leader of Part III, Bernard Plazonnet, includes in his introduction a thorough review of currently available and emerging modified-release ophthalmic drug delivery systems. Since most of these systems are in the developmental stage and have not yet reached the commercial stage, this part contains only three chapters on specific technologies. Part IV focuses on the oral cavity as a site of drug delivery. The part leader, Professor Ian Kellaway, together with invited coauthors, provides an overview of the issues relating to the development of modified-release drug delivery systems for this route. The associated chapters highlight technologies developed for specific regions of the oral cavity, including sublingual, buccal cavity, gingiva, and periodontal pocket.

A diverse range of technology approaches are associated with the dermal and transdermal route. Part leader Professor Jonathan Hadgraft not only has written a thorough overview but has also organized a series of chapters that cover a wide range of diverse technologies from wound dressings to sprays, to propulsion of solid drug particles into the skin by means of a high-speed gas flow, to patches that deliver drugs via diffusion, iontophoresis, sonophoresis, or microprojections. The sixth part of this book addresses implant and injection technologies. In their introduction, part leaders Franklin Okumu and Jeffrey Cleland offer a comprehen-

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