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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Thermal and kinetic evaluation of biodegradable thermo-sensitive gelatin/poly(ethylene glycol) diamine crosslinked citric acid hydrogels for controlled release of tramadol

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Keywords: Hydrogel, drug release, tramadol, biocompatible, biodegradable

Abstract

Nowadays, hydrogels have become ideal materials for use in biomedical applications by virtue of their biodegradability and biocompatibility. In this study, poly(ethylene glycol) diamine (PEGD) based hydrogels were synthetized using as crosslinking agents citric acid (CA) or glutaraldehyde (GTA), and gelatin (GEL) as hydrogel vehicle. The hydrogels were studied for drug release in vitro using tramadol (TR) as a model drug. Thermal studies under isothermal and non-isothermal conditions were conducted. The elastic module (G') showed higher values than the loss module (G') confirming that the contribution of the elastic segments in both materials is more significant than the viscous ones. Aqueous stability, swelling and drug release properties were determined. The swelling analysis indicated that both hydrogels are temperature dependent. The kinetics studies showed an anomalous drug release mechanism. PEGD:CA/GEL hydrogel behave as an elastic matrix strong enough to maintain the drug dosage.

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