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www.elsevier.com/locate/jcrysgro

PII: S0022-0248(16)30561-9  
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrysgro.2016.09.058>  
Reference: CRY23616

To appear in: *Journal of Crystal Growth*

Received date: 30 July 2016  
Revised date: 13 September 2016  
Accepted date: 26 September 2016

Cite this article as: Jose V. Parambil, Sendhil K. Poornachary, Reginald B.H. Tan and Jerry Y.Y. Heng, Influence of Solvent Polarity and Supersaturation on Template-induced Nucleation of Carbamazepine Crystal Polymorphs, *Journal of Crystal Growth*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrysgro.2016.09.058>

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# Influence of Solvent Polarity and Supersaturation on Template-induced Nucleation of Carbamazepine Crystal Polymorphs

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## Abstract

Studies on the use of template surfaces to induce heterogeneous crystal nucleation have gained momentum in recent years — with potential applications in selective crystallisation of polymorphs and in the generation of seed crystals in a continuous crystallisation process. In developing a template-assisted solution crystallisation process, the kinetics of homogeneous versus heterogeneous crystal nucleation could be influenced by solute–solvent, solute–template, and solvent–template interactions. In this study, we report the effect of solvents of varying polarity on the nucleation of carbamazepine (CBZ) crystal polymorphs, a model active pharmaceutical ingredient. The experimental results demonstrate that functionalised template surfaces are effective in promoting crystallisation of either the metastable (form II) or stable (form III) polymorphs of CBZ only in moderately (methanol, ethanol, isopropanol) and low polar (toluene) solvents. A solvent with high polarity (acetonitrile) is thought to mask the template effect on heterogeneous nucleation due to

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