

Nanoemulgel: a Promising Nanolipoidal-Emulsion Based Drug Delivery System in Managing Psoriasis

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ABSTRACT: Nanomedicine, a novel concept, bears much hope in delivering drug candidates having low solubility and bioavailability. Nano-emulgel, one of the emerging tools, is considered as ideal carriers for the topical delivery of lipophilic drugs to overcome these challenges in the management of psoriasis and related skin problems. Psoriasis is an auto-immune and chronic inflammatory disease affecting 2-3% population of the world. Current available treatment of psoriasis has limitations such as systemic side effects and low percutaneous permeation, which evokes a dire need to develop an alternative lipoidal nanocarrier system. Nano-emulgel is basically formed by admixing nanoemulsion system with a hydrogel matrix using both high and low energy methods. Various literatures have been reported for lipoidal nanocarriers in topical treatment suggesting reduced dose, improved percutaneous absorption and better bioavailability of lipophilic drugs with nano-emulgel delivery via topical route. Several approved marketed preparations are available that strongly support the stability of these nanocarriers in respect to its efficacy and safety. This supports the fact of using topical nano-emulgel system to deliver lipophilic drugs to overcome the sufferings from oral delivery and improved patient compliance. Therefore, it is suggested as a potential system that can be used for an effective management of psoriasis via topical route in near future.

Key words: Topical route, nanotechnology, nano-emulgel, lipophilic drugs, bioavailability, skin disease, psoriasis

INTRODUCTION

Psoriasis is a chronic, T lymphocyte (T-cells) mediated auto-immune inflammatory condition identified by abnormal, rough and red-coloured blotch on skin due to epidermal hyper-proliferation and mostly affects knee, elbow, trunk and scalp.¹ The prevalence of the disease is about 2% worldwide but varies according to regions. The disease incidences are comparatively low in population of Asia and Africa and higher in Caucasian and Scandinavian population.²

Tumour necrosis factor- α (TNF- α) binds to receptor present on keratinocyte that activates hyper proliferation. Interlukin 23 (IL23) plays a crucial role in psoriasis and helps in differentiation of Th17 cells

and produce IL23, IL22. Psoriatic plaque shows high level of vascular growth factor which increases angiogenesis results bleeding point when peeled off.³ Psoriasis is derived from Greek word "psora", means itch and joints and tendons are affected along with itchy sensation on the body. In psoriasis both the environment and inherited factors play important role to cause the disease. Stress, damage to skin, alcohol, and exposure of sunlight may cause psoriasis. Also, some medications given in high blood pressure (BP), angina and malaria may worsen the psoriatic condition. In patients with smoking habit and obesity, the treatment of psoriasis is very difficult.⁴ Main symptoms of psoriasis are red skin, crusty patches causing intense itching, burning sensation and discomfort. Psoriasis can be mild, moderate and severe in respect to the coverage of body skin. Mild psoriasis covers less than 3% of body, moderate psoriasis covers 3-10% of body and severe psoriasis covers more than 10% of body.^{5,6} Psoriasis being an

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auto-immune disease, CD8 & CD4 T cells play an important role and has specificity towards cathelicidin peptide (LL37) and stimulates the secretion of IFN-1 and pro-inflammatory factors in severe to moderate patients with psoriasis.^{7,8} The psoriatic condition may be categorized into various sub-types as mentioned below. (i) Plaque psoriasis involves raised and inflamed skin, covered by silvery, white scales of elbows, knees, lower back. About 80-90% people suffer from this type of psoriasis; (ii) Inverse psoriasis develops as localized skin-folds, area groin, under breast, skin fold, and armpit. A red lesion, without scaly patterns occurs in obese patient having deep skin fold⁹ and (iii) Erythrodermic psoriasis is rare inflammatory condition covering redness associated with large area across body surface. It has exfoliation, peeling of skin and leads to pneumonia, and heart failure. The confirmation of this type of psoriasis can be done by pityriasis rubra pilaris (PRP) erythroderma^{10,11}; (iv) Guttate psoriasis mainly occurs in childhood or young adulthood and appears like small, red, spot in skin causing conditions like, stress, injury to skin, and respiratory infections. This type of psoriasis is associated with HLA-Cw6 gene abnormality. Lesions can be seen in scalps, faces part of skin and become regress in 3 to 4 months¹²; (v) Pustular psoriasis affects adults more than children. It appears like white pustules, red skin and affect certain areas of body.⁵ Abnormal body immune response provokes the development of psoriatic inflammation. Activation of innate immune system occurs by endogenous auto-inflammatory signals exists in some patients. The inflammatory milieu activates keratinocyte proliferation via TNF- α , IL-17, and IFN- γ . Pustular psoriasis is characterized by increasing expression of IL-1 β , IL-36 α , and IL-36 γ ; IL-17 signalling involved in pustular psoriasis occurred in patients. The psoriatic arthritis (PsA) and psoriasis are inter-related heritable disorder as synovial tissue in psoriatic arthritis expresses pro-inflammatory cytokines: IL-1, IFN- γ , and TNF α .¹³⁻¹⁵ For the treatment, psoriasis is divided into localized and generalized forms depending upon the area of the body surface exposed and condition of the area involved. For generalized disease, systemic therapy

like, oral therapy and ultraviolet-B (UVB) photo therapies have been used for the effective treatment of psoriasis. For localized disease (defined as covering <10% of body surface area) topical therapy is required to improve quality of treatment with minimal side effects.¹⁶

Topical route simply acts as carrier in which the drug is delivered through skin as to show the effect at the site of administration for various cosmetics and dermatological products.^{17,18} The skin is the largest organ of body and has been an excellent medium for topical applications for a variety of drugs in achieving the desired therapeutic performance in several skin disorders. They can be used as an alternative approach for those drug candidates having problems associated with oral route such as hepatic first pass metabolism, low bioavailability, low solubility etc. that lead to reduced patient compliance.¹⁹ Permeation of drug molecule can be achieved through the skin layers that include sebaceous follicle, sweat duct, stratum corneum.²⁰ Drug absorption through the percutaneous membrane may be affected by major factors such as role of concentration gradient in which the passage of drugs through skin involve driving force, diffusion and partition coefficients. Drug with low molecular mass have high solubility and thus partition coefficient is increased.²¹ Topical drug delivery can be categorized into two types namely (i) External delivery refers to drug is being delivered into the cutaneous tissue to have action on the affected area and (ii) Internal delivery represents the drug applied on to the mucous membrane or tissues on localized area. The drug needs to cross the skin barriers to achieve the targeted concentration at the site of action and to reach in circulation.²² Among all the novel nano-lipoidal delivery systems, nanoemulgel is considered to be the most effective delivery system for topical application of drugs with high lipophilicity and low systemic availability or both. The system is suggested to improve pharmacokinetic behavior of drug candidates such as BCS II/IV (Biopharmaceutical Classification System) drugs in respect to solubility, permeability and bioavailability via the topical route.^{23,24} The nanoemulgel system is believed to

exhibit quicker and early healing of psoriasis due to its deep penetration in skin and longer duration of action of drug candidates as compared to conventional topical gels. Thus, nano-emulgel can be considered a promising system for the better long-term management of psoriasis.²⁵

METHODS

This paper aims to present a systematic review on nanoemulgel, a novel drug delivery system and its applications. In addition, possible trends, therapeutic potential and future prospective of nanoemulgel in effective management of psoriasis are also briefly discussed. For this, scientific literatures were systematically searched for data using library catalogs and also online databases such as Web of Science, Scopus, Wiley Online Library, Science Direct, Pubmed/Medline and Google Scholar. The literature was searched by using key words such as “nanocarriers”, “nanoemulgel”, “psoriasis”, “nanoemulgel for treating psoriasis”, and “marketed nanocarriers for treating skin problems”. Only peer reviewed scientific journals following inclusion criteria were considered for data compilation during the review process.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A nano-emulgel system is an admixture of nanoemulsion with a gelling agent. The water content of gel facilitates the conversion of nanoemulsion into nano-emulgel maintaining the size of droplets in the range of 5-500 nm.^{21,22} During preparation of nano-emulgel, various gelling agent are added to the nanoemulsion to increase the stability of formulation and reduce surface and interfacial tension for drugs to be delivered topically.²⁶ There is higher solubilisation capacity and thermodynamic stability in nanoemulsion, long self-life, and fast onset of action.²⁷ The quantity and releasing pattern of drug from nano-emulgel can be modified with varying concentration of used ingredients, gelling agent base oil in emulsion.^{28,29} There are two type of nanoemulsion: oil in water (O/W) and water in oil (W/O), transportation of lipophilic actives into deep

part of skin shows better results with O/W nanoemulsion.³⁰ The drugs having bitter taste that cannot be taste-masked is much preferred to deliver in the form of nanoemulgel via the topical route.³¹ When compared nano-emulgel with nanoemulsion, the drug permeation from nano-emulgel system occurs through both para-cellular and trans-cellular membrane while drug permeation from nanoemulsion occurs through transcellular membranes only across the skin whereas the conventional semi-solid dosage forms exhibited shallow penetration across the skin³² as shown in Figure 1.

Nano-emulgel exhibited better partitioning through percutaneous membrane of drug molecule for required therapeutic activity at the site of action.^{26,27} The system shows high mucoadhesion, thus acts as a drug reservoir for sustained release of drug and improved patient compliance.³³ Nano-emulgel offers several advantages such as high solubility of drug, better spread ability, biocompatibility, thixotropic behaviour, excellent carriers for lipophilic drugs, non-toxic, non-irritant, and better drug loading as compared to other topical formulations, suitable for sustained and prolonged release of drugs with shorter half-life, improved skin penetration, and better drug deposition, less sticky feeling when compared to conventional semisolid dosage form (creams, ointment etc.). The system is suitable for both local and systemic effects depending upon the site of actions.^{34,35} Several literatures have reported that nano-emulgel system have been found to show auto photo quenching qualities to control phototoxicity when used in photodynamic therapy.^{36,37}

The system is also associated with several disadvantages like stickiness problem when applied to skin, drug with larger particle size faces difficulty to cross the skin barriers, low spread ability and stability issues for hydrophilic drug candidates.³⁸ With all the benefits, nano-emulgel can be considered as an excellent alternate delivery system for the management of various skin disorders like psoriasis to overcome the side-effects of oral route and improved effectiveness of medicines for better

patient compliance.³³ The nano-emulgel based drug delivery is an approach to improve therapeutic profiles and systemic delivery of lipophilic drugs. Various researches have been reported based on nano-emulgel formulation for topical delivery of

lipophilic drugs. Some of the latest researches based on the preparation containing vesicles such as nano-emulgel, nanoemulsion and microemulsion are highlighted in Table 1.

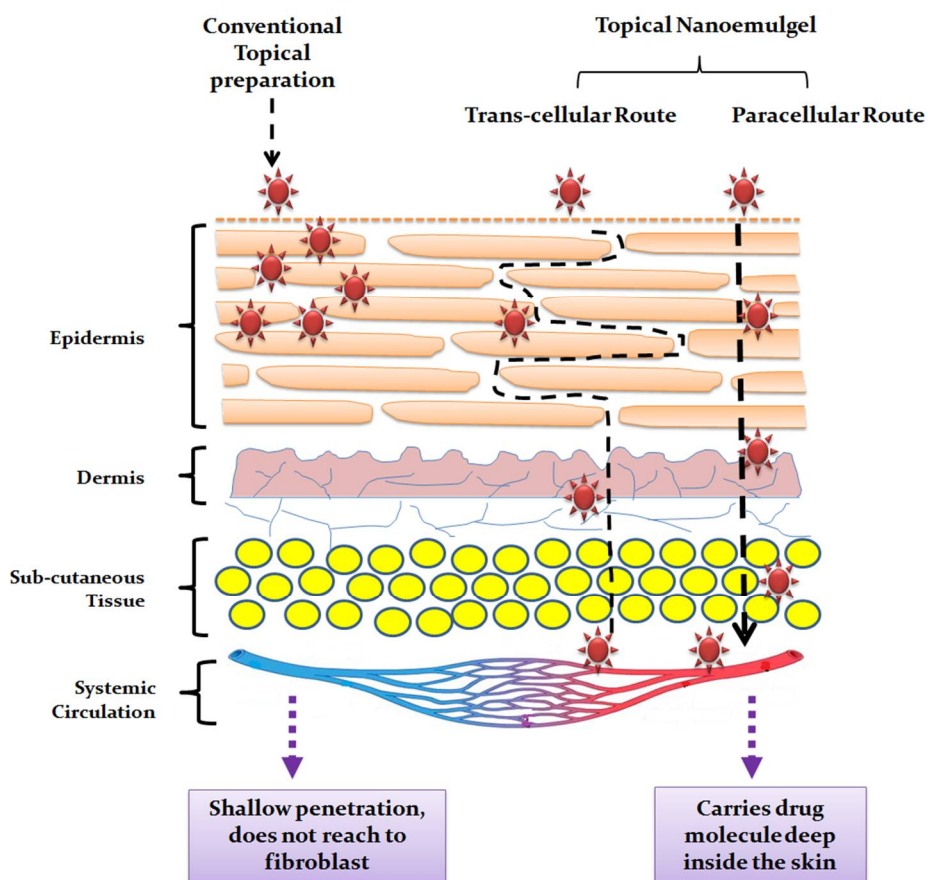


Figure 1. Representation of the permeation patterns of conventional gels and nano-emulgel system across the skin.

FORMULATION CONSIDERATIONS

The process of nano-emulgel preparation involved three basic steps that include (i) development of nano-emulsion system either by spontaneous emulsification or high pressure homogenization; (ii) hydrogel system separately and (iii) mixing of both the systems together to form nano-emulgel formulation.²⁶ There are two methods which are generally used for preparing nanoemulsion namely high-energy and low-energy methods. The former methods include processes like high-pressure homogenization, ultrasound generation or sonication,

micro-fluidization and high shear stirring methods whereas the latter methods involves technologies such as spontaneous emulsification, phase inversion, emulsion inversion point etc.⁶⁹ Various excipients along with active pharmaceutical ingredients have been used to make nano-emulgel such as: (i) Oil and lipids: their selection for nanoemulsion preparation directly correlates with the choice of surfactants/co-surfactants. For nanoemulsion preparation, generally long chain triglycerides (LCT), medium chain

Table 1. Topical nano-emulgel/ nanoemulsion/ preparations for various skin diseases.

Author/ Year	Drug/System	Oil/ polymer used in system	Preparation for nano-emulsion	Reference number
Gurjot <i>et al.</i> (2019)	Mefanamic acid- tocopheryl polyethylene glycol succinate nano-emulgel	Capryol, Oleic, Soyabean oil /Tween-20,40,60, Span-80, Carbopol (971, 940), HPMC 5-CPS	Spontaneous Emulsification Method	39
Lakshmana <i>et al.</i> (2017)	Cyclobenzaprine Hydrochloride nanoemulgel	Castor, Orange, Nutmeg oil / Tween 80, Span 80, Carbopol 940	Emulsification method	27
Dhawan <i>et al.</i> (2014)	Piroxicam nanoemulgel	Oleic acid / tween 80, Carbopol 934	Emulsification method	40
Ahmed M. Eid <i>et al.</i> (2019)	Fusidic acid & sodium fusidate nanoemulgel	Pine, Olive, Corn Oil / Tween-20,80, Span -20,80	Self- nanoemulsification technique	41
Khurana <i>et al.</i> (2013)	Meloxicam Nanoemulsion gel	Caprylic acid as oil phase / Tween 80, Carbopol 940	Emulsification method	42
Eid <i>et al.</i> (2014)	Swietenia microphylla nanoemulgel	SM oil/Carbopol 934,940	Self-emulsification method and phase inversion technique	43
Javed <i>et al.</i> (2019)	Tea oil nanoemulgel	Tree tea oil/Tween 20, 80, Carbopol 940, PEG400	Emulsification method	44
Mao <i>et al.</i> (2019)	Eprinomectin nanoemulgel	Castor oil/Tween 80, Carbopol 940	Emulsification method	45
Dixit <i>et al.</i> (2019)	Anthralin microemulsion gel	Karanj oil/Tween 80, Span 20	Emulsification method	46
Mulia <i>et al.</i> (2018)	Mangosteen nanoemulgel	Coconut oil / Span 80, Tween 80	Emulsification method	47
Tungadi <i>et al.</i> (2020)	Snakehead fish powder nanoemulgel	Olive oil / Tween 80, PEG 400	Low pressure homogenization method	48
Pradum <i>et al.</i> (2019)	Topical Itraconazole nanogel	Water/ Tween 80, Span 80, Carbopol 940	Solvent diffusion method	49
Urmila <i>et al.</i> (2013)	Allyl amine nanoemulgel	Soya oil / Tween 80, Carbopol 934	Spontaneous emulsification method	50
Subheet <i>et al.</i> (2017)	Vitamin E- Tocopheryl polyethylene glycol succinate nanoemulsion	Olive oil, Oleic oil / Carbopol 934,940	High energy method	51
Pintu <i>et al.</i> (2018)	Curcumin nanoemulgel	Curcumin oil / Tween 80	Ultrasonication method	52
Mustafa <i>et al.</i> (2019)	Apixaban ultrafine nanoemulsion	Castor, Olive, Coconut etc / Tween 20, Tween 80, Span 20, Span 80	Emulsification method, aqueous titration method	53
Ghosh <i>et al.</i> (2013)	Cinnamon oil nanoemulsion	Cinnamon oil / Tween 80	Ultrasonic emulsification method	54
Ahuja <i>et al.</i> (2008)	Aceclofenac nanoemulsion	Lebrafil as oil phase /Tween 80	Spontaneous emulsification method	55
Vaiyapuri <i>et al.</i> (2016)	Essential oil based nanoemulsion	<i>Nigella Sativa</i> L oil /Polysorbate 80	Ultrasonic emulsification method	56
Vaida <i>et al.</i> (2015)	Resveratrol microemulsion	Oleic , Olive oil / PEG 8	Oil titration method	57
Vidya <i>et al.</i> (2012)	Bifonazole topical microemulgel	Oleic acid as oil / Tween 80	Emulsification method	58
Altug <i>et al.</i> (2014)	Naproxen microemulsion	Isopropyl myristate as oil / Span 80	Emulsification method	59
Vishal <i>et al.</i> (2018)	Ramipril microemulsion	Orange oil / Tween 80	Water titration method	60
Hemal <i>et al.</i> (2012)	Cilnidipine microemulsion	Tocotrienol as oil / Tween 20	Titration method	61
Kohli <i>et al.</i> (2007)	Terbinafine microemulsion	Oleic acid as oil / Labrasol S	Spontaneous emulsification method	62
Aparna <i>et al.</i> (2014)	Satranidazole micro-emulsion gel	Oleic acid, Olive as oil / Tween 80, Carbopol 940	Cosurfactant titration method	63
Mohammad <i>et al.</i> (2012)	Turmeric oil topical nanoemulsion	Turmeric oil / Tween 80, Carbopol 940	Spontaneous emulsification method	64
Rajitha <i>et al.</i> (2019)	Chaulmoogra oil-methotrexate nanoemulsion	Chaulmoogra oil / Tween 80	Emulsification method	65
Jain <i>et al.</i> (2011)	Methoxsalen topical micro-emulgel	Ethyl oleate as oil phase / Tween 80, Carbopol 934	Emulsification method	66
Trivedi <i>et al.</i> (2018)	Clobetasol propionate and salicylic acid topical microemulsion	Oleic acid as oil phase/ Tween 20, Tween 80, PEG 400	Water titration method	67
Tejinder <i>et al.</i> (2013)	Babchi oil topical emulgel	Babchi oil / Capryol 90, Tween – 20, Span – 20, 80	Emulsification method	68

triglyceride (MCT) and short chain triglycerides (SCT) are selected such as triacetin, trybutyrin etc.^{70,71} Apart from these, various vegetable oils (castor oil, olive oil, coconut oil, almond oil, sesame oil, soyabean oil, etc) from plant sources approved for topical delivery are used in the preparation of nano-emulgel.⁷²⁻⁷⁶ Other than this, various fatty acid and alcohol (Stearyl alcohol, cetyl alcohol etc.⁷², fatty acid ester and glycerol (butyric acid derivatives, glycerol triacetate etc.⁷⁷ have been used as oil phase in preparation of nanoemulsion for nano-emulgel. (ii) Vehicles: nanoemulsion is commonly prepared in distilled water and solvents with high polarity. (iii) Gelling agent: They are used to prepare hydrogel and gel-matrix, e.g. agar gum, guar gum, xanthan gum, HPMC, tragacanth etc. (iv) Permeation enhancers are added in preparation to interact with the skin constituent to produce reversible temporary increase in permeability to skin layer, eg; linoleic acid, oleic acid, lecithin etc. (v) Surfactants/co-surfactants: stabilizes the formulation and helps in solubilising the drugs, eg; Acrysol, Labrasol, Tween 80, Tween 20, Span 80, stearic acid, etc.³⁸

After preparation, the nano-emulgel formulations are generally evaluated for various *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* parameters including determination of drug content, particle/vesicle size, grittiness, pH, spreadability, viscosity measurement and rheological behaviour, zeta potential, poly-dispersity index (PDI), mucoadhesive property, *ex-vivo* drug permeation studies, *in-vivo* studies, skin irritancy study and stability studies. These parameters may influence the drug delivery and system's overall performance.⁷⁸⁻⁸⁹

Topical applications of nanoemulgel in managing psoriasis.

Psoriasis can be treated by various medications whether by single dose or in combination. About 75% of patients having moderate psoriasis are treated by topical medications.⁹⁰ The most common etiological factor is stress.³ Certain factor like mental strain, skin damage, systemic infections, chronic disorders like Crohn's disease and intestinal upsets

can affect the conditions of psoriasis.⁹¹ Various drug delivery systems have been developed and reported for the treatment of psoriasis such as oral drug delivery, systemic drug delivery and topical drug delivery including creams, ointment, shampoo and gel preparations.⁹²⁻⁹⁵ Several conventional and approved medicines are available for the treatment of psoriasis based on its severity. The treatment include corticosteroids, vitamin D, retinoids (topical), combination of methotrexate with ultraviolet B (UVB) phototherapy (first line therapy), acetratin, apremilast (non-biologics, first line therapy), and methotrexate with biologics (Infliximab and Efalizumab monoclonal antibodies) and UVB with biologics (second line therapy). For light therapy exposure of light in short wavelength is called UVB. Side effects of light therapy include skin damage, and may have chance of skin cancer. Systemic treatment may be given through oral and parental route in moderate to severe psoriasis.^{5,96,97}

The major drawback of wide range of anti-psoriatic drugs used via the topical route includes side effects like low permeability through transcutaneous membrane resulting low bioavailability, which makes it clinically less important and emerges the need to develop advanced topical drug delivery systems for psoriasis. Generally, topical preparation like gels, creams, ointment, and lotions can be given as alone or in combination of drugs to treat mild to moderate psoriasis.⁹⁸ Some of the marketed topical preparations are given in Table 2.

Nano-emulgel as effective carriers for anti-psoriatic agents. Nano-emulgel delivery system for anti-psoriatic agents has great potential for better clinical effect of drug candidates in psoriasis as the system exhibits deep percutaneous permeation across the membranes. Drug delivery using nano-emulgel system is used for improving therapeutic action of lipophilic drug and systemic delivery.³² Basically, nano-emulgel are made up of o/w nanoemulsion admixture with gelling agent. The system offers several advantages like patient compliance, increased stability with reduced surface tension, non-irritating

nature, non-toxicity.^{99,100} Several literatures revealed the pharmacokinetic studies of the nano-emulgel system in topical delivery suggesting a variety of benefits such as enhanced permeation of drug through the skin, reduces dosing frequency, sustained release effect for desired duration, depot release of drug at site of action, avoids hepatic first pass metabolism, improved stability, and reduced dose required and hence lesser dose related toxicity. In case of psoriasis, nano-emulgel formulation exhibits deep penetration across the stratum corneum at the

site of action for long time resulting in better treatment approach along with reduced dose and dosing frequency of actives and hence strongly suggests the topical nano-emulgel formulation containing anti-psoriatic agent as a suitable alternate delivery system by overcoming the sufferings of oral administration of drugs causing side effects and also better patient compliance in managing psoriasis.^{101,102} Some of the marketed products based on various nanocarriers based delivery systems indicated in different skin conditions are shown in Table 3.

Table 2. Commercially available topical anti-psoriatic preparations.

Marketed products	Drug used	Company name	Major side effects
Elocon	Mometasone Furoate	MSD	Allergic skin reactions Loss of skin colour, Acne
Dovonex	Calcipotriene	Leo Pharma	Hypercalcemia, Local irritation
Taclonex	Calcipotriene Betamethasone	Leo pharma	Erythema, Stinging sensation Dry skin
Tazorac	Tazarotene	Allergen Pharmaceuticals	Burning and irritation
Temovate	Clobetasol propionate	PharmaDerm	Thinning and cracking of skin, burning, redness
Diprolene	Betamethasone dipropionate	Schering	Blisters, itching and peeling of skin
Diprosalic	Betamethasone dipropionate and Salicylic acid	Merck Sharp and Dohme Limited	Dermatitis Allergic skin reactions

Table 3. Emulsion-based and nanocarrier-based gels preparations available in the market.

Marketed products	Indications	Carrier used	Company name
Voltaren	Inflammation /pain	Emulgel	Novartis pharma
Miconaz-H	Vaginal infection	Emulgel	Medical Union Pharmaceutical
Diclomax	Pain	Emulgel	Torrent pharma
Zyclin	Acne	Nanogel	ZydusCadila
Adalene	Acne	Nanogel	Cam- Camilin Ltd.
Oxalgin	Gout, migrane	Nanogel	ZydusCadila
Eye perfecter gel	Dark circle	Liposome	Avon solution
Nanofast gel	Gout, migrane	Nanoemulsion	Pharmed Ltd.
Biogelmicroemulsion	Dry skin	Microemulsion	BioOne
Nano cream	Dark circle	Nanoemulsion	Collonil
Anti-age response cream	Skin aging	Noisome	St. Botanica
Vital Nanoemulsion A-VC	Dry skin	Nanoemulsion	Marie Louise
Lip Tender	Dry lips	Nanosphere	LHB
Ravitalift	Anti-aging	Liposome	L'Oreal

Future scope of nano-emulgel in topical delivery. Based on various literature discussed in this review, it is suggested that nano-emulgel delivery system has emerged as one of the best and smart alternatives among various novel drug delivery system for topical use. The nano-emulgel delivery system is very effective for poor aqueous soluble drug candidates which have been abolished from development processes due to limited clinical efficacy. The system is believed to enhance the pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic properties of drugs having poor bioavailability resulting better patient compliance. Many of the lipophilic drugs belonging to different categories have been incorporated in nano-emulgel system suggesting increased therapeutic profiles in respect to better penetration in skin layer, non-greasy nature, non-toxic, avoid hepatic first pass metabolism and safety. The developed nano-emulgel has been tested against many acute and chronic diseases like inflammatory disorder, cardiovascular disease, fungal infections and alopecia. With all benefits, it could be inferred that nano-emulgel system can be a better and potential drug delivery tool for the treatment of psoriasis topically to achieve better treatment strategies and more patient compliance in near future in patients who suffer with oral medications.

CONCLUSIONS

The nano-emulgel drug delivery system is aimed to develop with improved therapeutic profiles as well as systemic availability of various lipophilic drugs belonging to BCS class II and IV. Several research reports demonstrated the increase drug profiles when incorporated in nano-emulgel formulations. The selection of appropriate vehicles, surfactants/co-surfactants and methods of fabrication has huge impact on the stability and biological behavior of the developed nanocarrier systems such as nano-emulgel, nanoemulsion, microemulsions, liposomes, etc. The choice of surfactant is of important concern as the increased concentration of surfactants may cause mild to severe toxicity. Hence, it can be concluded that lipoidal emulsion-based nanocarrier system is a

safe and effective alternative approach to conventional delivery system for topical applications in the management of variety of psoriasis and other skin disorders.

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COMPETING INTEREST

Authors declare no competing interest.

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ABBREVIATIONS

- nm: Nanometer
- BCS: Biopharmaceutics Classification System
- PDI: Polydispersity index
- LCT: Long chain triglyceride
- MCT: Medium chain triglyceride
- SCT: Short chain triglyceride
- TNF- α : Tumor Necrosis Factor- α
- IL: Interleukin
- Th17: Thymus 17
- BP: Blood pressure
- CD8: Cluster of differentiation 8
- CD4: Cluster of differentiation 4
- LL37: Cathelicidin antimicrobial peptides (CAMP)
- IFN: Interferons
- PRP: Ptyriasisrubra pilaris
- HLA-Cw6: human leucocyte antigen- Cw6 serotype receptor
- PsA: Psoriatic arthritis
- O/W: Oil in water
- W/O: Water in oil
- UVB: ultraviolet B phototherapy