

**PharmD IIIrd Yr**

**PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULATIONS**

# **TABLET TYPES AND EXCIPIENTS**



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# TABLET EXCIPIENTS



**Excipients...**

Approved for use



These are the substances added in the manufacturing of tablet and perform following functions:



- IMPART WEIGHT, ACCURACY, & VOLUME
  - IMPROVE SOLUBILITY
  - INCREASE STABILITY
- ENHANCE BIOAVAILABILITY
- MODIFY DRUG RELEASE
- ASSIST PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION
- INCREASE PATIENT ACCEPTABILITY
- FACILITATE DOSAGE FORM DESIGN

# 1. DILUENTS



- Diluents are fillers used to make up required bulk of the tablet when the drug dosage itself is inadequate to produce the bulk.
- Provide better tablet properties such as improved cohesion or to promote flow.



# PROPERTIES OF DILUENTS



1. They must be **non toxic**
2. They must be commercially available in **acceptable grade**.
3. Their **cost** must be low
4. They must be physiologically **inert**
5. They must be physically & chemically **stable** by themselves & in combination with the drugs.
6. They must be free from any unacceptable **microbial contamination**.
7. They must not be **contraindicated** by themselves and in combination with the drug and other tablet components.
8. They must be **color compatible**.
9. They must have no deleterious effect on the **bioavailability** of drugs.

# COMMONLY USED:



1. Lactose-anhydrous and spray dried lactose
2. Directly compressed starch
3. Hydrolyzed starch
4. Microcrystalline cellulose-Avicel  
(2 grades: pH 101 and pH 102)
5. Dibasic calcium phosphate dehydrate
6. Calcium sulphate dihydrate
7. Mannitol
8. Sorbitol
9. Sucrose
10. Dextrose

## 2. Binders and Adhesives:



These materials are added either dry or in liquid form to form granules or to promote cohesive compacts for directly compressed tablet.

- **EXAMPLES:**

- **Natural gums:**

- Acacia, tragacanth - 10-25% Conc solution

- **Disadvantages:**

- variable in composition and performance, based on their natural origin
  - heavily contaminated with bacteria

**Solution:** When these materials are used, wet granulation masses should be quickly dried at 37C to reduce microbial proliferation





• Cellulose derivatives: Methyl cellulose, Hydroxy propyl methyl cellulose, Hydroxy propyl cellulose  
Dry: binder properties  
Aqueous solutions: adhesive properties.

• Natural protein: Gelatin- 10-20% solution  
Advantage: more consistent material & easier to prepare in solution form.

• Glucose: 50% soln in water  
Advantage: low cost  
Disadvantage: bacterial proliferation

• Synthetic polymer: Polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP)- 2% conc.

• Starch paste: 10-20% soln

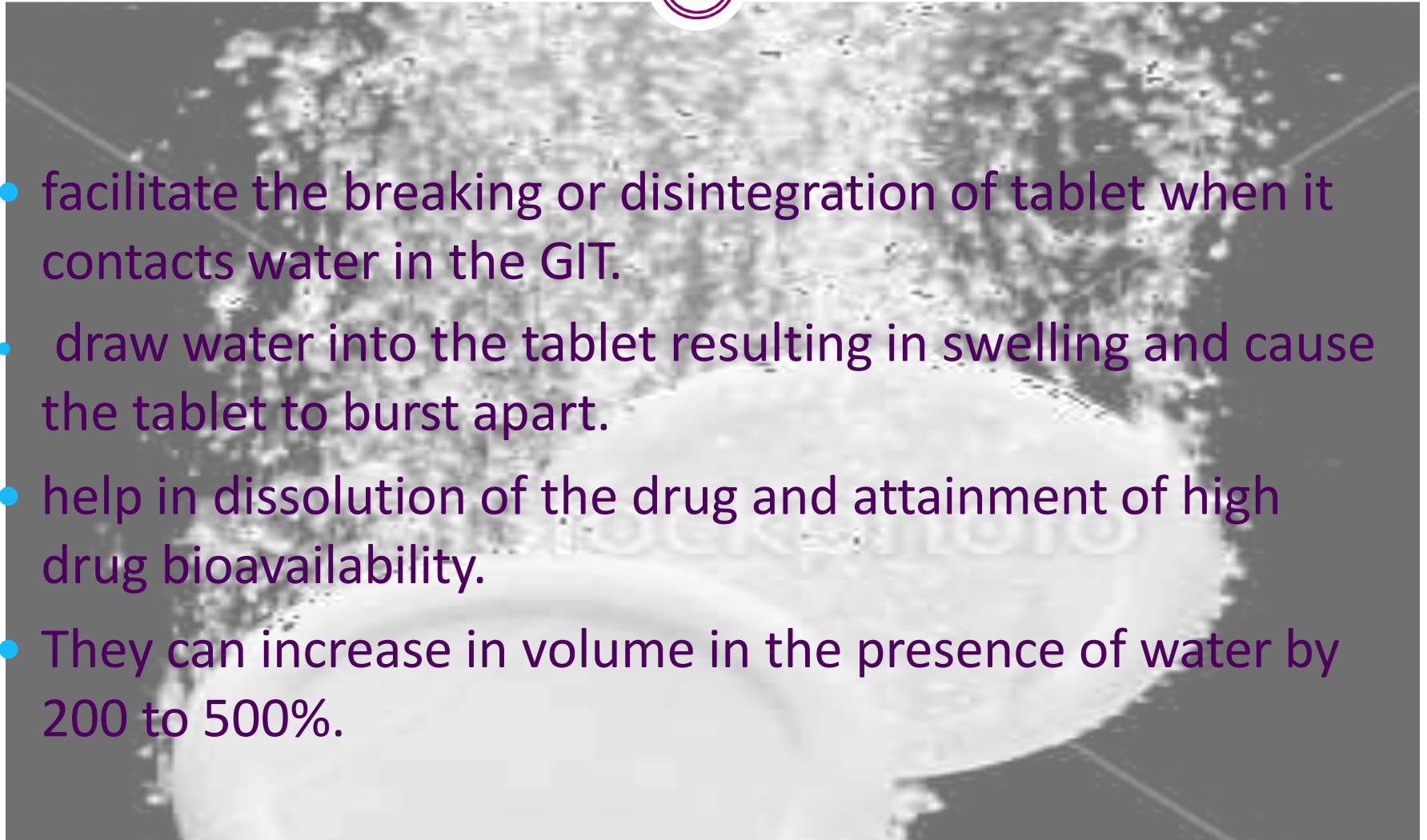
• Sodium alginate



### 3. Disintegrants



- facilitate the breaking or disintegration of tablet when it contacts water in the GIT.
- draw water into the tablet resulting in swelling and cause the tablet to burst apart.
- help in dissolution of the drug and attainment of high drug bioavailability.
- They can increase in volume in the presence of water by 200 to 500%.



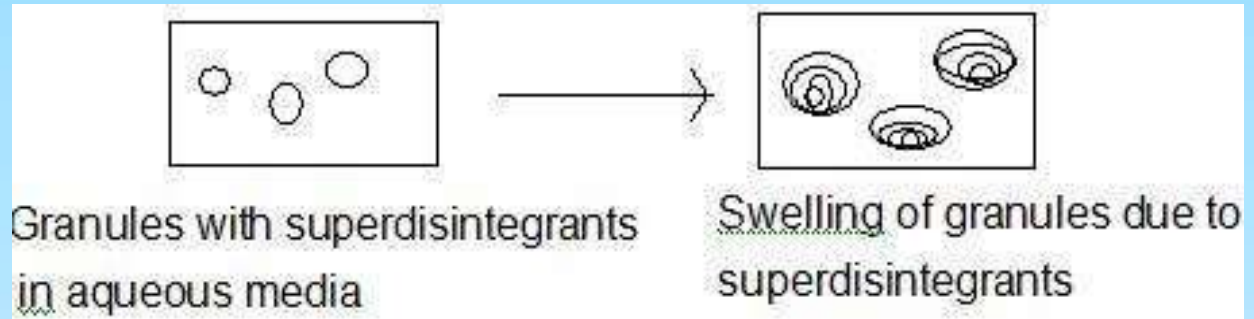
- **Examples:**
- Starch- 5-20% of tablet weight.
- Starch derivatives – low substituted carbo  
1-8% concentration. 4% usually optimum
- Pre-gelatinized starches (5%)
- Clays- Veegum HV and bentonite (10%)
- Microcrystalline cellulose
- Cellulose derivatives- Ac- Di-Sol (internally cross linked sodium carboxymethylcellulose)
- PVP (cross-linked polyvinylpyrrolidone)



# Superdisintegrants:



Swells up to ten folds within 30 seconds when contact water.



- **Examples:**

Crosscarmellose- cross-linked cellulose

Crosspovidone- cross-linked povidone (polymer)

Sodium starch glycolate- cross-linked starch.

## 4. Lubricants, Antiadherents and Glidants:



- **Lubricants** are intended to reduce the friction during tablet ejection between the walls of the tablet and the walls of the die cavity in which the tablet was formed.
- **Antiadherents** are intended to reduce sticking or adhesion of tablet granulation or powder to the faces of the punches or to the die walls.
- **Glidants** are intended to promote flow of granules or powder material by reducing the friction between the particles.



### Lubricants:

- Stearic acid salts – Calcium and Magnesium stearate
- Stearic acid – it is less effective lubricant than stearic acid salts and also has a lower melting point.
- Talc – it contains trace quantities of iron, therefore it should be considered carefully.
- PEG-- The finer the particle size of the lubricant, the more effective the lubricant action.

### • Antiadherents:

Starch, talc , magnesium stearate

### • Glidants:

Corn Starch – 5-10% conc.

Talc- 5% conc

Silica derivatives - Colloidal silicas such as Cab-O- Sil in 0.25-3% conc.



## 5. Coloring agents:



### PURPOSE:

- (1) Masking of color drugs
- (2) Product Identification
- (3) Production of more elegant product

- All coloring agents must be approved and certified by FDA.

Two forms of colors

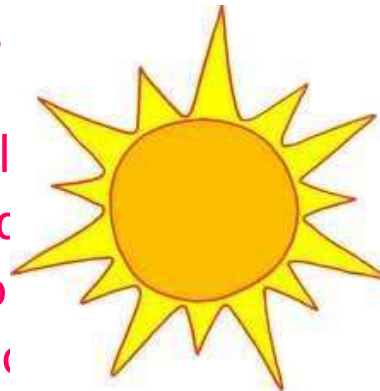
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### • Example:

FD & C blue 2 - Indigo carmine

In any colored tablet, the formulation should be checked for resistance to color changes on exposure to light.



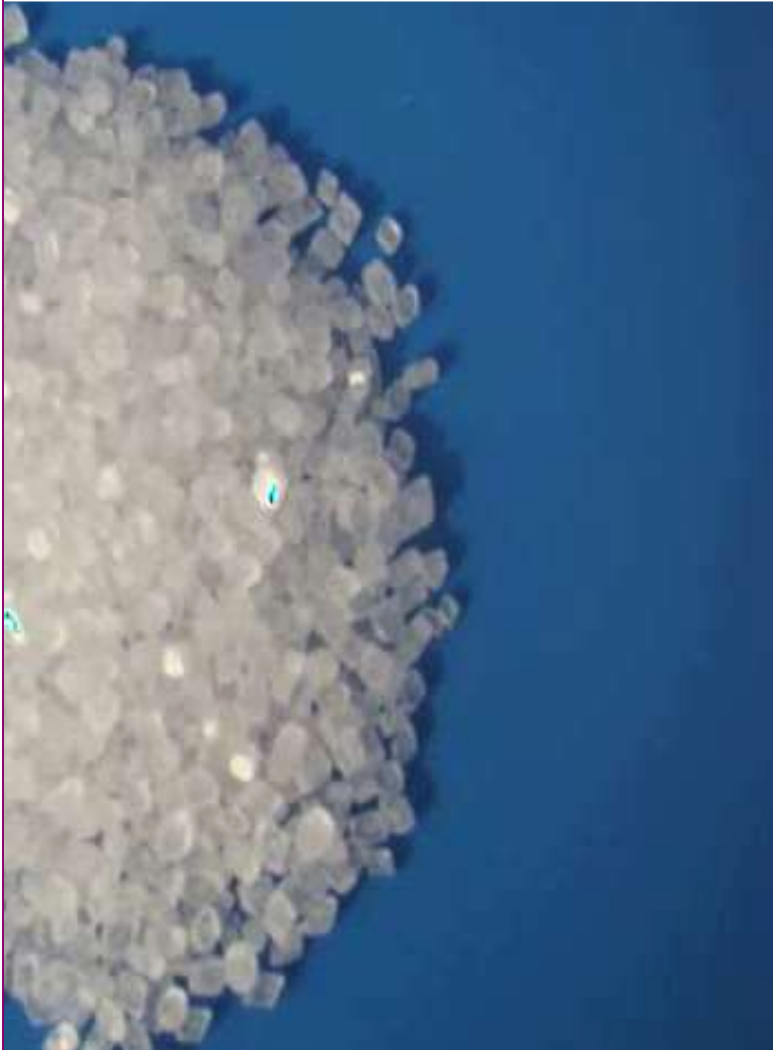


## 6. Flavoring agents:



- Used in chewable tablets or tablets intended to dissolve in mouth.
- Flavor oils are used and are added to tablet granulations in solvents, are dispersed on clays and other absorbents or emulsified in aqueous granulating agent.
- The maximum amount of oil that can be added is 0.5 -0.75%.

## 7. Sweetening agents:



Used only in chewable tablets to exclude or limit the use of sugar in the tablets.

### **Examples:**

- Saccharine (artificial): 500 times sweeter than sucrose

Disadvantage: Bitter after taste and carcinogenic

- Aspartame (artificial):

Disadvantage: Lack of stability in presence of moisture.

- Mannitol



# TYPES & CLASSES OF TABLETS

# CLASSIFICATION



**TABLETS ARE CLASSIFIED ON THE BASIS OF:**

- ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION OR FUNCTION**
- TYPE OF DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEM THEY REPRESENT WITHIN THAT ROUTE**
- FORM AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE**

# 1. ORALLY INGESTED TABLETS:



- Over 90% of tablets manufactured are ingested orally.
- These are designed to be swallowed intact, with exception of chewable tablets.



# Compressed Tablets or Standard Compressed Tablets:



- These are standard uncoated tablets made by compression using wet granulation, direct compression or double compression.
- Provide rapid disintegration & drug release.
- Mostly intended to exert local action in GIT.
- Typically include water insoluble drugs such as antacids and adsorbents.
- Other drugs having systemic effect have some aqueous solubility, dissolve from tablet and disintegrate tablet fragments in GI contents and are then absorbed and distributed in the body.

A photograph showing a close-up of several white, oval-shaped compressed tablets. The tablets are piled together, with some showing a slight indentation or score line. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

**DIRECT COMPRESSION**



# Multiple Compressed Tablets:



There are 2 classes of multiple compressed tablets:

1. layered tablets
2. compression coated tablets

-Both types may be either two component or three component systems: two or three layer tablets, a tablet within a tablet or a tablet within a tablet within a tablet.

-Both types usually undergo a light compression as each component is laid down, with the main compression being the final one.





-The layered tablet is preferred to the compression coated tablet because surface contact between layers is lessened and production is simpler and more rapid.

#### ADVANTAGES:

- Separate physically or chemically incompatible ingredients.
- Produce prolonged action products.

# Delayed Action and Enteric Coated Tablets:



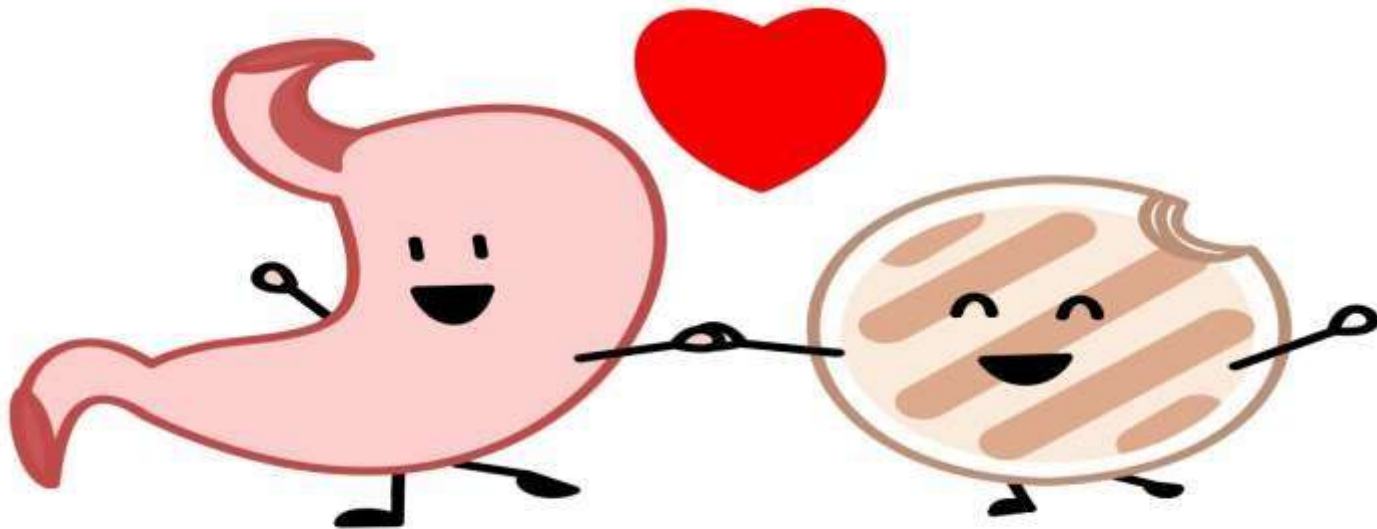
- Delayed action tablets are intended to release a drug after some delay or after the tablet has passed through one part of GI tract into other.
- The enteric coated tablet is the most common example of a delayed action type product.
- The **polymers** used in enteric coating are insoluble in gastric media that have a pH less than 7, but they dissolve as the tablets enter duodenum.
- Cellulose acetate phthalate
- Polyvinylacetate phthalate
- Hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose phthalate



## Advantages:

Enteric coated tablets are used for drugs such as:

- Drugs irritating to gastric mucosa which include aspirin and strong electrolytes such as  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ .
- Drugs that are destroyed by low pH of stomach
- Drugs that cause nausea and vomiting if released in stomach
- Drugs that are to be released undiluted and in highest possible concentration within intestine





# Sugar-coated Tablets:



- an elegant, glossy, easy-to-swallow tablet dosage form.
- they permit separation of incompatible ingredients between coating and core, and utilized in preparing many multivitamin and multivitamin mineral combinations.

## Disadvantages:

- The process is time consuming and require skilled coating artisans.
- Sugar coatings typically double tablet weight.
- They are easily mistaken for a candy by children.

The use of water soluble polymers, automated-spray coating equipment, and high-drying-efficiency sidevented coating pans have greatly reduced some of these disadvantages, resulting in:

- more elastic and mechanically stable coatings
- coat weight may be 50% or less of the core weight
- the process may be completed in a day or less.





# Film-Coated Tablets:



- These are an alternative to sugar coated tablets in which drug is not required in the coating.
- The film coating composition consists of one or more polymers, a plasticizer for the polymer and a surfactant, all delivered to the tablets in solution from an organic or aqueous solvent.

**Polymers used:** hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl, methylcellulose, 30% ethylcellulose dispersion (Aquacoat),



FILM COATINGS



# FILM COATINGS

## Advantages:

- tasteless.
- tablet coating operation takes only one or two hours.
- better mechanical strength of the coating based on elasticity & flexibility of polymer coating.
- little increase in tablet weight than sugar-coated
- ability to retain debossed markings on the tablet
- avoidance of sugar, which is contraindicated in diet of some people.

## Disadvantages:

- less attractive and elegant in physical appearance than sugar coated.

# Chewable Tablets:



Intended to be chewed in the mouth prior to swallowing and are not intended to be swallowed intact.

## Examples:

- Chewable aspirin tablet for children use.
- Antacid tablet

## Advantage:

provide a unit dosage form of medication which can be easily administered to infants and children or to the elderly, who may have difficulty swallowing a tablet intact.

## Disadvantage:

Bitter or foul tasting drugs can not be given by this dosage form



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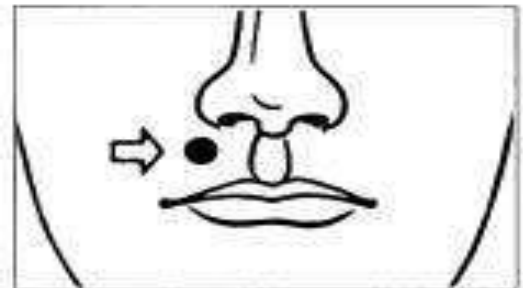


## 2. TABLETS USED IN THE ORAL CAVITY

# Buccal and Sublingual tablets:



- Small, flat tablets, intended to be held between cheek and teeth or in the cheek pouch (buccal tablets) or beneath the tongue (sublingual tablets).
- Release drug contents for absorption directly through oral mucosa.
- Designed not to disintegrate but to slowly dissolve, over a 15 to 30 min period.
- Produce systemic drug effects as the drug is absorbed from oral mucosa directly to general circulation.
- Small tablets with bland excipients.



- Advantages:
- No first-pass metabolism.
  - It is useful for drugs that undergo extensive decomposition in the gastrointestinal tract.

# TROCHES AND LOZENGES:



- Disc shaped solid dosage forms containing **medicinal agent** & **flavoring substance** in a hard candy or sugar base.
- Intended to exert a **local effect** in the mouth or throat.
- Commonly used to treat **sore throat** or to control coughing in normal cold.
- May contain local anesthetics, antiseptics, antibacterials, demulcents, astringents and antitussives.
- Designed not to disintegrate but to dissolve or slowly erode over a period of **30 min** or less in mouth.
- Lozenges: also called pastilles or cough drops. They may be made by compression but are usually formed by fusion or by a candy-molding machine.
- Troches: are made by compression.





# DENTAL CONES:



- Designed to be placed in the empty socket remaining following a tooth extraction.

- It is formulated to dissolve slowly in presence of a small volume of serum/ fluid over a 20 or 40 min period.



## Uses:

- To prevent multiplication of bacteria in the socket by employing a slow releasing antibacterial.

- To reduce bleeding by containing an astringent or amino acid.

### 3. TABLETS ADMINISTERED BY OTHER ROUTES



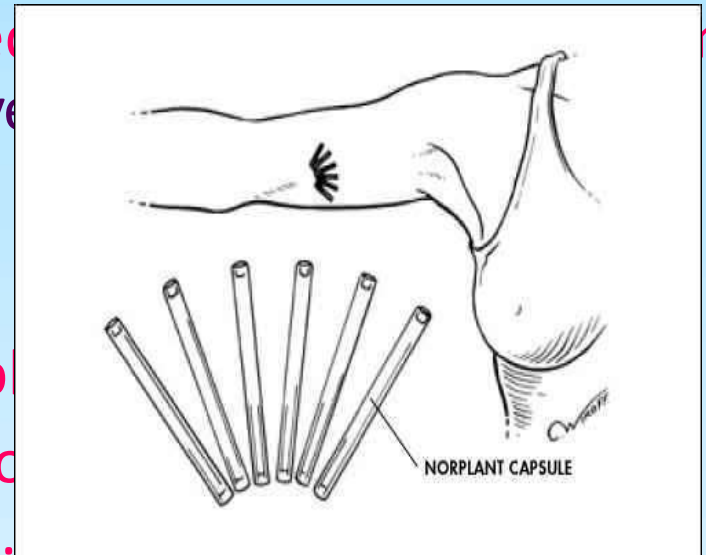
#### Vaginal tablets / Inserts:

- Uncoated **bullet shaped or ovoid** tablets.
- Designed to undergo **slow dissolution** and drug release in vaginal cavity.
- It may contain antibacterials, antiseptics or astringents to treat vaginal infections such as **vaginitis** or antifungals to treat fungal infections such as **candidiasis** or to release steroids for systemic absorption.
- often buffered to promote pH favorable to action of an antiseptic agent.
- Placed in the upper region of vaginal tract by plastic tube inserter.

# Implantation/Depot Tablets:



- Small, cylindric or rossete shaped forms, not more than 8mm in length.
- Designed for subcutaneous implantation.
- Provide as constant a drug delivery rate as possible.
- Provide prolonged release for one month to a year.
- **Disadvantages:**
- It has safety problems.
- Tissue toxicity problems at implantation site.



## 4.TABLETS USED TO PREPARE SOLUTIONS:



### Effervescent Tablets:

- Designed to produce a solution rapidly with the simultaneous release of  $\text{CO}_2$ . prepared by compressing the active ingredients with mixtures of organic acids such as citric acid or tartaric acid and  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ .
- When such a tablet is dropped into a glass of water, a chemical reaction is initiated between the acid and  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  to form sodium salt of the acid and to produce  $\text{CO}_2$  in water. The reaction is quite rapid and is usually completed within in one minute or less.
- The are packed in hermetic-type foil pouches or are stack-packed in cylindrical tubes with minimal air space.

**Examples:** Aspirin , saline cathartics





## Advantages:

- Provide a mean of extemporaneously preparing a solution containing accurate drug dose.
- They produce pleasantly flavored carbonated drink which assists in masking the taste of certain drugs.

## Disadvantages:

- Difficulty of producing a chemically stable product.
- Moisture in air during product preparation may be adequate to initiate effervescent reactivity.
- During the course of reaction, water is liberated which autocatalyzes the reaction.
- Compression of tablet in the hands of the consumer.



# Dispensing Tablets:



- Intended to be added to a given volume of water by the pharmacist or the consumer, to produce a solution of a given drug concentration.
- Materials incorporated in dispensing tablets include mild silver proteinate, bichloride of mercury and quarternary ammonium compounds.

## Disadvantages:

- Difficulty with dispensing tablets is that some of the components previously used in this dosage form are highly toxic and extremely hazardous and even lethal if mistakenly swallowed.
- Inavailability of sterile water to produce sterile solutions.

# Hypodermic Tablets:



They are composed of one or more drugs with other readily soluble water soluble ingredients and are intended to be added to sterile water or WFI.

## **Advantage:**

The physician can carry many vials of tablets in his bag with only one bottle of sterile WFI.

## **Disadvantage:**

The likelihood of administering a nonsterile solution, even though portable sterile filtration equipment exists to help assure sterility.



# Tablet Triturates:



- Small, usually cylindric molded or compressed tablets.
- Provide **extemporaneous** method of preparation by the pharmacist.
- The drugs used were potent and mixed with lactose and a binder such as powdered acacia, after which the mixture was moistened to produce a moldable, compactable mass. This mass was forced into holes of a mold board wood or plastic, after which tablets were ejected using a peg board, whose pegs matched the holes in the mold, dried and dispensed.

## Disadvantages:

- Unreliable bioavailability.
- Poor content uniformity of tablets containing potent drugs.

