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A Review of Recent Developments in Transdermal Medication Delivery

Harshali A. Latne *, Shirish B. Nagansurkar, Sanjay K. Bais

Fabtech College of Pharmacy, Sangola, Solapur, Maharashtra, India

*Corresponding Author: latneharshali@gmail.com

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Abstract

Recent advancements in TDDS have significantly increased the efficacy and convenience of medicine administration (TDDS). Permeability has been enhanced and release profiles have been regulated thanks to advancements in polymer science, nanotechnology, and microneedle technology. These developments reduce the negative consequences of using conventional administration techniques while enabling the distribution of a greater variety of therapeutic substances, including as proteins, peptides, and small molecules. By using electrical or ultrasonic energy, enhanced formulations like iontophoresis and sonophoresis further increase medication penetration. Moreover, the development of smart transdermal systems combined with sensors for real-time monitoring promises a dramatic leap towards customized treatment. This study highlights the future paths of TDDS in improving clinical practice by discussing these latest advancements, their methods of action, and possible ramifications.

Keywords - Drug administration by transdermal application, Nanotechnology, Polymer science, Microneedles, Sonophoresis, Iontophoresis, Adherence to the patient.

INTRODUCTION

Widely employed as a skin-based drug delivery system. TDDS or "patches," are meant to apply a therapeutically suitable dosage of medication topically to a patient's skin. Medicine administration Is directed towards the treatment of localized or systemic illnesses affecting the skin. The Blood levels of the active component are restricted by TDDS. While "patches" is a term used to Although certain systems are regarded as "plasters," they are not synonymous with TDDS. Act to concentrate the therapeutic effects. Patch distribution systems are becoming more and more common. A few years ago. In part, this can be explained by TDDS's capacity to administer medications Extended duration [1].

Transdermal medication delivery systems are non-invasive and require no professional administration, making them a patient-friendly option. They lessen gastrointestinal adverse effects and increase patient adherence. By eschewing the metabolic procedures necessary for Transdermal and oral medication delivery improve effectiveness, translocation, and absorption. Additionally, they eliminate the need for needles, reducing medical waste and the Risk of infection associated with injections administered by licensed medical professionals. The first transdermal patch for systemic distribution, utilizing scopolamine to alleviate motion sickness for three days. This was done in 1979. Ten years later, the first transdermal blockbuster was nicotine patches, which significantly increased public and medical Familiarity with transdermal administration. Currently, 19 transdermal administration methods are available on the market that might be utilized to administer a range of drugs, including as fentanyl, lidocaine, Oestradiol with testosterone.

These comprise of iontophoretic and ultrasonic pain relief devices, In addition to combination patches for contraceptive and hormone replacement therapy [2,3,4].

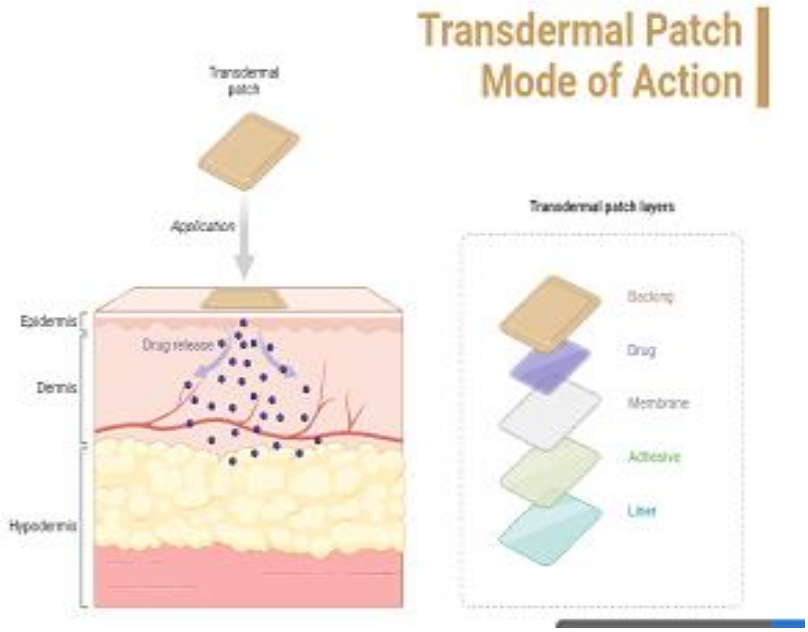

Figure 1*: *Transdermal Drug Delivery

Three generations of transdermal delivery method development can be identified. Medications absorbed through the skin at specified rates are examples of first-generation techniques. Methods of the second generation are improvements in the distribution of tiny molecules. Third-generation methods allow the skin's stratum corneum to be Very permeable, allowing macromolecules to be delivered trans dermally and Shots. By administering medications more accurately inside the body and regularly concentrating on Certain sites of action, this strategy could enhance both the therapeutic Medication safety and efficacy [5,6,7]. Over the past 20 years, a lot of research has focused on transdermal administration systems to more successfully administer pharmaceutical and cosmetic items. The goal is to break through the skin's protective layer. Even though the cosmeceutical industry has made tremendous strides, Industry in the study and the use of innovative, powerful active substances in their products, the obstacle Role of the degree to which these actives are absorbed and permeated is still influenced by the skin. Progress Chemical enhancer influencing the stratum corneum's lipid composition via Stratum corneum, as well as the causes of the effects of partitioning and solubility. The discovery and methods of action of chemical components that operate as permeation enhancers are summarized in this article, along with advancements in suitable carriers [8].

Skin Anatomy & Physiology

The skin is an intricate, multi-layered tissue that shields the body from chemical, biological, and Physical threats. The barrier function is the term used to describe this defence Through a number of exchange activities (water balance, exogenous chemical absorption, and disposal through Perspiration), skin also controls body temperature and hydration. Individuals' skin was influenced by a variety of circumstances, including weather, routines, health, and maintenance. external skin appearance, Moisture and barrier function are all strongly correlated with cutaneous mechanical properties. Age, phenotype, and biological sex are the factors that determine them. For dermatological and Cosmetic concerns, understanding skin characteristics and how they evolve is crucial. The sebaceous glands secrete an oily material called sebum. Sebaceous glands are stimulated to create

sebum by androgens, specifically dihydrotestosterone (DHT). Oily skin can occur as a result of excessive sebum production [9].

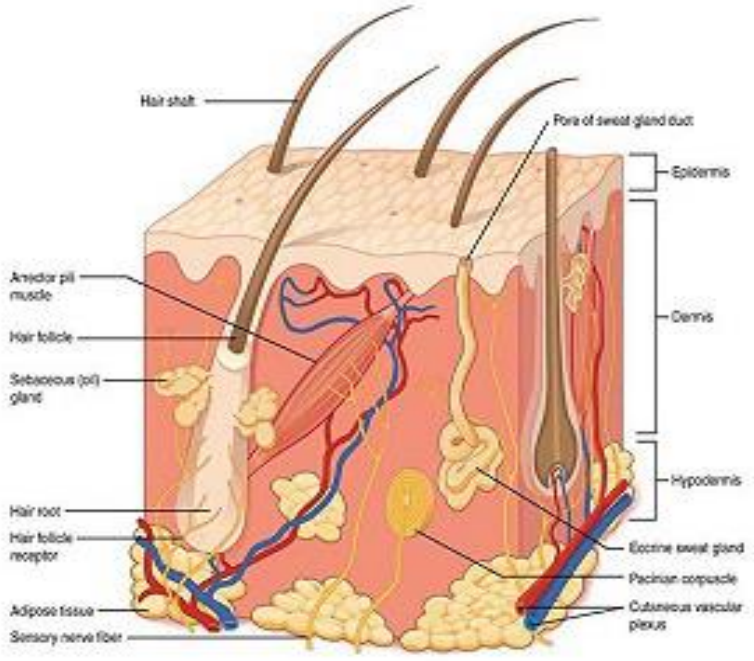

Figure 2*: *Layers of Skin

Frequently employed on the mesoscopic and microscopic levels. These investigations are Particularly pertinent to the diagnosis of dermatology and the enhancement of wound healing. The tiny size research focuses on cellular or molecular qualities, whereas the typical macroscopic Scale examinations concentrate on tissue properties. Finding a suitable alternative technique to Animal or clinical investigations to track mesoscopic alterations (tissue characteristics at the Characteristic length of 1–10 μm) of the various skin layers remains a challenge. The dermis is a 1-4 mm thick layer of connective tissue. Its principal constitutive cells are fibroblasts. Fibroblasts are its primary constitutive cells; they are Responsible for synthesizing the extracellular matrix. The latter is composed of a ground substance Submerged in a fibrous framework. Collagen and elastin, two components of the fibrous structure, Give the skin its tensile and elastic qualities, respectively.

Elastin is in charge of the skin's elasticity, or its capacity to recoil, while collagen possesses a high Tensile strength (traction-resistance). The reticular dermis and the papillary dermis are the two Regions that can be identified. The first one is near the hypodermis and thick. At the dermal-Epidermal junction (DEJ), the second, thinner strand forms a tight attachment with the epidermis. Between 50 μm and 1.5 mm thick. The function of the skin barrier depends on the stratum corneum (SC), the outermost part sublayer of the epidermis. Known as corneocytes, the keratinocytes in this higher Layer are flat, anucleate, and packed with keratin. SC extension is made possible by this protein Content, and its mechanical strength is guaranteed by tight connections (Corne desmosomes) and A cornified cell membrane. Lastly, a hydrolipidic coating comprising sebum covers SC, lowering the skin's surface friction coefficient. The equilibrium between cell renewal and the desquamation Process is the foundation of epidermal homeostasis [10].

Skin & Drug Permeation

Once medications enter the dermal layer, the dermal microcirculation can absorb them systemically [11,12]. When it comes to conventional medication delivery techniques, TDD provides several advantages [13,14,15]. It can give parenteral procedures a non-invasive substitute, avoiding problems like needle phobia [16]. Transdermal implants have a large surface area and are very easy to reach, allowing for multiple routes [17]. Furthermore, the pharmacokinetic data of medications, which are more stable and have fewer peaks, reduce the probability of adverse side effects. It can promote patient compliance because fewer dosages are needed Conformity. Furthermore, it can help individuals who are self-administering, unconscious, or experiencing vomiting [18]. Because TDD circumvents pre-systemic metabolism, bioavailability is improved.

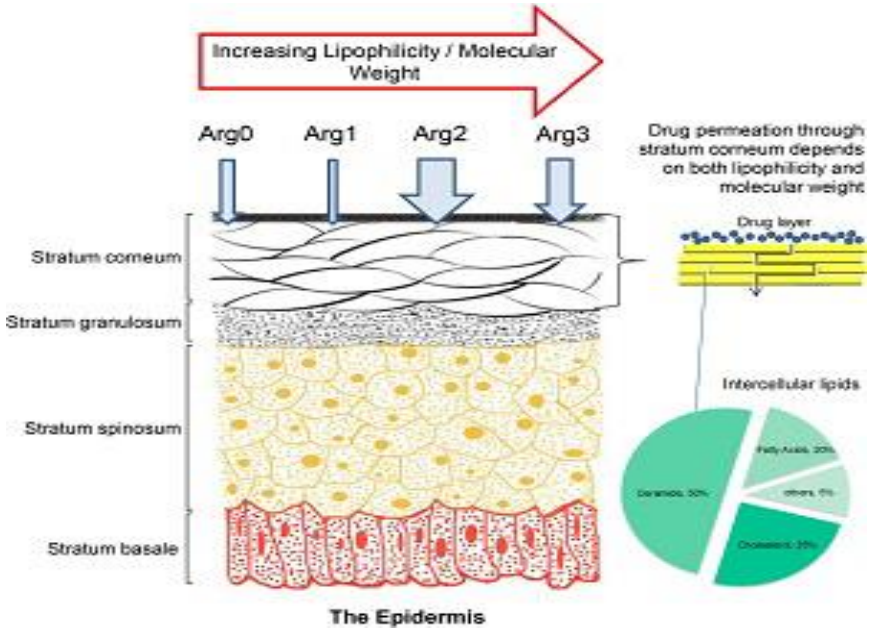

Figure 3*: *Skin & Drug Permeation

Skin's functions

Provides protection from dangerous materials, as well as from heat, pressure, and physical injury.
Prevents moisture loss and helps to maintain the hydration of the skin.
Diminishes the deleterious consequences of solar UV radiation.
Serves as a sensory organ that enables humans to perceive temperature changes and feel touch.
Helps control body temperature by causing perspiration and cooling the body as needed.
Serves as an organ of immunity, able to identify and react to pathogens.
Contributes to the synthesis of vitamin D when exposed to sunshine.

Advantages

Transdermal medication delivery enables patients to self-administer safely, conveniently, and painlessly.
In certain cases, transdermal administration might be helpful. Those who take multiple medications.
Transdermal drug delivery provides a continuous release dosage medication, avoiding the summit and dip resulting from oral dose administration and allowing the drug to remain at the target level for a longer amount of time. In addition to parenteral administration.
Better treatment outcomes with transdermal patches of different medications by avoiding particular issues Connected to medications like Presystolic metabolism, development of harmful Metabolites, poor absorption, inflammation of the stomach lining etc [19,20,21,22,23,24].

Disadvantages

The medication for a moiety to pass through skin and if the drug's dosage is high—more than ten—it must possess certain physicochemical qualities. Transdermal administration of 25 mg/day is somewhat challenging. Drug dosage recommended to be less than 5 mg per day.

At the administration site, there may be localized edema, erythema, and itching. By the drug or the formulation's excipients.

Before deciding to create a transdermal product, clinical need is another factor that needs to be carefully taken into account.

System components can cause contact dermatitis in certain patients at the application location.

The function of the skin's barrier varies depending on the site, the person, and age [25,26].

Transdermal treatment should not be used with ionic medicines [27].

Essential Elements of TDDS

The primary categories of components in the transdermal patch system are as follows:

Drug Reservoir

Improver of penetration

Sticky Layer

Supporting movie

Release Liner

Polymer [28].

Matrix of polymers

Matrix polymer 25–26 Polymers play a vital role in transdermal drug delivery systems. Several polymeric layer laminations in a drug reservoir with a drug-polymer matrix sandwiched between two polymeric layers for controlled release external source a Prevents medicine from escaping the backing Surface with a strong backing layer Within the format Comprises a polymeric layer inside the body that functions as an adhesive or a membrane that controls rate. There are numerous polymer types that might be used for transdermal Techniques for administering.

Natural Polymer

Using natural polymers, drug delivery rates can be targeted at predefined intervals. Fundamentally carbohydrates, natural polymers have no unfavourable side effects. And exhibit biocompatibility. Natural substances like mucilage's, Plant extracts, gums, and resins are commonly used in Dose forms that are both novel and conventional. Organic Polymers continue to be more appealing mainly due of their Readily available, commercial, and able to perform a wide range of Chemical alterations that could be biodegradable and Compatible because of where they came from. Polymers are most commonly used to control drug distribution in transdermal medication delivery systems. Release from the apparatus or patch; but they may also be utilized to construct an array of regulated and focused Systems for delivering medication.

Synthetic Elastomer

RTV sealants, or room temperature vulcanizing adhesives, are made of synthetic elastomers. Even so, this family of sealants is an intriguing and highly helpful element in TDDS. R.T. When sealants are fully cross-linked, they become elastic and non-tacky. And aim to create a long-lasting relationship between Substrates. The chemistry of these substances is comparable to Polymer caulks have been utilized as adhesives and have been employed as Synthetic elastomers in materials that adhere to TDDS.

Synthetic Polymers

Drug delivery systems and in vivo medication release are two uses for synthetic polymers that are developed for the pharmaceutical industry. That may adapt to environmental changes to improve the efficacy of the treatment. Methods by which these We emphasize the use of polymers in the delivery of pharmaceuticals. Apart from the difficulties that Polymer Develop pharmacological dose forms is the specialty of synthetic chemists. Developing fresh and more effective medicinal vehicles. There are two. Artificial polymers that show promise in biomedicine have been developed, including Polyvinylpyrrolidones and hydrogels. They generate copolymers and decompose biologically. Since polyethylene glycol acrylate is their basis. With the use of bulk chemicals that Occur in nature.

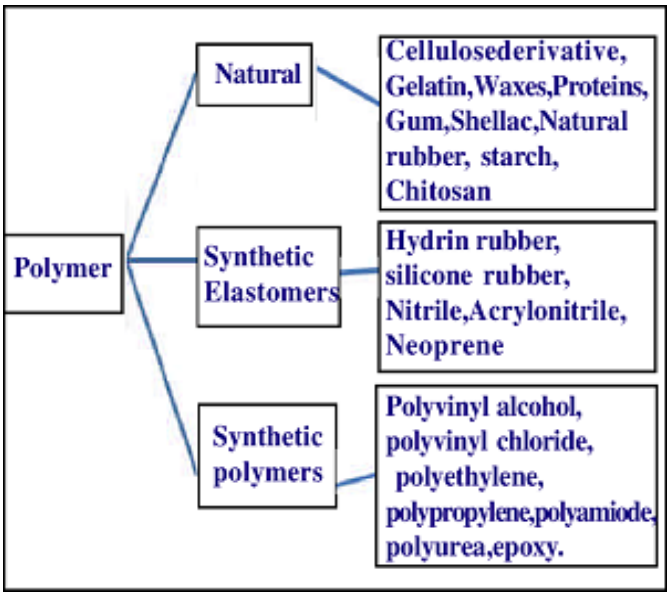

Figure 4*: *An Example of the Three Polymer Types Used in TDDS Formulation

Drug Reservoir

Less medication is released into the bloodstream over a longer length of time using transdermal medications. These "skin patch" medications, which include analgesics, nicotine, and Hormones, as well as medications for motion sickness and angina. The medicine is chosen depending on its characteristics, such as Biological as well as physiochemical characteristics.

Permeation Enhancers

Chemical Enhancer

They function by causing reparable injury to the stratum corneum, which increases drug permeability, and by raising the partition coefficient of Medicine.

Physical Enhancers

A fibrillar shunt was considered to be the cause of pre-steady state polar molecule penetration and large polar molecule or ion flow that has trouble diffusing over the entire stratum Corneum. Journey. However, given that they are thought to have a relatively limited Only constitute, at a steady-state, about 0.1 percent of the entire pharmaceutical flow. The full Permeable surface. A great deal of research has been done to improve knowledge. The stratum cornea's composition and barrier properties. But one must always Remember that corneocytes have an elongated, polygonal, and flat shape (200–1500). Nm's diameter In contrast, the thickness of brick-formed is between 34000 and 46000Nm. As soon as the intercellular lipid matrix begins to take form.

Adhesive Layer

Whereas single-layer and multi-layer drug-in-adhesive systems lack a unique drug layer, the reservoir transdermal system has one. There is a small compartment that houses the complete medication

supply. With a rate-in charge, an impermeable metallic plastic lamination Membrane composed on one surface of a polymer that looks like vinyl acetate. A unique Clinging layer 1 dissociates silicone derivatives from the drug layer, for instance. Polyacrylates and polyester-isobutylene pairs [29,30].

Chemical Enhancers	Examples
Solvents	Water, Ethanol, Methanol, Acetone, Benzene, Toluene, etc
Terpenes	Limolene, Pinene, Linalool, Caryophyllen, etc.
Fatty Acids & Esters	Oleic acid, Steric acid, Linoleic Acid, Ethyl acetate, Methyl Salicylate, etc.
Amides	Acetamide, Benzamide, Urea, Formamide, etc.

Table 1*: *Enumeration of Chemical Enhancers Applied in TDDS

Preparations Of TDDS

TDDS consists mostly of a polymer matrix, also referred to as a reservoir. Substances such as plasticizers, penetrants, adhesives, release liners, back laminates, and As well as cleansers. You can make this by utilizing the following methods:

Thin Film of Polymers: The TDDS system with permeability control packs the chemical solution inside a Back layer that is both impermeable and exposed to the membrane gradually. Only medication can Be released onto the market via methods that minimize costs. The dispersion of the matrix regulated to achieve total drug dispersion (TDDS), medications must be separated into hydrophilic or Polymer matrix that is lipophilic. One can accomplish micro reservoir management by mixing TDDS, Reservoir systems and matrix distribution [31].

Transdermal Delivery System Can Be Divided Into 2 Layers

Drug in Single Layer

Drug In Multi-layer

Drug In Single Layer

This kind incorporates the medication into the sticky layer. Drug release into the dermis is facilitated by the sticky layer, which also keeps the layers together. The sticky layer has a temporary covering surrounding it. A single backer and one liner.

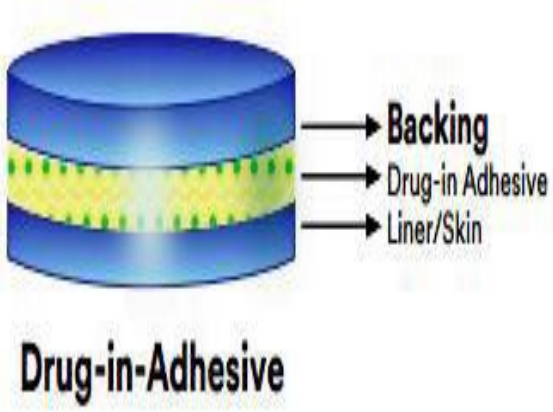

Figure 5*: *Drug in Adhesive Single Layer

Drug In Multi-layer

This type is comparable to the single layer type even though it contains two layers: an adhesive layer and a controlled release layer with an immediate drug release layer. The medication is released as a result of the sticky covering. Additionally, a transient liner layer and a Steadfast support [32,33,34].

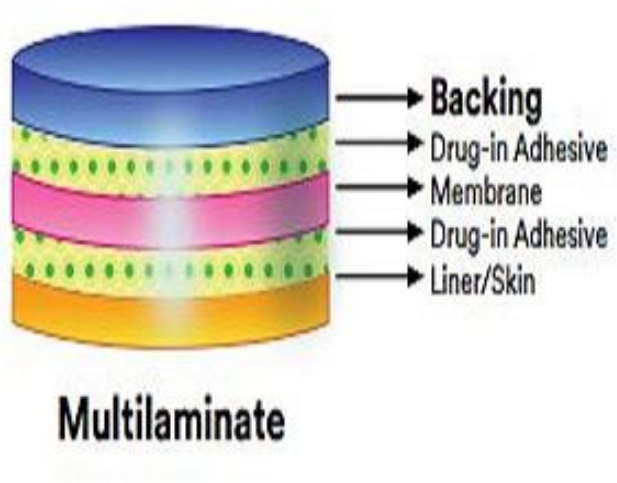

Figure 6*: *The Adhesive Multi-Layer Drug

Drug Penetration Routes Through the Skin

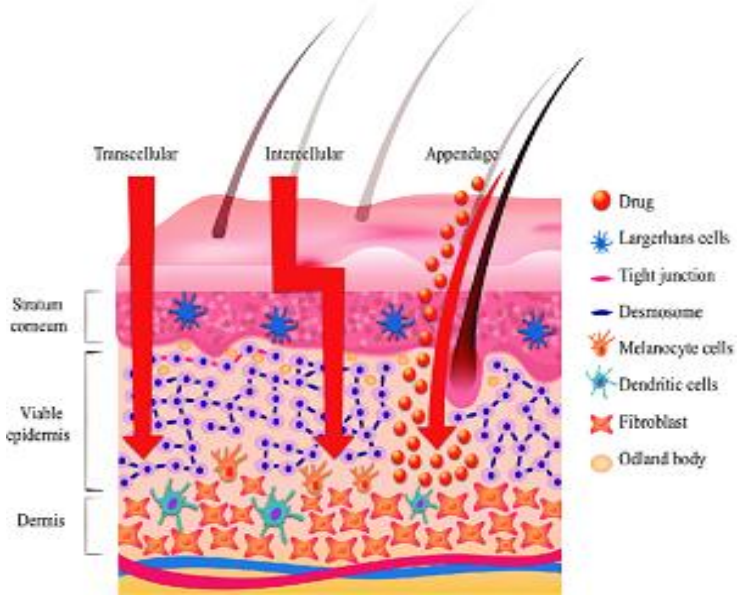

Figure 7*: *Drug Penetration Routes Through Skin

The medication needs to pierce through all three layers of skin in order to enter the systemic circulation. The two of them major entry points for drugs into the body are the trans appendage and the trans epidermal route. The drug goes beyond the trans epidermal route.

Skin's corneum layer through two different routes

Using transcellular transport to deliver drugs Besides the phospholipid-based membranes, there are also differentiated keratinocytes called corneocytes. To begin with, the drug needs to enter each and every cell in the lipophilic layer, which is reached by dormant keratinocytes.

Intercellular Route

Contains the delivery of medications via the tiny spaces between skin's cells, which makes the path More intricate.

The trans appendageal pathway, sometimes referred to as the shunting route, is mainly responsible for medication distribution through the sweat gland and hair follicle. It has been described as an effective route for the distribution of big, water-soluble medications. Recently, there has been consideration for the administration of the Trans follicular rout of medications using nanocarriers, and they can pierce through the Hair follicle apertures to access the tissue's depth Skin [35,36,37,38,39].

The ideal penetration enhancer characteristics are

Must not result in the loss of bodily fluids, electrolytes, or other endogenous materials.
Nontoxic, non-allergic, and non-irritating.
Inertness of pharmaceuticals.
Capacity to function precisely for a predetermined amount of time
Colourless, inexpensive, odourless, and acceptable from a cosmetic standpoint.

Evaluation of TDDS

Physicochemical Evaluation
In vivo Evaluation
Invitro Evaluation

Physicochemical Evaluation

Density

Transdermal film thickness can be measured at various locations on the film using a dial gauge, screw gauge, traveling microscope, or micro meter.

Weight uniformity

Ten randomly chosen patches are weighed separately in order to examine weight fluctuation. The average weight is then determined. The weight of each individual and the average shouldn't vary greatly.

Content of drugs

After precisely weighing 100 mg of film, it is dissolved in 100 mL of a suitable solvent that also contains medication. The mixture is then continuously stirred in a shaker incubator for a full day. The combination is then sonicated as a whole. Medication in solution is After sonication and filtering, assessed spectrophotometrically at an appropriate dilution.

Levelness

The surface of a transdermal patch should be smooth and should not tighten over time. Take into consideration the study of flatness to illustrate this. Two strips are cut from each side and one from the centre to determine how flat the patches are. The length of each strip is measured, and the percentage of constriction is used to calculate the length variation. 100% None at all Flatness is equal to constriction.

$$(I1 - I2) \times 100 = \% \text{ Constriction}$$

Where: I1 is each strip's initial length, while I2 is each strip's final length.

Folding strength

An essential first step in assessing the films' folding durability is to determine how well they fold in difficult, repeated folding conditions. Folding endurance is determined by repeatedly folding the film in the same point until it breaks.

Tensile power

The tensile strength of corked linear iron plates is determined by placing them between different polymeric sheets. A free-flowing thread that travels through a pulley holds the films in place at one end and an iron screen at the other. The introduction of weights happens gradually. For To The pan

to which the end of the thread hanging is fastened. The film utilizes a calculator to determine how It is lengthy. It is mentioned that the film breaks at the ideal weight [40,41,42,43,44].

In vivo Evaluation

It is possible to test transdermal patches in vivo to determine whether or not they accurately depict the medication's effects. Variables that cannot be fully accounted for in vitro tests can be fully explored in in vivo research. Animal models or human volunteers might be utilized for evaluation TDDS within living organisms.

Animal role models

Due of their lower time and cost requirements, small-scale studies with animals are preferred over studies involving humans. Rats without hair, dogs, guinea pigs, mice, and hairless rhesus monkeys are the most often used animal species for transdermal drug delivery system assessments. In vitro and in vivo research have shown that hairless animals are preferred over hairy ones. Additionally in vivo.

Model human

After the patch is used on human beings, the final stage in the development of a transmembrane device is to collect pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic data. Clinical trials have been conducted to assess the efficacy, safety, adverse effects, and patient Compliance, as well as additional elements. Phase I clinical trials' primary goal is to assess Volunteer security. Stage II Conversely, clinical studies ascertain the immediate Efficiency and, above all, safety. Phase IV research in the case of commercialized goods, post-marketing There is surveillance. Patches to identify unwanted drug interactions are available, despite phase III Trials demonstrate safety and effectiveness for a broad range of people. However, the most resource-Requesting Utilizing human subjects in drug evaluation research [45,46,47].

Invitro Evaluation

It is possible to test transdermal patches in vivo to determine whether or not they accurately depict the medication's effects. Variables that cannot be fully accounted for in vitro tests can be fully explored in in vivo research. Animal models or human volunteers might be utilized for evaluation TDDS within living organisms [48,49].

Enhancement Techniques For TDDS

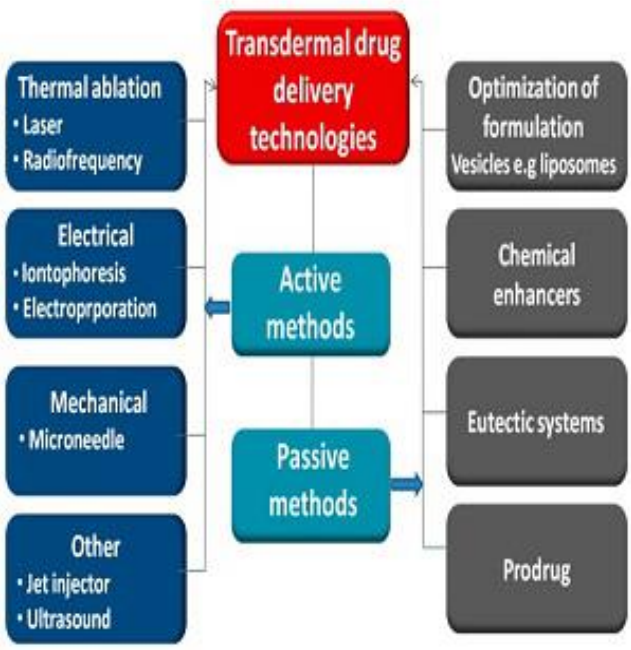

***Figure 8*:** *Methods to Improve Drug Transport Through the Skin*

Electroporation

Figure 9*: *Electroporation

Modern microbiological coding Electroporation is a commonly employed technique for introducing DNA into yeast, microbial organisms, or plant protoplasts. Plasmids can be electroporated into bacteria by combining them with the bacteria. On the other hand, depending on It is conceivable. To use cell squeezing, cell-penetrating peptides, or the transfer mechanism. It requires To conduct electroporation, a million voltage, or around 8 kV/cm, are needed. Employed In addition to Cells in a cuvette used for electroporation suspended. After that, the cells need to be managed. Carefully until they've got an opportunity to divide and produce new cells. Which have been duplicated Plasmids inside. Despite the fact numerous labs lack the specific tools needed for Electroplating, This approach has roughly ten times greater success than chemical Change aimed at boosting cell membrane permeability [50].

Iontophoresis

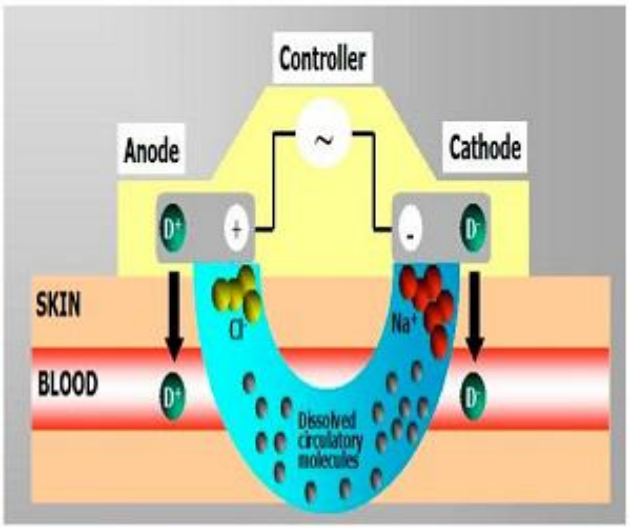

Figure 10*: *Iontophoresis

By applying an electric current, iontophoresis improves the penetration of electrically charged Medicines into tissues that are on the surface…Ions can move more easily across the stratum corneum when electrical energy is present, according to the fundamental electrical idea of "like charges repel each other and opposite charges attract." An electrode used for return that is the reverse of the drug's charge is positioned on the surface of the body in a neutral area, and the medication is administered via an electrode that is charged similarly to the medication. After that, the operator chooses a current

that is Lower than the patient's pain threshold and lets it run for the proper amount of time. Because the electrical current repels like charges and attracts other charges, it greatly improves the Drug's penetration into surface tissues [51].

Ultrasound Device

Figure 11*: *Ultrasound Device

Is a well-known oscillating sound pressure wave that is employed in a variety of scientific domains across a broad frequency range, including engineering, physics, chemistry, biology, and other sciences[52,53].The application of ultrasonic disruption at frequencies of 20 kHz–16 MHz, which has sufficient intensity to lower the skin's resistance, to transfer drugs over the skin is referred to as ultrasound, sonophoresis[54].By enhancing skin permeability, ultrasonic technology has enabled the efficient administration of numerous medication classes and categories, irrespective of their electrical properties. Among these medications have been hydrophilic and high molecular weight medications. Still, neither the mechanism of action nor its characteristics are fully recognized. The suggested processes by which ultrasonic impacts [55].

Multiple Microscopic Projection

Figure 12*: *Multiple Microscopic Projection

A patch of skin or support foundation is often made up of several microscopic projections with the following dimensions that are usually orientated on one side: Range of height: 25–2000 μm, base width: 50–250 μm, tip diameter: 1–25 μm. When placed within To avoid contact with the layers of skin layers, the points of the needle should have the right size, shape, and length Jittery. In order to improve skin-surface contact and promote the diffusion of Therapeutic substances into the layer of skin they are usually built-in arrays. MNs are produced To create transient aqueous channels across the skin, enhancing the passage of different Substances, ranging from macromolecules such as insulin, a low molecular mass heparins, and Vaccinations to tiny hydrophilic compounds such as alendronate [56,57,58,59,60].

Microneedle

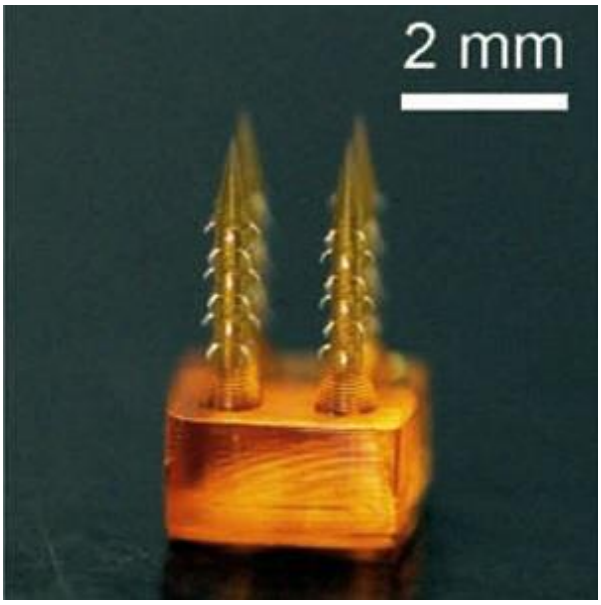

Figure 13*: *Microneedles

Using microneedles to penetrate the stratum corneum barrier is a topic of interest for researchers. Using microneedles allows the drug to be injected into the skin without damaging nearby nerve endings. To support aspiring scientists and advance the discipline's Investigation, this paper investigates the latest advancements in the creation of microneedles. A Microelectromechanical system made of metals, polymers, polysaccharides, or silicon Utilized in the production of microneedles. One can employ solid-coated microneedles to pierce the Outermost layer of skin, following which the medication can be applied. Developments in Dissolvable/degradable and hollow materials have been developed thanks to research on microneedles. Larger-dosage medication delivery microneedles and drug delivery engineering Let go. When combined with iontophoresis, sonophoresis, and hollow microneedles Additionally, drug distribution can be modified by the use of electrophoresis [61].

CONCLUSION

Compared to conventional drug administration techniques, targeted delivery systems (TDDS) have a variety of advantages, such as increased patient compliance, high bioavailability, prevention of the first phase of metabolism stable pharmaceutical blood levels, and non-invasive drug delivery. Delivery, as well as more invasiveness, longer treatment outcomes, and fewer adverse effects. For Medications that are necessary When used frequently and extensively, these technologies perform extremely Efficiently. Dosing is simplified, reasonably priced and, with their assistance, self-administrable for patients.

Understanding the skin's architecture and physiology is essential to comprehending the functioning of TDDS. Skin serves as the body's main Drug penetration barrier, and efficient TDDS must enable drug passing through the layers of skin (epidermis, dermis, and hypodermis—in order to enter the circulatory system. The medication, the polymer matrix, and other constituents the design and implementation of permeation enhancers, adhesives, backing membranes, and release liner Features of TDDS.

Transdermal drug delivery devices are used in medicine therapy to decrease absorption, boost effectiveness, improve consistent plasma levels, lessen side effects, and improve bioavailability. And the quality of the merchandise. A patch is made up of several Basic components that are essential to the drug's release via the epidermis. The management of therapeutic application would be the main focus of TDDS in the future. There exist A multitude of variations Transdermal patch varieties, including hybrid, matrix, and reservoir Membrane matrix, adhesive-style medication, and micro reservoir design. These undergarments are Developed into transdermal patches with the fundamental TDDS components.

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