

# Supplementary Materials: Biopharmaceutics of Topical Ophthalmic Suspensions: Importance of Viscosity and Particle Size in Ocular Absorption of Indomethacin

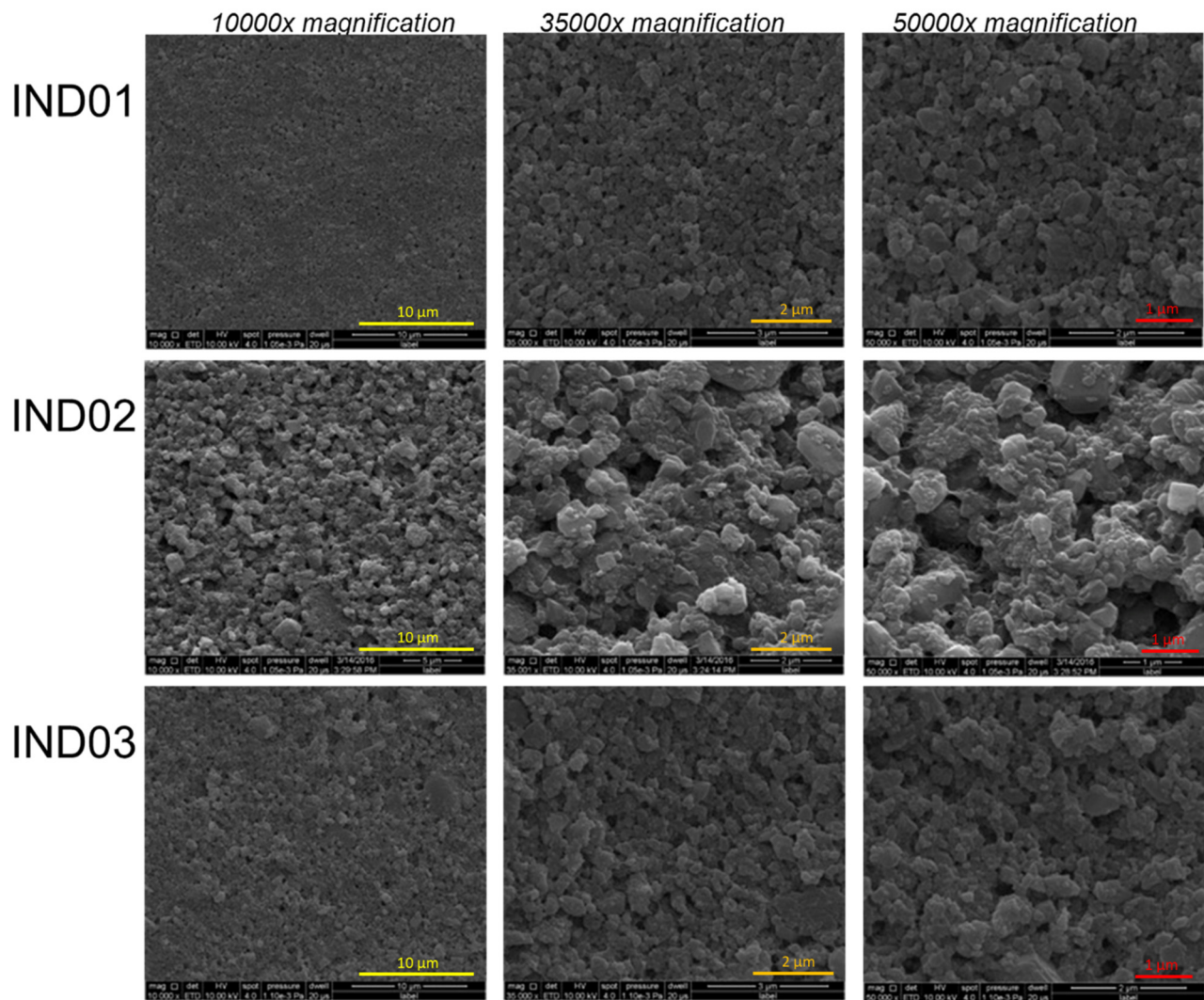
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## Determination of excipients concentrations in Indom

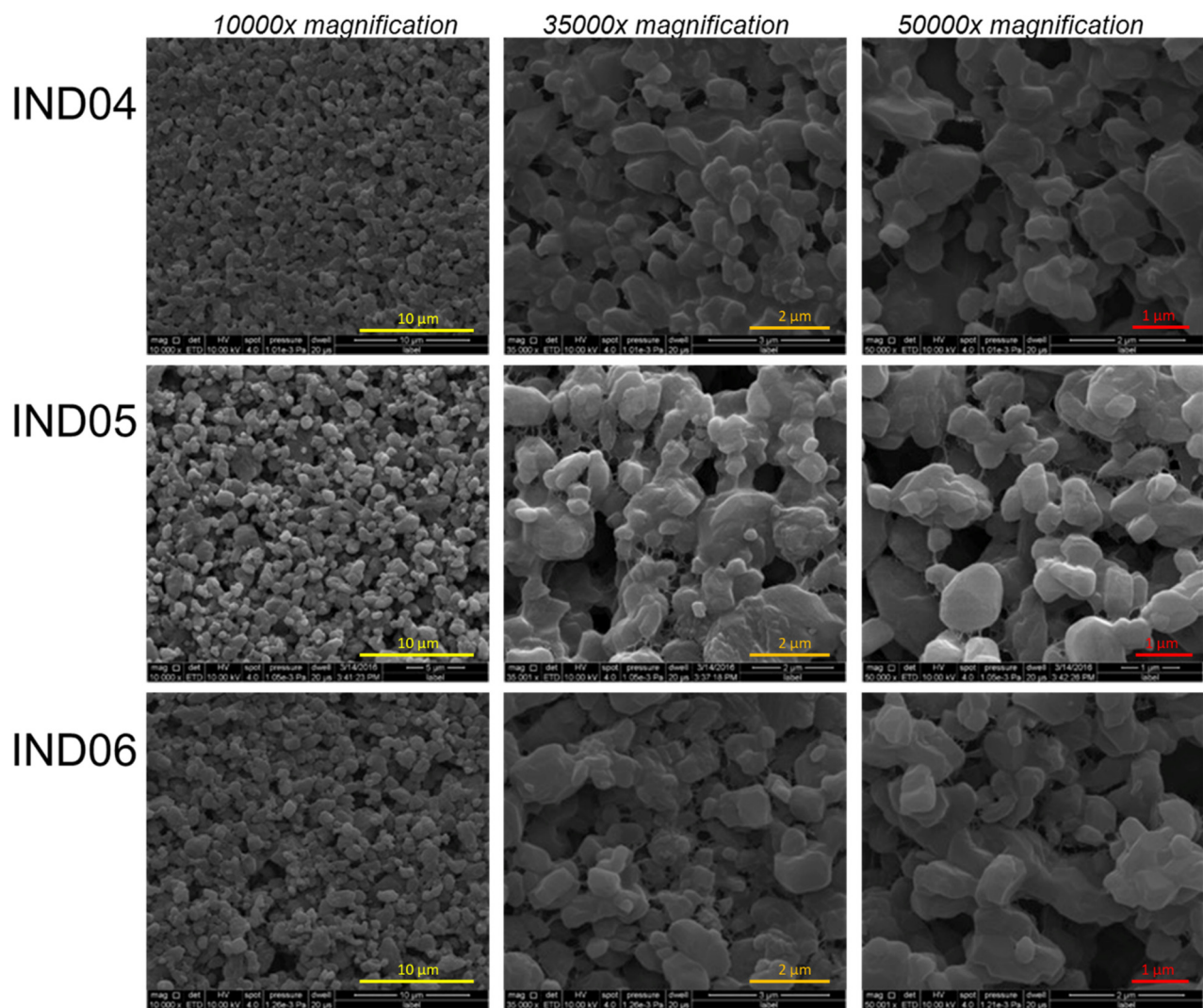
UPLC was carried out on a Acquity UPLC system (Waters, USA) with an Acclaim Trinity P1 HPLC column (Thermoscientific, USA) with a particle size of 3  $\mu\text{m}$  and dimensions of 2.1 x 50 mm. A flow rate of 0.5 mL/min was used with a column temperature of 30 °C and an injection volume of 5  $\mu\text{L}$ . The mobile phase consisted of two components which were adjusted as a gradient during the measurements. The mobile phases were (A) 50 mM  $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$  (pH 3.5) and (B) acetonitrile. The gradient table for the measurements is given in Table S1. The detection wavelengths used were 210 nm for EDTA and 255 nm for the parabens. The retention times observed were 3.18 min for EDTA, 4.10 min for methylparaben and 5.00 min for propyl paraben. Samples were repeated using a different dilution factor in 10/90 acetonitrile/phosphate buffer (pH 3.5) and filtered using 0.2 $\mu\text{m}$  PTFE filter.

**Table S1.** The gradient parameters of the mobile phase used for UPLC of the commercial suspensions.

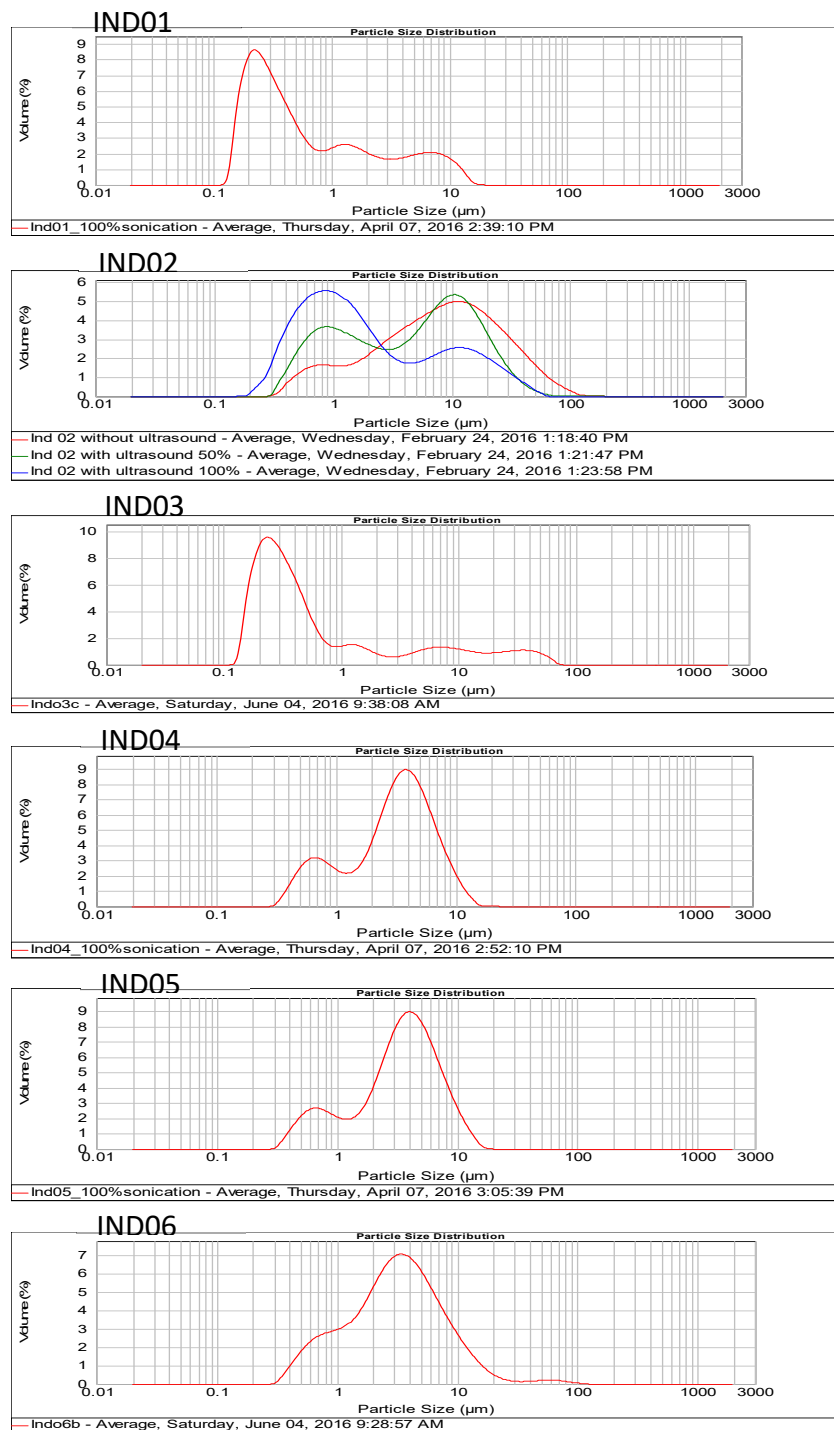
Time	%A	%B
0.00	95.0	5.0
3.00	95.0	5.0
6.00	40.0	60.0
6.01	95.0	5.0
8.00	95.0	5.0



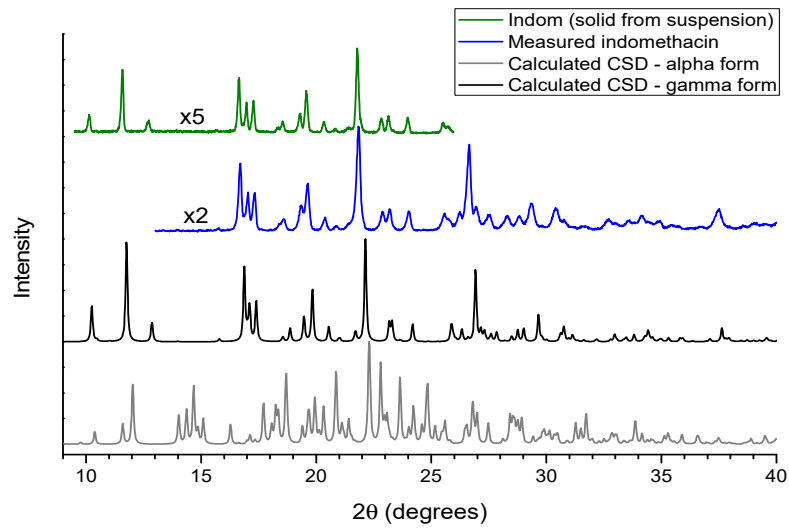
**Figure S1.** SEM images of the IND01-IND03 test suspensions at different magnifications. Three test formulations with small particle size (IND01, IND02 and IND03) were prepared separately using the same milling conditions. Test formulations differed in terms of viscosity, which was achieved by using different grades of HPMC. The yellow denotes a 10  $\mu\text{m}$  scale, orange a 2  $\mu\text{m}$  scale and red a 1  $\mu\text{m}$  scale.



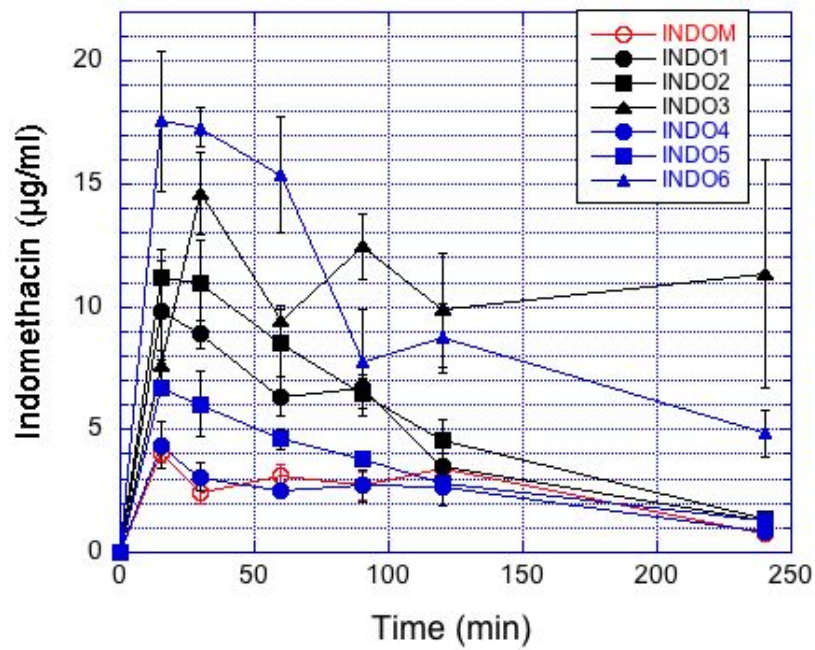
**Figure S2.** SEM images of the INDO4-INDO6 suspensions at different magnifications. Three test formulations with medium particle size (IND04, IND05 and IND06) were prepared separately using the same milling conditions. Test formulations differed in terms of viscosity, which was achieved by using different grades of HPMC. The yellow denotes a 10  $\mu\text{m}$  scale, orange a 2  $\mu\text{m}$  scale and red a 1  $\mu\text{m}$  scale.



**Figure S3.** Particle size distributions of indomethacin suspensions. Measurements of all samples except for IND02 only involved 100% ultrasound during the measurement. IND02 sample was measured three times: without sonication, with 50% sonication and with 100% sonication.



**Figure S4.** Calculated diffractograms for  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  forms of indomethacin compared with the measured diffractograms for solid indomethacin and Indom<sup>®</sup> solid from suspension.



**Figure S5.** Indomethacin concentrations in the rabbit cornea after topical administration of the suspensions. The results are mean  $\pm$  SEM values.

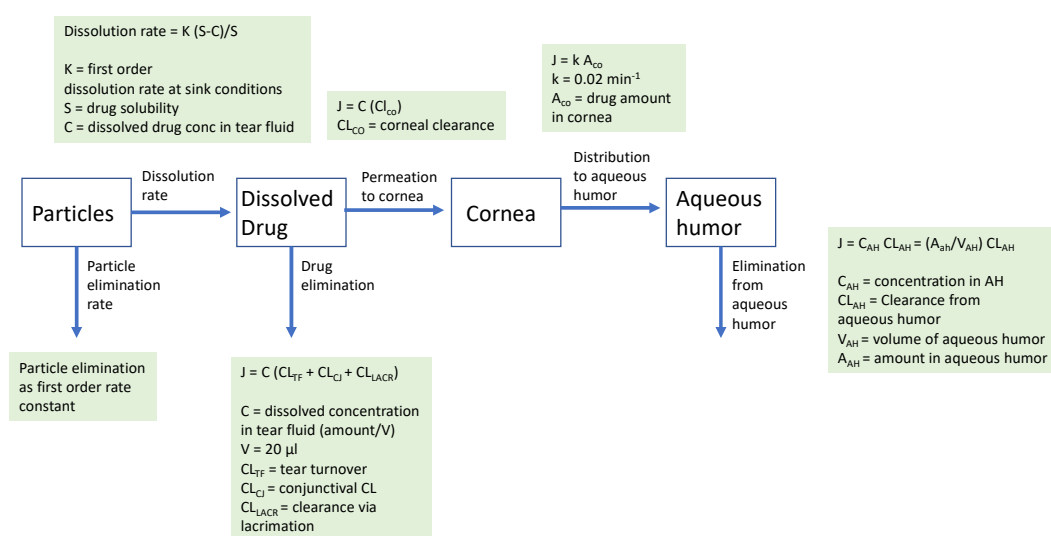


Figure S6. The simulation model structure.

Table S2. Pharmacokinetic simulation parameters.

Parameter	Value	Source
Dissolution rate constant in sink conditions	0-0.8 $\text{min}^{-1}$	Simulated range of values
Water solubility of indomethacin	43 $\mu\text{g/mL}$	[1]
Clearance of dissolved drug from tear fluid to conjunctiva	7 $\mu\text{L/min}$	Estimated based on [2]
Clearance of dissolved drug from tear fluid to cornea	1.9 $\mu\text{L/min}$	Estimated based on [2]
Normal tear turnover	0.5 $\mu\text{L/min}$	[3]
Induced lacrimation	20 $\mu\text{L/min}$	[4]
Elimination rate constant of the suspended particles	0.05–0.3 $\text{min}^{-1}$	Simulated range of values
Volume of eye drop and tear fluid	20 $\mu\text{L}$	Experimental value from this study
Rate constant for drug distribution from cornea to aqueous humor	0.02 $\text{min}^{-1}$	Estimated based on [5]
Volume of distribution in anterior chamber	750 $\mu\text{L}$	Estimated based on [6]
Indomethacin clearance from aqueous humor	7.5 $\mu\text{L/min}$	Estimated based on [6]

## References

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