Research Article

COMPATIBILITY STUDY BETWEEN ISONIAZID AND PHARMACEUTICAL EXCIPIENTS USED IN SOLID DOSAGE FORMS

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ABSTRACT

The compatibility between isoniazid (INH) and pharmaceutical excipients was studied using thermal analysis (DSC and TG/DTG) and vibrational spectroscopy (FTIR). Modifications in the peak shape, peak onset or peak maximum were verified using thermal analysis, especially DSC, in the physical mixtures. FTIR spectra showed good correlation between INH and most of excipients. Lactose and sodium metabisulfite were found to exhibit interactions with isoniazid.

Key words: Isoniazid, DSC, FTIR, Compatibility, Excipients

INTRODUCTION

Isoniazid (INH) is still the most important drug in tuberculosis treatment.¹⁻³ In the last twenty years, this drug has been studied in the field of cancer.⁴ The action mechanism of INH is not totally understood however, the pharmacological activity of the biologically active molecule is related to its chemical structure.^{5,6} Several authors have reported on the stability of isoniazid⁷⁻¹⁰ and its compatibility with drugs¹¹⁻¹³ and pharmaceutical excipients.¹⁴ Given the above, the development of dosage forms containing isoniazid should be judicious.

Among the different methods reported for drug-excipient compatibility studies, DSC has shown to be a rapid, sensitive and simple technique used in routine experiments.^{15,16} Chadha and Bandhari¹⁷ suggest a combination of thermal and non-thermal methods to successful in proper identification of incompatibility.

The aim of this study was to verify the compatibility between isoniazid and the main excipients employed in solid pharmaceutical dosage forms, using differential scanning calorimetry (DSC), thermogravimetry (TG) and Infrared spectroscopy (FTIR).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Chemicals

Isoniazid reference standard (INH, 99.7%) was kindly provided by Farmanguinhos Laboratory (Farmanguinhos/FIOCRUZ, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil). The excipients used in the trials were: lactose, sodium starch glycolate (SSG), magnesium stearate (MS), sodium metabisulfite (SMB), hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC), colloidal silicon dioxide (CSD), sodium croscarmellose (SCC), microcrystalline cellulose PH 101 (MCC), starch, talc, methyl methacrylate

copolymer (1:1) (Eudragit L100) and polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP). Physical mixtures of 1:1 (w/w) excipients:INH were prepared in glass mortar.

Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC)

Samples of INH, excipients and physical mixtures of 1:1 (w/w) excipients:INH were examined by conventional differential scanning calorimetry model DSC-60 Shimadzu[®] using aluminum crucibles with approximately 2-3 mg of samples in a dynamic nitrogen atmosphere (100 mL/min) and a heating rate of 10°C/min in the temperature range of 40 to 600°C. The DSC cell was calibrated with indium (m.p. 156.6°C; $\Delta H = 28.54$ J/g) and zinc (m.p. 419.6°C). DSC curves were treated using the TA-60WS[®] software.

Thermogravimetry (TG/DTG)

Samples of INH, excipients and physical mixtures of 1:1 (w/w) excipients:INH were examined with a thermobalance model TGA 60 Shimadzu[®] in the temperature range of 25 to 600°C, using alumina crucibles with approximately 3 mg of samples in a dynamic nitrogen atmosphere (100 mL/min) and a heating rate of 10°C/min. The equipment was previously balanced employing pattern samples of monohydrated calcium oxalate, according to the ASTM rules (1582-93). TG/DTG curves were treated using the TA-60WS[®] software.

FTIR (Fourier-transform infrared) Spectroscopy

The solid phase FTIR spectra of pure INH, excipients and physical mixtures of 1:1 (w/w) excipients:INH were recorded through pellets acquired from the powdered sample with KBr. The spectra were recorded by a FTIR model 8400 Shimadzu[®] in the range of 4000–400 cm⁻¹, where the resolution was set to 4

cm^{-1} . The FTIR data processing were performed by HYPER IR 1.57 software. To evaluate band shift on the spectrum of the 1:1 (w/w) INH:excipient mixtures, a factored subtraction of each pure component spectrum was performed. Before performing the subtraction, all spectra were normalized at the 2000 region. After acquisition, all data treatment were performed by GRAMS 386 software.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Isoniazid Studies

The thermal stability of isoniazid (INH) was studied using DSC and TG/DTG (Figure 1). The DSC curve of INH showed an endothermic event between 50 to 80°C, related to the dehydration of the material, followed by other endothermic event attributed the melting at 173.13°C ($T_{\text{onset}} = 170.62^\circ\text{C}$; $\Delta H = 194.90 \text{ J/g}$). The TG/DTG curves of INH presented two mass losses consecutive and kinetically different. The first mass loss, attributed to melting of the substance, was more accentuated and it occurred in the range of 128.51° and 296.78°C ($\Delta m_1 = 79.78\%$; $\text{DTG}_{\text{peak}} = 268.40^\circ\text{C}$); the second mass loss, of lower intensity, occurred between 296.78° and 340.28°C ($\Delta m_2 = 14.52\%$; $\text{DTG}_{\text{peak}} = 325.70^\circ\text{C}$); there was no residue detection.

The molecular structure of the INH was confirmed by vibrational spectroscopy (FTIR). The FTIR spectra of INH presented bands of medium intensity of absorption at 3302, 3209, 3172 and 3113 cm^{-1} which were attributed to the stretching vibration of the $\text{C}_{(\text{sp}^2)}\text{-H}$ connections of the aromatic ring. The bands at 1556 and 1602 cm^{-1} were related to C=C asymmetrical and symmetrical stretching of the molecule aromatic ring, while the bands at 746 and 675 cm^{-1} were attributed to the C-H flexions out of the ring plane. The band of strong intensity at 1667 cm^{-1} was related to the stretching vibration of carboxyl azide; the band at 1636 cm^{-1} was attributed to the NH_2 collection deformation of hydrazide (CONHNH_2), and the band at 1337 cm^{-1} was related to stretching vibration in the C-N connection. The bands at 1493, 1412 and 1222 cm^{-1} was attributed to C-CH vibration in the ring plane. The band at 1142 cm^{-1} was related to the vibrations of N-N, which occurred out of the flexion in the molecule aromatic ring. The band at 996 cm^{-1} was attributed to deformation of the ring plane – and the C-H vibration out of the flexible ring plane was related to the band at the position 888 cm^{-1} . The band at 845 cm^{-1} was attributed to the NH_2 collection of the infrared spectrum. The band at 660 cm^{-1} was related to the vibration of NH out of the ring and at 504 cm^{-1} to the CO flexion in the ring plane. The spectral data observed in the FTIR spectra were consistent with other authors.^{5,6}

Compatibility studies between isoniazid and excipients

Thermal Analysis Assays

In the physical mixtures, when there is no any interaction between drug and excipient, the T_{onset} and T_{peak} value (DSC curve), and the decomposition of drug (TG/DTG curves) remain practically unchanged, similarly when the drug is alone. In this case, the thermal profiles of the physical mixture can be considered as a superposition of the curves of drug and excipients. The changes in the profile of thermoanalytical curves (DSC and TG/DTG) of the physical mixtures can indicate the production of some interaction. The possible interactions between components can be deduced from shift or disappearance of the DSC peaks, especially the melting peak and/or variations in enthalpy values. Modifications in the peak shape, peak onset or peak maximum temperature may be an indication an interaction, but it is necessary to bear in mind that some broadening of peaks can be resulting of the missing

process, which lowers the purity of each component in the mixture.

The thermal curves of physical mixtures between INH and excipients – SSG, MS and talc – may be considered as a superposition of the curves of the isolated compounds, evidencing the absence of the incompatibility between them (Figure 2, Table 1). Displacement of the thermal event of melting and/or decomposition of INH was observed in the physical mixtures with the excipients – HPMC, CSD, MCC, CCS, Eudragit L100, starch and PVP - suggesting some interaction. Lactose and sodium metabisulfite (SMB) were found to exhibit interactions with isoniazid.

The DSC curve of the lactose (Figure 3) showed an endothermal event corresponding to the dehydration of the material (bound water) between 140-165°C; an exothermic event due the crystalline transition of α form to β form ($T_{\text{peak}} = 172.80^\circ\text{C}$); an endothermic event due the melting at 183.7°C; and thermal decomposition characterized by several endothermic events. The TG/DTG curves of lactose showed thermal decomposition in four steps: the first step between 55.65 and 183.73°C ($\Delta m_1 = 3.32\%$; $\text{DTG}_{\text{peak}} = 153.73^\circ\text{C}$) due to the crystallization of water; the second and third steps, related to the thermal decomposition, were consecutive and occurred between 199.38 and 280.51°C ($\Delta m_2 = 12.76\%$; $\text{DTG}_{\text{peak}} = 256.93^\circ\text{C}$) and 280.51 and 399.33°C ($\Delta m_3 = 58.35\%$; $\text{DTG}_{\text{peak}} = 321.52^\circ\text{C}$); the fourth and last step, relative to carbonization of the excipient, started at 400°C. The DSC curve of the 1:1 (w/w) lactose:INH physical mixture showed an endothermic event between 122°C and 145.5°C, a temperature range in which no thermal events occurred to both isolated substances. The TG/DTG curves of the 1:1(w/w) lactose:INH physical mixture showed decomposition in four steps. The thermal events related to the melting and decomposition of the INH were moved to lower temperatures, showing some type of reaction between the INH and the lactose. This interaction may be attributed to a Maillard-type reaction, a well-known reaction that occurs between a reducing sugar, e.g., lactose and primary or secondary amine. Since isoniazid have a primary amine group bound to a secondary nitrogen of the acetamide group, it is likely that this drug could undergo Maillard-type reactions under optimal conditions. In studies conducted by Lavor et al.¹⁵ the onset temperature of the first decomposition step of the mixture on the TG/DTG curves decreased 30°C compared to that of pure INH, suggesting strong interaction between INH and LAC. The incompatibility between isoniazid and lactose was confirmed by differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) and high performance liquid chromatography.¹⁶

Sodium metabisulfite (SMB) (Figure 4) was thermodynamically stable until a temperature of 180°C, undergoing an endothermic event between 185 and 228°C related to the thermal decomposition of the material. The DSC curve of the 1:1 (w/w) SMB:INH physical mixture showed an endothermic event at 167°C, linked to the melting of INH, followed by an exothermic event at 175°C, referring to the decomposition of the material, and finally an endothermic event at 184.4°C, attributed to the vaporization of the residue. The overlapping curves of INH, SMB and the 1:1 (w/w) SMB:INH physical mixture showed that the thermal events shift to lower temperatures, suggesting interaction between sodium metabisulfite and INH. The TG/DTG curves of sodium metabisulfite and the 1:1 (w/w) SMB:INH physical mixture showed thermal decomposition in several consecutive steps suggesting instability of the mixture (Table 1).

The FTIR spectroscopic analysis using the differential technique is a powerful and sensitive technique to detect interactions between components of a mixture. The residual bands in the differential spectrum can be associated with clusters of atoms of each molecule involved, thus allowing better understanding of the process and the interactions between substances. To confirm the results obtained by thermal analysis, the FTIR spectroscopy was used as a supplementary technique in order to investigate the chemical interactions.

Vibrational Spectroscopy Assays

The FTIR spectra of INH, excipients and 1:1 (w/w) INH:excipients physical mixtures were recorded and analyzed by scaled subtraction to investigate the possible interaction between drug and excipients. In the scaled subtraction analysis, the final differential spectrum is obtained by means of successive subtraction of each spectra of each of the separate components - INH and excipient - of the physical mixture spectrum. If any interaction takes place, a change in the electron density occurs, causing displacement of absorption bands in the infrared spectrum. In this case, a residual band will be present in the differential spectrum. On the other hand, if no interaction occurs, the spectra bands of the mixture and the correspondent bands of the pure substances will be equivalent and compensated by the subtractions, causing no significant interferences or bands in the resulting differential spectrum.

The differential spectrum resulting from subtraction of lactose and INH from the physical mixture showed dislocation in the

frequency of several bands, suggesting chemical interactions between these compounds. Residues of the excipient and INH bands were visualized in the region of 3111 and 3000 cm^{-1} . According to Yilmaz, Bolukbasi and Bakiler⁶, INH presents four bands in the region 3304, 3209, 3171 and 3113 cm^{-1} corresponding to the stretching vibrations of N-H. The alterations observed in this region could be attributed to the Maillard reaction, where the lactose interacts with primary and secondary amines. Bands in the region of 1557 and 1668 cm^{-1} also were not extinguished confirming that the lactose interferes in the INH (Table 2).

The FTIR differential spectrum resulting from the subtraction of sodium metabisulfite (SMB) and INH spectra from the physical mixture showed remaining bands of both - SMB and INH - indicating a strong interaction between these molecules. The band observed at 3304 cm^{-1} was related to NH stretching; the bands at 3113 and 3051 cm^{-1} were attributed to CH stretching of the INH molecule. The bands remaining at 1668, 1557, 1142 and 1222 cm^{-1} were related to CO stretching, NN out of the plane and vibrations of the CCH aromatic ring, respectively. These results are in agreement with results previously observed by Araújo et al.¹¹ (Table 2).

The FTIR differential spectrum resulting from the subtraction of INH and other excipients from their respective physical mixtures showed no remaining band confirming the absence of interactions between INH and these excipients.

Table 1: Thermal data from DSC and TG/DTG of INH and 1:1 (w/w) excipients:INH physical mixtures

	T _{onset} DSC (°C)	$\Delta H_{\text{melting}}$ J/g	T _{onset} TG (°C)	T _{onset} DTG (°C)	Mass loss (%)
Drug					
Isoniazid	173.0	194	170	228/296	79/14/7
1:1 (w/w) excipient/drug					
lactose	-	-	180	63/153/203/263	1/13/35/44/7
SSG	173.5	50	174	36/151/237/407	3/15/52/4/26
MS	173.1	94	173	44/142/300/415/512	2/42/19/12/12/13
SMB	167.3	49	171	113/174/302/411	12/32/10/8/38
HPMC	163.0	65	155	92/300	47/39/14
CSD	160.1	60	160	162	47/53
CCS	157.7	67	176	155/269/335	34/27/10/29
MCC	159.5	47	181	144/280	34/39/27
starch	153.7	66	183	36/125/281	3/38/41/18
talc	172.8	83	174	150/281	39/8/53
Eudragit L100	190.9	34	190	115/259/347	28/28/28/16
PVP	185.7	33	184	36/142/355	6/45/37/12

The values introduced in boldface represent the relative mass loss of the material due to carbonaceous elimination.

Table 2: Results of interactions between isoniazid (INH) and excipients using FTIR

1:1 (w/w) excipient:Drug	Excipient Several chemical structures	INH structure
		Observed interaction (spectra bands shifting)
	Excipient groups	Drug groups
lactose:INH		ν_{NH} ; ν_{CO} ; $\nu_{\text{C=ring}}$ 3304, 3209, 3171 and 3113; 1668; 1557
SMB:INH	1186, 983 and 632	ν_{NH} ; ν_{CH} ; ν_{CO} ; NH_2 scis; $\gamma_{\text{N-N}}$; $\delta_{\text{C=CHring}}$; $\nu_{\text{C=ring}}$ 3304; 3113 and 3051; 1668; 1636; 1142; 1222; 1557

ν , stretching; δ , in plane ring bending; γ , out of plane ring bending vibrations; scis, scissoring vibrations

Figure 1: DSC and TG/DTG curves of INH

Figure 2: DSC curve of INH and 1:1 (w/w) excipient:INH physical mixtures

Figure 3: DSC curve of INH, DSC and TG/DTG curves of lactose and 1:1 (w/w) lactose:INH physical mixture

Figure 4: DSC curve of INH, DSC and TG/DTG curves of SMB and 1:1 (w/w) SMB:INH physical mixture

CONCLUSION

In the present study, results of thermal analysis and FTIR were successfully employed to assess the compatibility of INH with excipients commonly used in the development of solid dosage forms. Modifications in the peak shape, peak onset or peak maximum were verified using thermal analysis, especially DSC, for the most of the physical mixtures. However, FTIR analysis showed good correlation between 1:1 (w/w) excipients:INH spectra except for lactose:INH and SMB:INH physical mixture, evidencing high incompatibility between these two species and INH. The results obtained with thermal analysis and FTIR spectroscopy were comparable. In conclusion, the application of thermal analysis in the study of drugs in the solid state is of great interest in the preformulation studies in the selection of excipients and confirms that this technique is a powerful tool in pharmaceutical technology by the method sensitivity and fast response, allowing the identification of incompatibilities in a short period. Whenever possible, other techniques such as IR and quantitative analysis should be used in conjunction with thermal analysis to reach any definitive conclusion.

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