

ORALLY DISINTEGRATING TABLETS (ODT)

DESCRIPTION

Generally, an orally disintegrating tablet (ODT) is a solid-dosage form that disintegrates and dissolves in the mouth without water (either on or beneath the tongue, or in the buccal cavity). Said tablet is usually dissolved within 30 seconds.

Recent market studies indicate that more than half of the patient population prefers ODTs to other dosage forms, and most consumers (70%) ask their doctors for ODTs.

MECHANISM OF ODT DRUGS

Generally, ODTs are formulated to disperse rapidly in the mouth, which enables the medication to be swallowed without water, thereby increasing convenience and compliance across a broad range of indications and patient types, including the young, elderly, and active patients. Following dispersion, the drug is absorbed in the same way as conventional solid-oral dosage forms.

ODTs may also be used to deliver drugs to the oral cavity, for local action or, in some cases, absorption across the oral mucosa, thereby avoiding first-pass hepatic metabolism and potentially increasing the rate and extent of uptake, and reducing undesirable metabolites.

TYPES

ODTs may be categorized into compressed tablets, compression molded tablets, and freeze-dried (lyophilized) wafers. Compressed tablets will typically take slightly longer to disintegrate than freeze-dried wafers due to a different bonding mechanism and differences in porosity. Compression-molded tablets would be expected to have disintegration times that are similar to compressed tablets.

[CLICK HERE](#) to review and print a current ODT list of drugs.