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- (54) AZITHROMYCIN MONOHYDRATE ISOPROPANOL CLATHRATE AND METHODS FOR THE MANUFACTURE THEREOF
- (75) Inventors: Khashayar Karimian, Toronto (CA);
 Mehrnoush Motamedi, Norcross, GA (US)
- (73) Assignee: Apotex, Inc., Thornill (CA)

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(21)	Appl. No.	: 10/45	04.580)		
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(22) Filed: Jun. 5, 2003

Related U.S. Patent Documents

Reissue of:

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C07H 17/08 (2006.01)

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Primary Examiner—Elli Peselev(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Welsh & Katz, Ltd.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A novel form of azithromycin and processes for preparation of pure azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate (3 molecules of isopropanol for every 10 molecules of azithromycin monohydrate) has been obtained. Preparation of the novel form of azithromycin comprises the steps of dissolving azithromycin in isopropanol, followed by the slow addition of water to the organic solution.

536/7.4, 18.5 See application file for complete search history.

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42 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

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Figure 1

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2 Figure

[count 300 250 200 350 150 100 50 .

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70000 600004 50000 40000-20000-10000 30000 0 F. I 1 1 - **T** Ţ ľ 80000. [counts]-

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N



Figu

- [counts]

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142.333 °C	164.400 °C	157.994 °C	136.397 mJ	66.927 J/g	7.690 mW	153.517 °C	
2	S	Peak	Area	Ä	leight	Onset	

. 961 0 ß 110.0

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(Wm) w II 169H

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136.600 °C	156.800 °C	149.883 °C	112.484 mJ	57.302 J/g	5.534 mW	143.379 °C	
×	ž	Peak	Area	AH	Height	Onset	



(Wm) wolf tseH

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AZITHROMYCIN MONOHYDRATE **ISOPROPANOL CLATHRATE AND METHODS FOR THE MANUFACTURE** THEREOF

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a new form of azithromycin, namely azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate,

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these patents do not provide a description of the drying process (temperature or pressure). Canadian patents 1,191, 843 and 1,202,963 claim azithromycin monohydrate as a new form of azithromycin. The theoretical percentage of water in azithromycin monohydrate is 2.3%. However, Canadian Patent 1,314,876 reports a value of 3.92%, and a value of 3.2% is reported in Canadian patent 1,314,876. No reference to the percentage of water is made in the other 10 above-mentioned Canadian patents. Azithromycin monohydrate is known to be hygroscopic (see for example European Patent 298 650 B1). This is an undesirable property since it

which has improved properties over amorphous azithromycin, azithromycin monohydrate and azithromycin dihydrate. This invention also relates processes for the manufacture of azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Azithromycin, 9-Deoxo-9a-aza-9a-methyl-9ahomoerythromycin A, is a semi-synthetic macrolide antibiotic which can be classified as a member of the secondgeneration erythromycin antibacterial agent. Azithromycin 25 has the following structure (I):



complicates formulation of azithromycin drug product and can adversely effect its stability on long term storage.

Canadian patent 1,314,876 claims azithromycin dihydrate and, in contrast to azithromycin monohydrate, a full description of the drying process used for obtaining the product is 20 provided. Low boiling, solvents (tetrahydrofuran and hexane) are used with 3-4 equivalent moles of water to obtain the crystalline product, which is dried under vacuum at low temperatures (20–10° C.). The use of low boiling solvents for crystallisation and low temperatures for vacuum drying of the product are prescribed presumably to control the desirable amount of water that must be evaporated to afford azithromycin dihydrate. Excess loss of water, caused by higher temperature vacuum drying, could result in the 30 formation of azithromycin monohydrate. In contrast to anhydrous azithromycin and azithromycin monohydrate, azithromycin dihydrate has desirable properties for formu-35 lation. It is crystalline and can therefore be obtained in pure

The spectrum of azithromycin's antibacterial activity has 45 been reported by Aronoff, et al (J. Antimicrob. Chemother, 1987, 19, 275). Its mode of action has been reviewed by Retsema, et al (Antimicrob. Ag. Chemother, 1987, 31, 1939)n, and its pharmacology has been reviewed by a number of investigators (J. Antimicrob. Chemother., 1993, ⁵⁰ 31, Suppl. E, 1-198).

Three forms of Azithromycin are known. Anhydrous product. azithromycin is reported as an amorphous crude product (foam) in Canadian Patent 1 191 843 (example 1). It is 55 obtained by evaporating the final solvent (e.g. chloroform) formation of the non-hygroscopic dihydrate to the used in the process of preparation of azithromycin. It is not hygroscopic monohydrate. a crystalline product and therefore can not be made in pure form per se in commercial scale. In laboratory scale, it can 3. The use of low boiling point solvents is complicated by be obtained in pure form by chromatography of the crude 60 their toxicity and possibility of formation of explosive final product or by dissolving pure crystalline azithromycin peroxide during solvent recovery. mono- or dihydrate in an organic solvent and evaporating the It has now been surprisingly found that slow addition of said solvent to obtain amorphous anhydrous azithromycin. water to an isopropanol solution of azithromycin results in Canadian patents 1,202,620, 1,202,619, 1,202,963 and 65 the formation of a new form of azithromycin, namely 1,314,876 teach the process of making azithromycin monoazithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate of formula hydrate but do not claim the resulting product. Furthermore, II:

(I)

form in commercial scale. It is not hygroscopic and therefore does not pose a problem during formulation or adversely effect the stability of the resulting drug product.

- It is clear that anhydrous and monohydrate forms of 40 azithromycin are not suitable for formulation. The processes referred to in Canadian Patent 1 314 876 for the preparation of azithromycin dihydrate, while producing a nonhygroscopic form of azithromycin, have a number of disadvantages:
 - 1. Water immiscibility of the organic solvent mixture (tetrahydrofuran plus hexane) can cause problems in obtaining pure material since crystallisation processes are known to afford pure material when the anti-solvent is miscible with the solvent used to dissolve the crude
 - 2. The drying process must be very carefully controlled since an increase in temperature will cause the trans-



The physical properties of this product and the processes used for its preparation have a number of major advantages over the existing azithromycin product forms and the procedures used for their preparation.

First, azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate is crystalline and, in contrast to anhydrous azithromycin, may ²⁵ be obtained in pure form.

Second, azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate is not hygroscopic and, in contrast to anhydrous azithromycin and azithromycin monohydrate, may be used in formu-30 lations of the drug product as tablets or capsules with excellent stability profiles.

Third, azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate is, in contrast to azithromycin dihydrate, obtained conveniently and reproducibly by crystallisation from isopropanol ³⁵ water.

In another aspect, the invention relates to a process for the preparation of azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate which comprises the steps of:

- (a) Dissolving azithromycin in isopropanol and slowly adding water to the resulting solution;
- (b) Filtering and washing the product with a mixture of isopropanol water;

(c) Vacuum drying the product.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a powder X-Ray diffraction of anhydrous azithromycin.

FIG. **2** is a powder X-Ray diffraction of azithromycin monohydrate.

FIG. **3** is a powder X-Ray diffraction of azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate.

Fourth, in contrast to azithromycin dihydrate, azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate is obtained by crystallisation from inexpensive solvents.

Fifth, in contrast to azithromycin dihydrate, azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate is prepared from environmentally safe solvents (hexane: Class 2; isopropanol and tetrahydrofuran: Class 3, see Federal Register, Vol. 62, No. 247, 67381, Dec. 24, 1997).

Sixth, the experimental conditions are simple and applicable to large-scale production.

Seventh, the present processes are reproducible in a wide spectrum of physical conditions and consistently afford ⁵⁰ azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate with a constant ratio of azithromycin, water and isopropanol (vacuum drying at 1–10 mm Hg at 500 to 60° C. for 12 to 24 hours). Eighth, the product generated by the processes of the 55 present invention is highly pure.

Ninth, the processes taught in this invention afford high yields of the product within the range of 88% to 93% (first crop). The remainder of the product is conveniently recovered from the mother liquor by evaporation of isopropanol⁶⁰ under reduced pressure.

FIG. **4** is a powder X-Ray diffraction of azithromycin dihydrate.

FIG. 5 is a DSC of azithromycin monohydrate.
 FIG. 6 is a DSC of azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate.

FIG. 7 is an IR spectrum of azithromycin monohydrate 45 and azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention describes a new form of azithromycin monohydrate, namely azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate and the processes for the preparation of pure azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate.

Previously known forms of azithromycin (anhydrous, monohydrate, and dihydrate) may serve as the starting material in the present, all of which are commercially available.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In one aspect, the invention relates to a compound of formula II:

According to this invention, azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate contains three molecules of isopropanol for every ten molecules of azithromycin monohydrate. The process comprises the dissolution of azithromycin in isopropanol to which water is added slowly while stirring, resulting in the precipitation of crystalline azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate. The volume of solvent used is such as to be sufficient to dissolve azithromycin. The addition of the water is carried out between 0° and 30° C.

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X-RAY DIFFRACTION

Instrumental Parameters

Instrument: Philips PW3710 Based Diffractometer with APD Software

Ver. 3.6

loes not reduce eithe	r the water c	ontent or the isopropanol			Ver. 3.6	
ontent of azithromy	in monohydı	rate isopropanol clathrate.		11.935	7.409	1.4
-	•	• •		12.495	7.078	4.3
•	•	R, 13C NMR, and IR		13.955	6.341	2.2
ectroscopy, mass sp	bectrometry, a	and powder x-ray diffrac-	10	14.250	6.210	1.2
	•	zithromycin monohydrate		14.645	6.044	2.6
		cording to the invention.		14.810	5.977	1.8
· ·	-	es between powder x-ray		15.270	5.798	5.3
		1 0		15.700	5.640	2.9
•		romycin, azithromycin		15.990	5.538	0.9
nohydrate., azith	romycin me	onohydrate isopropanol	15	16.595	5.338	1.1
thrate, and azithro	mycin dihydi	rate. Comparison of FIG.		17.040 17.450	5.199 5.078	2.1
1	• •	ows the differences in the		18.035	4.915	1.5 0.5
-	•	onohydrate isopropanol		18.375	4.824	1.0
	•	• • •		18.540	4.782	1.0
•	•	ycin, azithromycin mono-		10.060	4.653	2.8
	v v	rate. These figures also		19.670	4.510	2.8
dicate that azithron	iycin monoh	ydrate isopropanol clath-		19.995	4.437	1.7
te is free of azithro	mycin dihyd	rate.		20.425	4.345	2.7
	<i>v v</i>			20.885	4.250	1.1
	•	ry (DSC) of azithromycin		21.030	4.221	0.8
		zithromycin monohydrate		21.740	4.085	0.8
opropanol clathrate	(149.88° C.)	are shown in FIGS. 5 and	25	22.540	3.941	0.8
	-			23.470	3.787	0.5
	~	• • •		24.125	3.686	0.6
Near IR spectra	of azithrom	nycin monohydrate and		24.475	3.634	0.7
zithromycin monohy	drate isoproi	panol clathrate are shown		24.705	3.601	0.7
		at 6800 cm^{-1} at which the		25.245	3.525	0.6
athrate shows a me			30		3.489 3.406	0.9
aurate snows a me	dium absorp	lion.		26.145	3.406	0.8
The water content	of azithromy	cin monohydrate isopro-		26.510 28.320	3.360 3.145	0.2 0.3
	•	the Karl-Fischer method		28.320	3.056	0.3
	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e			29.410	3.035	0.3
. .	oment was de	etermined by gas chroma-		29.825	2.993	0.2
ography.			35	30.170	2.960	0.2
				32.750	2.732	0.4
				33.565	2.668	0.4
				34.640	2.587	0.2
Х	-RAY DIFFRAC	CTION		35.295	2.541	0.3
	istrumental Para		40	36.135	2.484	0.3
Instrument: Philips PW3		actometer with APD Software	-+0	37.490	2.397	0.2
	Ver. 3.6			39.710	2.268	0.2
Sample preparation	on ungr	ound				
Radiation:	-	$\alpha_1(\lambda = 1.54056 \text{ Å})$		The invention v	vill be more fu	lly understood by the
Scanning Mode:	Step	- ` ` `				e the present invention,
Scanning Range	4.0-	40.0	45			
(°20):					onsidered mmith	ng to the scope of the
Step Size (°2 θ):	0.02			invention.		
Measuring Time	1.20					
(sec/step):					EXAMPLE 1	
Holder type:		lips Standard	- -	Anhudrous azith	$romation (1, 1) \sim 1$	is discolured in isome
Operation		$V \times 40 \text{ mA}$	50	•	• • •	is dissolved in isopro-
Power Diversion as Slite	0.5°					ion is stirred vigorously
Divergence Slit:	~ ~			and water (4.35 kg) is added slowly	y over a 1-hour period.
Receiving Slit:	0.2 1			\sim	· · ·	stirred for an additional
Scattering Slit:	0.5°					lting product is filtered
		Dolotino Intonoito		-		÷ 1
$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A} = $	D malara (8)	Relative Intensity	55			isopropanol-water. The
Angle (°20)	D-value (Å)	%		cake was then dried	t vacuum (6 to 10	0 mm Hg) at 50° C. for
4.985	17.712	0.2		12 hours. Yield 0.8	8 kg (88%).	
4.985 5.605	17.712	0.2				
6.205	13.734	1.3			EXAMPLE 2	
7.350	14.232	1.5		1 • . •		
7.855	11.246	75	60	-	· · ·) is dissolved in isopro-
8.240	10.721	0.4		panol (2.8 kg) by wa	arming. The solut	ion is stirred vigorously
8.830	10.006	0.4			-	y over a 1-hour period.
9.400	9.401	4.1			· •	stirred for an additional
9.790	9.027	100.0				
10.245	8.627	0.4		-		ilting product is filtered
11.165	7.918	8.8	65	and washed with a 4	40:60 mixture of	isopropanol-water. The
11.365	7.779	2.5		cake was then dried	l vacuum (6 to 10	0 mm Hg) at 50° C. for
				12 hours Viold 0.8		-0/

5

and preferably between 15° C. to 25° C. The product is filtered and washed with a mixture of water-isopropanol and dried under vacuum (1–10 mm Hg) at 50° C. to 60° C. for 12-24 hours to obtain azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate in high yields. Extension of vacuum drying ⁵ does not reduce either the water content or the isopropanol

12 hours. Yield 0.88 kg (88%).

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EXAMPLE 3

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Azithromycin dihydrate (1 kg) is dissolved in isopropanol (2.8 kg) by warming. The solution is stirred vigorously and water (4.35 kg) is added slowly over a 1-hour period. The $_5$ mixture is cooled to 20° C. and stirred for an additional 6 hours at this temperature. The resulting product is filtered and washed with a 40:60 mixture of isopropanol-water. The cake was then dried vacuum (6 to 10 mm Hg) at 50° C. for 12 hours. Yield 0.88 kg (88%).

What is claimed is:

1. A compound of formula II:

	-continued	
		Relative Intensity
Angle (°20)	D-value (Å)	%
8.247	10.721	0.4
8.830	10.006	0.3
9.400	9.401	4.1
9.790	9.027	100.0
10.245	6.627	0.4
11.165	7.918	8.8
11.365	7.779	2.5
11.935	7.409	1.4
12.495	7.078	4.3
13.055	6.341	2.2
14.250	6.210	1.2
14.645	6.044	2.6
14.810	3.977	1.8
15.270	5.798	3.3
15.700	5.640	2.9
15.990	5.338	0.9
16.595	5.338	1.1
17.040	5.199	2.1
17.450	5.078	1.5
18.035	4.915	0.5
18.375	4.824	1.0
18.540	4.782	1.0
19.060	4.613	2.8
19.670	4.510	2.8
19.995	4.437	1.7
20.425	4.315	2.7
20.885	4.150	1.1
21.030	4.221	0.8
21.740	4.085	0.8
22.540	3.941	0.8
23.470	3.787	0.5
24.125	3.680	0.6
24.475	3.634	0.7
24.705	3.601	0.7
25.245	3.525	0.6
25.510	3.489	0.9
26.145	1.406	0.8
26.510	3.360	0.2
28.320 29.200	3.145 3.056	0.3 0.3
29.200 29.410	3.035	0.3
29.410	2.993	0.3
32.750	2.732	0.2
33.565	2.668	0.4
34.640	2.587	0.4
35.295	2.541	0.2
36.133	2.484	0.3
37.490	2.397	0.2
39.710	2.268	0.2



2. A process for the preparation of azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate which comprises the steps of: (a) dissolving azithromycin in isopropanol and slowly adding water to the resulting solution so that a precipi-

tate of crystalline azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate is formed;

(b) filtering and washing the product resulting from step (a) with a mixture of isopropanol and water; and

(c) vacuum drying the product resulting from step (b). 403. The process of claim 2 wherein the dissolution of crystalline azithromycin is carved out in a volume of solvent only sufficient to dissolve the azithromycin.

4. The process of claim **2** wherein water is added over a period of one hour. 45

5. The process of claim 2 wherein the addition of water to the resulting solution is carried out between 0° C. to 30° C.

6. The process of claim 5 wherein the addition of water is carried between 15° C. to 25° C.

7. The process of claim 2 wherein vacuum drying is $_{50}$ carried out at a temperature of 50° C. to 60° C.

8. The process of claim 2 wherein the vacuum drying is carried out under 6 to 10 mm Hg.

9. A process for the preparation of azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate characterised by the following 55 x-ray powder diffraction pattern expressed in terms of "D" spacings and Relative Intensity:

which comprises the steps of:

- (a) dissolving azithromycin in isopropanol and slowly adding water to the resulting solution so that a precipitate of crystalline azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate is formed;
- (b) filtering and washing the product resulting from step (a) with a mixture of isopropanol and water; and
- (c) vacuum drying the product resulting from step (b). 10. The compound of claim 1 which is pure.

11. The compound of claim 10 which is free of azithromycin dihydrate. 12. The compound of claim 1 formulated as a drug product. 13. The compound of claim 12 in tablet form. 60 14. The compound of claim 12 in capsule form. 15. Crystalline azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol *clathrate*. 16. The compound of claim 15 which is pure. 17. The compound of claim 16 which is free of azithro-65 mycin dihydrate. 18. The compound of claim 15 formulated as a drug product.

Angle (°20)	D-value (Å)	Relative Intensity %	6
4.985	17.712	0.2	
5.605	15.754	0.3	
6.205	14.232	1.3	
7.350	12.017	1.7	6
7.835	11.246	7.5	

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19. The compound of claim 18 in tablet form.

20. The compound of claim 18 in capsule form.

21. Azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate characterized by the x-ray diffraction pattern as illustrated in FIG. 3.

22. The compound of claim 21 which is pure.

23. The compound of claim 22 which is free of azithromycin dihydrate.

24. The compound of claim 21 formulated as a drug 10 product.

25. The compound of claim 24 in tablet form. 26. The compound of claim 24 in capsule form. 27. The compound of claim 21 wherein the DSC thereof is

-continued

10

Angle (°20)	D-value (Å)	Relative Intensity %
11.938	7.409	1.4
12.485	7.078	4.3
13.935	6.941	2.2
14.250	6.210	2.3
14.545	6.044	2.6
14.810	1.977	1.8
15.270	5.640	1.9
16.595	1.378	1.1
17.040	5.199	2.1
17.450	5.078	2.5

1 5				
illustrated in FIG. 6.		18.375	4.284	1.0
28. The compound of claim 21 further characterized by	15	18.340	4.782	1.0
the IR spectrum thereof as illustrated in FIG. 7		19.080	4.510	2.8
		19.995	4.437	1.9
29. The compound of claim 28 further characterized by		20.425	4.349	2.7
the DSC thereof illustrated in FIG. 6.		20.889	4.150	1.1
30. Azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate		21.050	4.321	0.8
characterized by the IR spectrum thereof as illustrated in	20	21.740 22.540	4.085 3.941	0.8
FIG. 7.		22.540	3.787	0.8 0.5
		23.470	1.634	0.7
31. The compound of claim 30 wherein the DSC thereof is		24.705	3.801	0.7
illustrated in FIG. 6.		25.245	3.525	0.4
32. The compound of claim 30 which is pure.		25.510	1.489	0.9
33. The compound of claim 32 which is free of azithro-	25	25.149	3.406	0.8
mycin dihydrate.		26.510	3.360	0.3
34. The compound of claim 30 formulated as a drug		28.320	3.145	0.3
		29.200	3.096	0.3
product.		29.410	3.039	0.3
35. The compound of claim 34 in tablet form.		29.829	2.993	0.2
36. The compound of claim 34 in capsule form.	30	30.170	2.960	0.2
37. Azithromycin monohydrate isopropanol clathrate		32.150	2.732	0.4
characterized by the following x-ray powder diffraction		33.365	2.668	0.4
		34.640	2.587	0.3
pattern expressed in terms of "D" spacings and Relative		35.291	2.541	0.3
Intensity:		36.135	2.484	0.3
	35	37.490	2.397	0.2
			/ / C X	

Angle (°20)	D-value (Å)	Relative Intensity %	
4.986	17.712	0.2	
5.605	15.754	0.3	
6.205	14.232	1.3	
7.350	12.017	1.7	
7.855	11.246	7.5	
8.240	10.721	0.4	
8.830	10.006	0.3	
9.400	9.401	4.1	
9.790	9.017	100.0	
10.245	4.827	0.4	
11.165	7.918	8.8	
11.368	7.779	2.5	

38. The compound of claim 37 which is pure. 40

39.710

39. The compound of claim 38 which is free of azithromycin dihydrate.

2.268

0.2.

40. The compound of claim 37 formulated as a drug 45 product.

41. The compound of claim 40 in tablet form.

42. The drug product of claim 40 in capsule form.