

**ADVANCEMENTS IN INVASOMES FOR ENHANCED DRUG DELIVERY: A  
COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW**

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**ABSTRACT**

The pursuit of enhanced efficacy and tailored delivery has motivated the assessment of medication delivery methods. Conventional methods have established the groundwork, but progress is necessary to surmount their constraints. This thorough analysis delves into the novel field of invasomes, a kind of vesicular carriers intended to improve medication delivery across biological barriers. An outline of conventional medication administration methods is given at the outset of the paper, highlighting the necessity of cutting edge techniques. It introduces vesicular carriers, focusing on the well-established liposomes, and traces the evolution towards invasomes. The distinctive features of invasomes specifically, their invasiveness are emphasized, tackling the crucial difficulty of attaining therapeutic concentrations at target locations. The dissection of the structure and content of invasomes highlights the importance of surfactants, lipid composition, and other components that contribute to their increased penetrating capacities. A particular focus is on the malleable character of invasomes, which allows them to effectively pass through biological membranes and narrow spaces. There is discussion of several techniques for preparing invasomes, such as freeze drying, ether injection, thin film hydration, and reverse phase evaporation. Researchers can choose the best strategies based on specific requirements by comparing various methods and seeing how they affect invasome features. The review explores various analytical techniques for characterizing invasomes, such as high-performance liquid chromatography, differential scanning calorimetry, particle size, spectroscopy, and microscopy. The successful use of these strategies in medication delivery can be attributed to their insights into invasive characteristics. Success stories in dermatology, cancer therapy, ocular drug delivery, infectious diseases, vaccines, neurological disorders, and cardiovascular therapies are highlighted as the broad range of therapeutic areas in which invasomes are applied are examined. The encouraging results demonstrate how invasomes have the potential to completely transform drug delivery in a variety of medical fields. There is a discussion of the present state and potential future developments of invasomes in regulatory approval procedures.

**Keywords:** Invasomes, thin film hydration, reverse phase evaporation, ether injection, freeze-drying.

## INTRODUCTION

While conventional drug delivery methods have proven invaluable in the distribution of therapeutic agents, the ongoing search for more effective and precise delivery methods has prompted the development of more sophisticated delivery strategies. Due to the shortcomings of traditional systems such as low bioavailability and restricted penetration researchers are now looking at novel approaches. Among these, vesicular carriers liposomes being a well-known example of one have shown promise as drug delivery vehicles <sup>1</sup>.

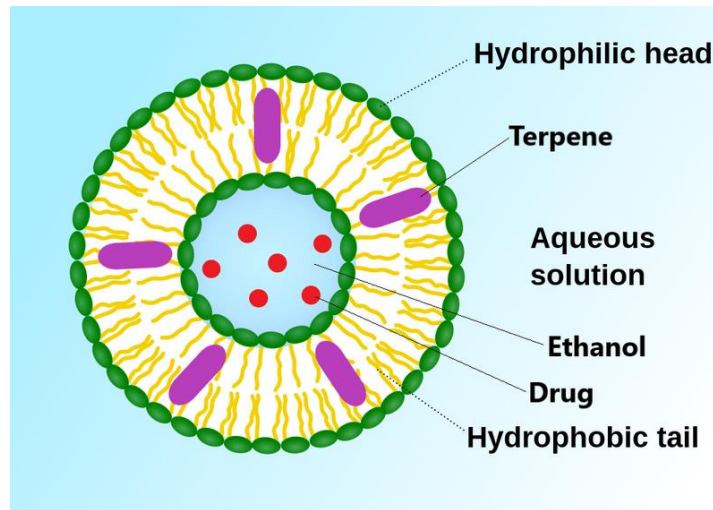
Because they can encapsulate both hydrophilic and hydrophobic medicines, liposomes phospholipid-based vesicles have gained importance. This capacity allows them to overcome some of the obstacles presented by conventional formulations. These lipid-based carriers provide regulated release patterns and enhanced biocompatibility. On the other hand, when scientists worked to improve and modify these vesicular carriers, invasomes were created <sup>2</sup>.

Within the world of vesicular carriers, invasive agents are a unique evolution that has been engineered to improve drug penetration through biological barriers. The prefix "inva" indicates that these carriers are invasive, implying that they may effectively penetrate biological membranes. Achieving therapeutic concentrations at the target site is a key difficulty in drug delivery that is addressed by this particular feature of invasomes <sup>3</sup>.

Because they can remove obstacles that frequently restrict the efficacy of conventional formulations, invasomes have the potential to dramatically increase the bioavailability of medications. This makes them significant. This improved penetration capacity creates new channels for the delivery of medicinal substances, particularly those with difficult pharmacokinetics or low bioavailability <sup>4</sup>.

We shall examine the structure, makeup, methods of preparation, and characterization of invasomes in this thorough review. Furthermore, we will explore the diverse range of uses for invasomes in several therapeutic domains, highlighting their capacity to transform drug delivery. It is imperative for academics, doctors, and pharmaceutical professionals seeking cutting edge solutions to maximize therapeutic outcomes to comprehend the role that invasomes play in drug delivery.

### Structure and Composition of Invasomes:



**Figure 1: Structure of invasomes**

### Definition and Characteristics of Invasomes:

Specialized vesicular carriers called invasomes are made to improve the way therapeutic medicines pass across biological membranes. They are comparable to liposomes, but they are unique in that they may effectively penetrate and pass through biological barriers on their own. This special quality results from the addition of edge activators, which provide the vesicle membrane flexibility and enable them to pass past cellular barriers and tight junctions <sup>5</sup>.

The presence of edge activators, lipid-based composition, and nanoscale size are the main features of invasomes. Together, these characteristics provide them a greater capacity for penetration, which makes them attractive options for enhancing drug administration across a range of biological interfaces.

### Lipid Composition, Surfactants, and Other Components:

The way invasomes interact with cellular membranes and maintain their structural integrity are greatly influenced by their lipid makeup. Phospholipids, which include cholesterol, phosphatidylcholine, and phosphatidylserine, are usually the main lipid bilayer. These fats support the invasomes membrane's flexibility and stability.

In addition to phospholipids, the insertion of surfactants, particularly edge activators, is a defining feature of invasomes. The vesicle membrane's lipid packing is disrupted by edge activators like the Span and Brij series, which lessens the membrane's rigidity and increases its deformability. Because of this modification, invasomes are able to pass through biological barriers and narrow spaces more easily than liposomes in the past <sup>6</sup>.

To maximize the stability and drug loading capability of the formulation, additional ingredients including stabilizers and hydration media are frequently included. Invasomes are prevented from aggregating and fusing by stabilizers such as trehalose or sucrose, which guarantees a uniform and stable formulation.

### **Structure and Facilitation of Improved Drug Delivery:**

Similar to liposomes, invasomes are characterized by an aqueous core encased in a lipid bilayer. On the other hand, the addition of edge activators gives invasomes a distinct structure that increases their deformability and flexibility. Their capacity to cross biological barriers depends on this structural alteration.

By causing the lipid packing at the vesicle edges to be disrupted, the edge activators lower intermolecular pressures and increase membrane fluidity. This modification facilitates the entry of invasomes into deeper tissues by allowing them to pass through biological membrane holes and tight junctions. Because invasomes are malleable, they can conform to the changing biological barrier environment and distribute drugs efficiently <sup>7</sup>.

### **Method of Preparation:**

#### **Various Methods for Invasome Preparation:**

A variety of techniques are utilized in the production of invasomes, each providing unique benefits concerning vesicle dimensions, encapsulation effectiveness, and scalability. The particular needs of the medication and the intended properties of the invasomal formulation determine which approach is best. Here, we examine a few popular methods for preparing invasomes <sup>8</sup>.

#### **Thin Film Hydration:**

This technique creates a thin lipid coating on the surface of the container by dissolving lipid components in an organic solvent. The medicine and surfactants are then added to the aqueous phase of the film, causing invasomes to develop on their own. Thin film hydration is a widely used, adaptable method that is renowned for being straightforward and scalable <sup>9</sup>.

#### **Reverse Phase Evaporation:**

Using an organic solvent to dissolve lipids and the aqueous phase, this approach creates a water in oil (W/O) emulsion. Next, the emulsion is allowed to evaporate, which causes invasomes to develop. High entrapment efficiencies can be attained by encasing hydrophilic medications via reverse phase evaporation.

#### **Ether Injection Method:**

Diethyl ether is used to dissolve lipids, and then the organic phase is injected into an aqueous solution. Rapid diffusion of the organic solvent into the aqueous phase is the cause of spontaneous vesicle

formation. Invasomes with small particle sizes and high drug encapsulation are known to be produced using this technique.

### **Freeze Drying Method:**

This method prepares invasomes, which are then freeze-dried to increase their stability and prolong their shelf life. Because the freeze-dried invasomes can be rehydrated before to delivery, this approach works well for controlled drug release and long-term storage.

### **Comparison of Different Techniques and Their Impact on Invasome Characteristics:**

Every preparation technique has benefits and drawbacks that affect the properties of the final invasomes. Reverse phase evaporation is superior at encapsulating hydrophilic medicines, but thin film hydration is preferred for its ease of use and applicability for largescale manufacture. Small sized invasomes are produced by the ether injection method, and stability is improved by freeze-drying<sup>10</sup>.

The technique of choice should be in line with the particular needs of the medication and the planned use. When choosing the best preparation method, variables including stability, drug loading capacity, and vesicle size are important to take into account. Comprehending the effects of distinct techniques on invasome properties is essential for customizing formulations to satisfy the varied requirements of medication delivery applications.

### **Characterization Techniques:**

#### **Analytical Methods for Characterizing Invasomes:**

To comprehend invasome characteristics and maximize their efficacy for medication delivery, a precise characterisation of these entities is necessary. A range of analytical methods shed light on the chemical, biological, and physical characteristics of invasomes. Here, we go over a few important techniques used to characterize invadesomes:

#### **Microscopy Techniques:**

**Optical Microscopy:** Gives a general overview of the anatomy, size, and distribution of invadesomes.

**Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM):** Provides high-resolution pictures that enable precise nanoscale invasome structural imaging<sup>11</sup>.

**Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM):** Beneficial for evaluating the surface shape of invadesomes and for surface imaging<sup>12</sup>.

#### **Spectroscopy Techniques**

##### **Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR)**

finds functional groups inside invasomes, which helps to characterize the components that make up lipids and surfactants.

**Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR):** Sheds light on the structural organization of lipid molecules and the composition of invasomes.

### **Particle Sizing Techniques**

**Dynamic Light Scattering (DLS):** Ascertain the invasomes' size distribution in a suspension, assisting in the evaluation of their homogeneity and stability.

**Zeta Potential Measurement:** Determines the invasomes' surface charge, providing details about their stability and interactions with biological membranes <sup>13,14</sup>.

**Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC):** Understands the stability and phase transitions of invasomes by analyzing their thermal behavior.

**High-performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC):** Measures how well drugs are encapsulated and how quickly they are released from invasomes <sup>15</sup>.

### **Applications of Invasomes:**

#### **Exploring Diverse Therapeutic Areas and Success Stories**

Invasomes, with their unique structural and functional properties, have proven tremendous potential across numerous therapeutic fields. Because they can bypass biological barriers, improve drug distribution, and improve treatment outcomes, invasomes are exceedingly versatile. In the sections that follow, we explore various therapeutic uses and provide case examples illustrating how well invasomes distribute particular medications <sup>16</sup>:

#### **Dermatological Applications**

Because they enable transdermal medicine delivery, invasomes have demonstrated success in treating dermatological disorders. For example, anti-inflammatory agent loaded invasomes have shown enhanced penetration through the skin's layers, providing tailored treatment for psoriasis and eczema <sup>17</sup>.

#### **Cancer Therapy**

Targeted delivery of anticancer medications to cancer cells and improved bioavailability have been demonstrated by invasome encapsulated pharmaceuticals. The invasome is a promising delivery system for combination chemotherapy because of its capacity to encapsulate both hydrophobic and hydrophilic medications <sup>18</sup>.

#### **Ophthalmic Drug Delivery**

Improved drug retention and permeation across the cornea have been demonstrated using invasomes in the treatment of ocular disorders. This has potential applications in the delivery of antiglaucoma drugs and treatment for other ocular disorders.

### **Infectious Diseases**

Antimicrobial loaded invadesomes have demonstrated potential in the fight against infectious illnesses. The treatment efficiency against resistant pathogens is increased by the ability of invasomes to break through microbial biofilms and transport medications to the infection site.

### **Vaccines and Immunotherapy**

It has been investigated to use invadesomes as vaccine delivery vehicles. Antigens can be encapsulated by invasomes due to their lipid composition, which enhances immune response and allows for prolonged release of the antigen. This application could lead to the creation of innovative vaccine compositions <sup>19</sup>.

### **Neurological Disorders**

Drug transport via invasomes to the central nervous system has been studied. Their potential to transfer neuroactive medicines across the blood brain barrier is encouraging for the treatment of neurological conditions including Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease.

### **Cardiovascular Interventions**

Utilizing invasomes has improved the bioavailability of medications intended to treat cardiac problems in the cardiovascular drug delivery system. The enhanced stability and continuous release of drugs are facilitated by the distinct lipid composition of invasomes.

### **Regulatory Considerations**

#### **Navigating the Regulatory Landscape for Invasome Based Drug Formulations**

Understanding the regulatory environment controlling these cutting-edge delivery technologies is crucial as the field of medication formulations develops. The development, approval, and commercialization of medications containing invasomes are significantly influenced by regulatory considerations. In this brief summary, we address the regulatory landscape around invasome based medication formulations, emphasizing the present state of affairs and possible obstacles to regulatory approval.

#### **Overview of Regulatory Landscape**

Pharmaceutical product approval and marketing are governed by regulatory bodies including the European Medicines Agency (EMA), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and other international health authorities. When it comes to invasome based formulations, these organizations assess the drug delivery system's safety as well as its effectiveness.

### **Challenges in Gaining Regulatory Approval**

### **Standardization of Manufacturing Processes**

It is difficult to achieve uniformity in the techniques used in the production of formulations based on invasomes. To guarantee the medication delivery system's quality and reproducibility, production techniques must be standardized.

Developers are required to demonstrate batch to batch consistency by thoroughly documenting and validating the production procedures. Reproducible invasome synthesis data must be provided in order for regulations to be accepted <sup>20</sup>.

### **Safety and Toxicity Concerns**

It is crucial to evaluate the safety profile of invadesomes, particularly with regard to prolonged exposure. Comprehensive information on any possible harmful effects and unfavorable reactions related to the formulation is required by regulatory bodies.

Thorough preclinical research is required, including evaluations of acute and chronic toxicity. Any worries about the biological effects of invadesomes should be allayed by the developers' provision of comprehensive safety data.

### **Clinical Efficacy and Comparative Studies:**

It is crucial to determine the clinical effectiveness of formulations based on invasomes in comparison to traditional delivery methods. Well planned clinical trials proving the invasome formulation's superiority or noninferiority may be required by regulatory bodies.

The importance of invasomes' therapeutic advantages must be emphasized in the developers' thorough clinical research. Comparative evaluations with current therapies can bolster the data demonstrating the invasome based medication's effectiveness.

### **Regulatory Harmonization:**

It might be difficult to harmonize regulatory standards across borders. The approval process for products containing invasomes may be complicated by regional differences in expectations and requirements.

Early in the development process, developers should interact with regulatory bodies to obtain advice and ensure compliance with global regulatory norms. Coordinating and interacting with regulatory bodies promotes a more efficient approval process <sup>21</sup>.

**Current Status and Future Perspectives:** Although invasome based formulations provide novel approaches to medication delivery, the process of gaining regulatory approval for them is still developing. To successfully integrate invasomes into the pharmaceutical market, developers and regulatory bodies must work together and adhere to strict quality and safety requirements. This will require ongoing research <sup>22, 23</sup>.



**Table 1: Formulations of invasomes of other antifungal drugs**

| Name of drug | Excipients use   | Method of preparation                         | Reference     |
|--------------|--|---|---------------|
| Luliconazole | Citronella oil, ethanol and Carbopol 934                                   | Thinlayer hydration method                    | <sup>24</sup> |
| Clotrimazole | Soya Phosphatidylcholine, ethanol, terpenes and Phosphate buffer saline.   | Mechanical dispersion technique               | <sup>25</sup> |
| Ketoconazole | Carbopol 934p, Triethanolamine. Glycerine, methylparaben and Propylparaben | Mechanical dispersion technique               | <sup>26</sup> |
| Curcumin     | Carbopol 934, Soya Phosphatidylcholine and ethanol                         | Mechanical dispersion technique               | <sup>27</sup> |
| Itraconazole | Phospholipon 80H, Phospholipon 90H and andterpene                          | Conventional thin layer evaporation technique | <sup>28</sup> |
| Luliconazole | Phosphotidylcholine, Terpenes and Ethanol                                  | Mechanical dispersion technique               | <sup>29</sup> |

**CONCLUSION:**

In summary, the introduction of invasomes into the drug delivery space is a big step in the right direction toward solving problems with conventional delivery methods. With an emphasis on their composition, applications, characterisation strategies, preparation methods, and regulatory considerations, this review has offered a thorough investigation of invasomes.

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