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(54) Title: A DELAYED RELEASE DRUG FORMULATION

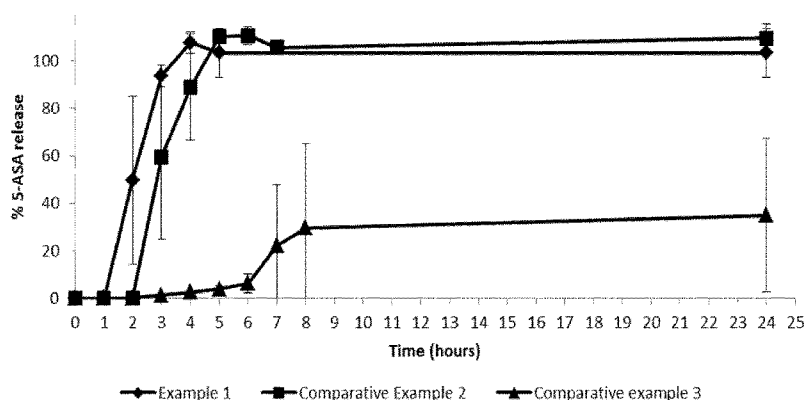


FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: Delayed release of a drug to the colon is achieved from a delayed release formulation comprising a core and a coating for the core. The core comprises a drug and the coating comprises an inner layer and an outer layer. The outer layer comprises a mixture of a first polymeric material which is susceptible to attack by colonic bacteria, and a second polymeric material which has a pH threshold at about pH 5 or above. The inner layer comprises a third polymeric material which is soluble in intestinal fluid or gastrointestinal fluid, said third polymeric material being selected from an at least partially neutralised polycarboxylic acid and a non-ionic polymer. In embodiments in which the third polymeric material is a non-ionic polymer, the inner layer comprises at least one of a buffer agent and a base. Advantages of formulations according to the present invention include accelerated release of the drug when exposed to colonic conditions and reduction or elimination of a food and/or alcohol effect on drug release after administration.