SUMMARY

In one aspect, there is provided a pharmaceutical composition comprising an open matrix network carrying one or more pharmaceutically active ingredients, wherein the open matrix network comprises maltodextrin and hyaluronic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

In another aspect, there is provided a pharmaceutical composition comprising a matrix carrying one or more pharmaceutically active ingredients, the matrix disintegrating upon contact with an aqueous medium, said matrix comprising maltodextrin and hyaluronic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

In yet another aspect, there is provided a process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition comprising subliming the solvent from a solidified liquid preparation comprising one or more pharmaceutically active ingredients, maltodextrin and hyaluronic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in a solvent.

In another aspect, there is provided a process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition comprising (a) preparing a liquid preparation comprising maltodextrin, hyaluronic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt whereof and one or more active ingredients in a solvent; (b) freezing said liquid preparation; (c) subliming the solvent from the frozen preparation to obtain a pharmaceutical composition, wherein the pharmaceutical composition disintegrates within 30 seconds upon contact with an aqueous medium.

The subject invention provides new fast disintegrating oral pharmaceutical compositions typically in a unit dosage form, typically oral lyophilisates (also named orally disintegrating tablets). Fast disintegrating dosage forms of the invention have relatively high tensile strength (i.e. force required to break a tablet in a three-point bending test) on the one hand and a fast disintegration time on the other hand. This relatively high tensile strength permits, amongst others, to easily remove the composition from its container, typically a blister pack, without disintegration. The unit dosage form of the invention can typically be handled in a manner similar to that

of a conventional compressed tablet, with disintegration occurring only upon contact with an aqueous liquid, such as saliva within the mouth.

The subject invention thus provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising an open matrix network carrying a pharmaceutically active ingredient, wherein the open matrix network comprises maltodextrin and HA or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

The subject invention further provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising a matrix carrying a pharmaceutically active ingredient, the matrix rapidly disintegrating upon contact with an aqueous medium, said matrix comprising maltodextrin and HA or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

The pharmaceutical composition of the invention is unique in that it has a high tensile strength, on the one hand, and exhibits a rapid disintegration in an aqueous medium, on the other hand.

The relatively high tensile strength permits the handling of the dosage form in a manner similar to that of a regular compressed tablet including, in particular, removal from a package in which they are held, e.g. a blister pack, without risk of damaging the dosage form between the fingers. Notwithstanding this tensile strength, the composition of the invention disintegrates rapidly when contacted with an aqueous medium, in particular the composition rapidly disintegrates when taken orally. The disintegration in an aqueous medium, such as in the oral cavity upon ingestion (where the composition disintegrates upon contact with saliva), is typically within 30