We claim:

1. A stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form comprising imatinib mesylate in alpha crystalline form and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, wherein the amount of imatinib calculated as free base is more than 80% by weight based on the total weight of the oral pharmaceutical dosage form, wherein said oral pharmaceutical dosage form is dispensed in a package selected from blister pack, or high-density polyethylene (HDPE) bottle, and wherein the alpha crystalline form does not convert to beta crystalline form when the said oral pharmaceutical dosage form is stored at 40°C and 75% relative humidity for three months.

2. The stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable excipients are selected from diluents, binders, disintegrants, lubricants, glidants, granulating solvents, and coloring agents.

3. The stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, wherein the stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form is a tablet.

4. The stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, wherein the stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form is a capsule.

~~5. The stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, wherein the said stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form is dispensed in a package comprising blister packs or in high-density polyethylene (HDPE) bottles.~~

~~6.~~5. The stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim ~~5~~ 1, wherein the package may additionally contain a desiccant.

~~7.~~6. A process for preparing the stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 3 comprising:

   a. granulating imatinib mesylate alone or mixed with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients with a granulating solvent;

   b. drying and sizing the granules of step (a);

   c. optionally, mixing with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients;

   d. compressing the resultant blend into tablets using appropriate tooling; and

   e. optionally, coating the tablets with a coating.

~~8.~~7. A process for preparing the stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 3 comprising:

a. compacting imatinib mesylate alone or mixed with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients by slugging;

b. milling and sizing the slugs into granules;

c. optionally, mixing the granules with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients;

d. compressing the resultant blend into tablets using appropriate tooling; and

e. optionally, coating the tablets with a coating.

~~9.~~8. A process for preparing the stable oral pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 4 comprising:

a. granulating imatinib mesylate alone or mixed with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients with a granulating solvent;

b. drying and sizing the granules of step (a);

c. optionally, mixing with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients; and

d. filling the resultant blend into suitable sized capsules.