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(54) Title: OLIGOSACCHARIDE FORMULATIONS OF KAPPA OPIOID RECEPTOR AGONISTS

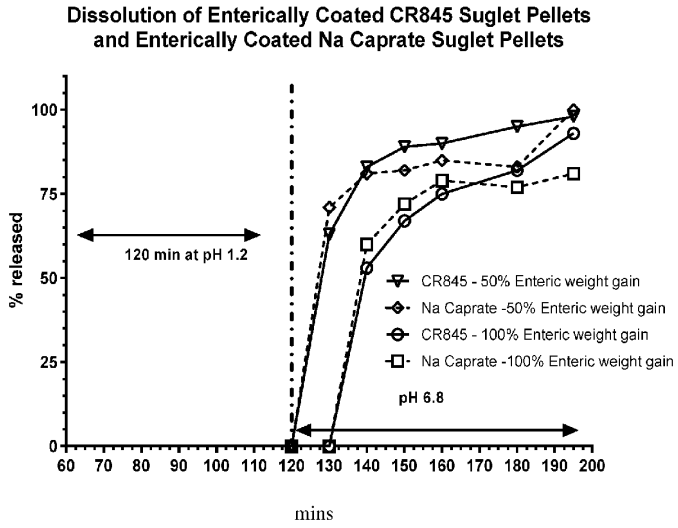


Fig. 1

(57) **Abstract:** The invention provides formulations for oral delivery of a therapeutic agent wherein the formulation comprises a kappa opioid receptor agonist, an oligosaccharide stabilizing agent and an optional absorption enhancer. The kappa opioid receptor agonist may be coated with, embedded in or mixed with an oligosaccharide, such as trehalose. Also provided are capsules containing the oral formulations of the kappa opioid receptor agonists, the oligosaccharide and the absorption enhancer of the invention. The invention further provides methods of manufacture of the formulations and methods of their use for the prophylaxis, inhibition and treatment of variety of kappa opioid receptor-associated diseases and conditions such as pain, pruritus and inflammation. The methods of use include administering to the mammal the formulation of the kappa opioid receptor agonist, oligosaccharide and optional absorption enhancers.

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