Claims

1. A solid tablet that is directly-compressed of powder, comprising meloxicam or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and one or more excipients, characterised in that the directly-compressed powder was screened through a suitable mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm and in that the tablets can be broken into two, three and/or four units with each unit containing equal amounts of the active ingredient.

2. A tablet according to claim 1, characterised in that the mesh has a mesh size of 800 µm to 1500 µm.

3. A tablet according to any of claims 1 to 2, characterised in that the directly-compressed powder contains particles with a particle size of equal to and less than the selected mesh size.

~~2~~4. A tablet according to any of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that meloxicam is homogenously dispersed within the tablet.

~~3~~5. A tablet according to any of claims 1 ~~or~~ to ~~2~~4, characterised in that the excipients are selected from the group consisting of fillers, disintegrants, pH adjusters, colourants, flow regulator, lubricants and flavour.

~~4~~6. A tablet according to any of claims 1 to ~~3~~5, characterised in that at least one of the excipients is a filler/ disintegrant selected from the group consisting of calcium phosphate, lactose, maltodextrine, mannit, sorbit, cross-linked polyvinyl pyrrolidon, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, starch and microcristalline cellulose.

~~5~~7. A tablet according to ~~one~~ any of claims 1 to ~~4~~6, characterised in that the colourants are ferric oxide brown and/or ferric oxide yellow.

~~6~~8. A tablet according to ~~one~~ any of claims 1 to ~~5~~7, characterised in that the pH adjuster is selected from the group consisting of tartaric acid, maleic acid and sodium citrate dihydrate.

~~7~~9. A tablet according to ~~one~~ any of claims 1 to ~~6~~8, characterised in that the flow regulator is selected from the group consisting of talc, anhydrous silicon dioxide and a lubricant.

~~8~~10. A tablet according to ~~one~~ any of claims 1 to ~~7~~9, characterised in that the lubricant is selected from the group consisting of macrogols (= polyethylene glycols), stearic acid, aluminium stearate, calcium arachinate and magnesium stearate.

~~9~~11. A tablet according to ~~one~~ any of claims 1 to ~~8~~10, comprising 0.5 to 5 mg of meloxicam and a tablet weight of 500 mg to 2000mg.

~~10~~12. A tablet according to ~~one~~ any of claims 1 to ~~9~~11, comprising a flavour in an amount of 2 to 15% by weight of the total tablet weight.

~~11~~13. A tablet according to ~~one~~ any of claims 1 to ~~10~~12, characterised in that the flavour is an artificial beef flavour.

~~12~~14. A tablet according to ~~one~~ any of claims 1 to ~~11~~13, characterised in that the solid formulation contains meloxicam as a free base.

~~13~~15. A direct compression process without any granulation step, comprising the following steps:

1) Premixing of meloxicam with 10 – 50% of a filler/-disintegrant followed by screening through a suitable ~~a~~ mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm~~,~~;
2) Premixing of a pH adjuster and one or more colouring agents followed by screening through a suitable mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm~~,~~;
3) Mixing of 90-50% of a filler/-disintegrant, a second filler/disintegrant, flow regulator, lubricant and artificial flavour followed by screening through a ~~suitable~~ mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm;
4) Admixing the blends obtained in steps 1) and 2) followed by screening through a suitable mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm~~,~~;
5) Final blending of the mixtures obtained in steps 3) and 4) followed by screening through a suitable mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm;
6) Compression of the powder mixture obtained in step 5) into a tablet, wherein the tablet can be broken into two, three and/or four units with each unit containing equal amounts of the active ingredient.

~~14~~16. A direct compression process without any granulation step according to claim ~~13~~15, wherein the steps comprise:

1) Premixing of meloxicam with 33% of a filler/~~-~~disintegrant followed by screening through a suitable mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm~~.~~;
2) Premixing of a pH adjuster and one or more colouring agent followed by screening through a suitable mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm~~.~~;
3) Mixing of 67% of a filler/~~-~~disintegrant, a second filler/disintegrant, flow regulator, lubricant and an artificial flavour followed by screening through a suitable mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm~~.~~;
4) Admixing the blends obtained in steps 1) and 2) followed by screening through a suitable mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm~~.~~;
5) Final blending of the mixture obtained in steps 3) and 4) followed by screening through a suitable mesh having a mesh size of 600 µm to 1500 µm~~.~~;
6) Compression of the powder mixture obtained in step 5) into a tablet, wherein the tablet can be broken into two, three and/or four units with each unit containing equal amounts of the active ingredient.

~~15~~17. A solid tablet comprising meloxicam or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the solid tablet is obtainable by the direct compression process without any granulation step according to claim ~~13~~15 or ~~14~~16, wherein the tablet can be broken into two, three and/or four units with each unit containing equal amounts of the active ingredient.