CLAIMS

1. An ondansetron tablet comprising:

a monolithic core comprising hypromellose, 18 mg of ondansetron or an equivalent amount of an ondansetron salt thereof dispersed within the hypromellose, and sodium citrate anhydrous dispersed within the hypromellose, wherein the sodium citrate anhydrous is present in an amount sufficient to allow it to form a hardened boundary around the periphery of the hypromellose upon exposure to an aqueous medium so as to limit the rate at which the ondansetron or an equivalent amount of an ondansetron salt thereof dispersed within the hypromellose is released from the core;

a first non-functional seal coat surrounding the core and comprising hypromellose, wherein the first non-functional seal coat has the property to not substantially affect the release of the ondansetron from the ondansetron tablet; and

an immediate release drug layer surrounding the first seal coat and comprising hypromellose and 6 mg of ondansetron or an equivalent amount of an ondansetron salt thereof, wherein the immediate release drug layer has the property to release the ondansetron over a period of at least 1 hour,

wherein the ondansetron tablet yields a burst of approximately 25% ondansetron followed by a zero-order sustained release of ondansetron, and

wherein the total amount of ondansetron in the ondansetron tablet is released over 24 hours.

2. The ondansetron tablet of claim 1, further comprising an enteric coating surrounding the first non-functional seal coat.

3. The ondansetron tablet of claim 1, further comprising a second non-functional seal coat surrounding the immediate release drug layer, wherein the second non-functional seal coat is comprised of a non-ionic polymer.

4. The ondansetron tablet of claim 1, wherein the first non-functional seal coat further comprises a coating additive.

5. The ondansetron tablet of claim 1, wherein, when the tablet is administered to a patient in a fasting state, achieves a Cmax of at least 40 ng/ml.

6. The ondansetron tablet of claim 1, wherein, when the tablet is administered to a patient in a fasting state, achieves AUC of at least 450 nghr/ml.

7. The ondansetron tablet of claim 1, wherein a blood ondansetron concentration approximately 24 hours after oral administration of ondansetron (Cmin) is at least 6 ng/ml.

8. The ondansetron tablet of claim 1, wherein a ratio of a maximum blood ondansetron concentration (Cmax) to a blood ondansetron concentration after approximately 24 hours from oral administration of ondansetron (Cmin) is between 3 and 7.

9. A packaged pharmaceutical preparation comprising a plurality of the ondansetron tablets of claim 1 in a sealed container and instructions for administering the tablets orally to effect prevention of nausea and vomiting.

10. A packaged pharmaceutical preparation comprising a plurality of the ondansetron tablets of claim 1 each in a discrete sealed housing, and instructions for administering the tablets orally to effect prevention of nausea and vomiting.