

## Granulation strategy holding a dynamic rhythm in herbal pharmaceuticals

Mayukh Jana<sup>1</sup>, Suprodip Mandal<sup>2</sup>, Arijit Das<sup>3</sup>, Moulima Das<sup>3</sup>, Anupam Saha<sup>3\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pharmaceutics, Bharat Technology, Uluberia, West Bengal, India

<sup>2</sup>Department of Pharmacognosy, School of Pharmacy, Techno India University, Kolkata, West Bengal, India

<sup>3</sup>Department of Pharmacology, NSHM College of Pharmaceutical Technology, Kolkata, India

### Abstract

Granulation is a standout amongst the most vital unit tasks in the generation of pharmaceutical oral measurements frames. Granules are the basic portions in the midst of arrangement of tablets. So nature of granules is the determinant for nature of tablet. Moreover granules present the better pharmacokinetics parameter, for instance, maintenance of dynamic components of tablet. This study is basically a short note on the different types of granulation process, herbal preparation of granules and its up-gradation/advancements. Granulation strategy will improve stream and weight characteristics, reduce confinement, improve content consistency, and discard unrestrained proportions of fine particles. Herbal drugs can also be incorporated into granules so as to prepare herbal drug tablets. By then the most ideal granulation method can be associated. The objective of present article is to focus on the basic granulation idea and encourage the researchers to use these techniques in herbal preparations.

**Keywords:** Herbal Granulation, herbal tablets, herbal preparation, herbal pharmaceuticals.

### Introduction

Granules are nearly wonderful methods for directing medications that have upsetting taste [1]. The medication is blended with sugar, a favouring operator and inactive assistants, saturated to deliver a rational mass, granulated by section through a strainer and dried. The resultant little sporadic particles, running from 0.2 to 4 mm in distance across, are regularly provided in single-portion sachets the substance of which are mixed in water before taking [2]. Sometimes it is hard to locate an agreeable introduction for a strong medicament with an extensive portion. Fluid items might be blocked if the medication is unsteady in arrangement or, if insoluble, is hard to suspend in a helpful portion volume. Organization of a powder is a plausibility however upsetting flavours are difficult to camouflage in this structure. Granulation of a powder permits expansion of favouring and shading specialists and produces an effectively took care of and alluring item. Granulation is used generally to improve stream and compressibility of powders, and to deflect detachment of the blend portions and atom size of the beat is generally impacted by the sum and supporting rate of squashing liquid [3,

4]. Granulation strategy will improve stream and weight characteristics, reduce confinement, improve content consistency, and discard unrestrained proportions of fine particles. By then the most ideal granulation method can be associated. The objective of present article was to focus on the basic granulation idea [3, 4].

Granulation is done as a step to put together pharmaceutical tablets. Granules flow into the dies increased evenly and more freely than fine-particles from the hopper. Granules flow greater than powders and the on hand flow features are critical in imparting drug substances from the hopper or feeding container into the tableting presses, due to this powder combos are many times granulated if they are supposed to be

\*Mail id for correspondence  
sahaanupam05@gmail.com

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compressed into tablets [5]. Granules in addition get rid of or manipulate dust and make higher compressibility. They have smaller ground location and are accelerated without problems wetted by means of capacity of way of a solvent than are high-quality powders, so that granules are moreover preferred in making choices than a related quantity of powders. This makes granules greater bodily consistent and chemically sound than the corresponding powders. Granules are an awful lot much less perhaps to cake up or harden upon standing than are powders and preparation training is extended time eating manner and want limitless components equipment however it produce particle-size uniformity, for this cause content material uniformity [6,7]. The approach desires to be handled with care as the granulation progresses swiftly and that of a usable granule may also moreover critically trade very quickly into an unusable product. Thus, it is regularly quintessential to display screen the manner to point out the grant up of the granulation process, *i.e.* when a granule of the favoured houses has been attained [8,9]. The device is additionally sensitive to variations in raw materials, then again this may additionally be minimized via way of way of the utilization of dried merchandise an typically in natural preparation. Granulation is an important aspect in herbal pharmaceuticals. Some of the properties of effective granulation are -particle size of the drug and excipients, type of binder (strong or weak), volume of binder (less or more), wet massing time (less or more), amount of shear applied and drying rate (Hydrate formation and polymorphism) [2]. Advanced Granulation Techniques as posted through the usage of functionality over a size of time, due to technological tendencies and in an urge to enhance industrial output various, extra brand new granulation applied sciences have been superior such as,

1. Fluid Bed Granulation.
2. Steam Granulation.
3. Melt Granulation Technology.
4. Moisture Activated Dry Granulation (MADG).
5. Moist Granulation Technique (MGT).
6. Thermal Adhesion Granulation Process (TAGP).
7. Foamed Binder Technologies (FBT).
8. Pneumatic Dry Granulation (PDG).
9. Freeze granulation Technology [10].

## 2. Methods of Granulation

### 2.1 Wet granulation Method:

In moist granulation, granules are formed with the resource of the expansion of a fluid folio onto a powder mattress which is beneath the influence of an impeller (in a high-shear granulator), screws (in a twin screw granulator) or air (in a fluidized mattress granulator). The fomentation brings about the framework alongside the wetting of the segments indoors the definition, consequences in the sequence of the essential powder particles to furnish moist granules. The granulation liquid (fluid) contains a dissolvable which ought to be unpredictable so that it can be evacuated with the aid of drying, and be non-lethal. Run of the mill fluids contain water, ethanol and isopropanol each in mix. The fluid association can be both watery primarily based completely or dissolvable-based. Fluid preparations have the upside of being larger impenetrable to manipulate than solvents [2, 3]. Wet granulation is a way for dimension increase which entails any method whereby small

particles are agglomerated into larger, extraordinarily eternal buildings with the useful resource of liquid binder. The moist granulation manner ought to commonly acquire the appreciated granule houses meant for unique functions [11]. Extraordinary importance is as yet joined to wet granulation, in light of the fact that immediate packing isn't the most reasonable innovation for some dynamic substances that are in high doses or in fine powder structure. Regardless of whether the dynamic substance is delicate to hydrolysis, present day gear, for example in a fluidized bed, disposes of all issues in wet granulation [12]. It is an easy process and it does not require any experts. So it may be useful for herbal granulation in a simple manner [13].

**2.2 Dry granulation Method:** The dry granulation used to body granules except making use of a liquid in mild of the reality that the object granulated may additionally dampness and warmth. Shaping requires compacting and densifying the powders (this is acknowledged as slug). In this method the necessary powder particles are totaled below excessive weight. Influencing granulator or a high-shear blender granulator can be utilized for the dry granulation. The pills which are touchy to moisture can go through this process. In this technique the compression of the powder mixture is carried out barring the use of warmth and solvent and the intermediate merchandise are damaged the usage of an appropriate milling method to produce granular material, which is normally sieved to separate the preferred measurement fraction. The unused satisfactory fabric may additionally be transformed to keep away from waste [2, 3 and 14]. This technique is for heat sensitive and moisture sensitive materials [15] hence may be a good choice for herbal tablet. This granulation process improved the technological properties of the spray dried extract (SDE) and extract containing mixture (ECE) [16] as a way it may be useful for herbal granulation.

### 2.3 Fluid Bed Granulation:

Fluid Bed granulation is a process, which frames little particles into totals or granules making use of a fluid fastener splashed onto the fluid mattress or particles. The granulation process can for the most section be considered as a combination of three rate process, Wetting and nucleation, Consolidation and development, Breakage and consistent loss. The process parameters like atomizing pneumatic pressure channel and out let temperature, bay air mugginess cowl growth charge and so forth, the physicochemical homes of the folio fluid and the cloth particles and their relationship, leads each one of them. Therefore, liquid mattress granulation is seen as a honestly idea bogging process [17]. The fluid bed granulation process where particles are suspended by air flow and which consists of spraying a binder solution by dispersion or suspension onto a physical mixture. These particles are wet by the binder solution, and liquid bridges are formed when they collide which leads to the acquisition of granules [18].

The undeniable drivers to practice consistent assembling are the value decrease, the administrative help and the plausible expanded first-rate certification of the remaining object and the pass to regular assembling none the much less infers specialized and logical difficulties, for example, clean-ability, start-up and shut-down methods, powder handling, cloth following and in-process measurements [2,19]. This process reduces the loss of product, dust formation during processing, it

is also suitable for subsequent coating and controlled release products and along with that it improves maintenance [20]. All the granulation processes including drying are performed within the same apparatus and moreover the process can be fully automated [21]. Therefore, it can be used in herbal granulation system.

#### 2.4 Steam Granulation:

In steam granulation strategy steam is utilized as a fastener rather than water and a steam granulation procedure includes the infusion of a stream of steam into a bed of fluidized particles to be granulated and the flow of steam is significantly encompassed by a flow of air to restrain the untimely build-up of the steam onto the fluidized particles as well as the build-up of the steam onto the neighbouring dividers of a mechanical assembly utilized to fluidize the particles, along these lines this procedure hinders unnecessary wetting and lumping of the particles amid their granulation [22]. This method has higher distribution uniformity, higher diffusion rate into powder and is eco-friendly. It does not require any solvent and has no health hazard as compared to the use organic solvent water vapour is environmentally friendly, steam granules are more spherical and it lowers dissolution rate so can be used for preparation of taste masked granules without modifying the availability of the drug, and it also saves a lot of time [15,23]. Therefore it may be useful in herbal granulation system.

#### 2.5 Thermal Adhesion Granulation:

This process is applicable for preparation of direct tablet formulations which is performed under low moisture content or low content using pharmaceutical solvent by subjecting a mixture containing one or more diluents or active ingredients. Its temperature range is 30°C to about 130°C in a closed system under mixing by tumble rotation until the formation of granules. A binder and occasionally a disintegrant to heating are added [20, 22].

It is undifferentiated from sodden granulation and uses expansion of a little measure of granulation fluid and warmth for agglomeration. [22]. It provides adequate hardness and has a high uptake capacity for active substances whose compaction or agglomeration is poor. So it provides granules with increased drug loading, good flow properties and binding capacity to form tablets of low friability, and low amount of moisture is added to the formulation containing diluent excipients and binder as a result no additional drying process is required [20, 23, 24], as a way the herbal drugs which are moisture sensitive, this process may be useful for herbal granulation.

#### 2.6 Pneumatic Dry Granulation (PDG):

The pneumatic dry granulation system is a new and patent technology [22]. It is an innovative dry granulation technology which uses roller compaction together with a proprietary air classification method to make granulation with extraordinary combination of flow-ability and compressibility [23]. The granulation technique is primarily based on the use of curler compaction with very low compaction pressure collectively with a proprietary air classification method. The approach permits manufacturing of granules with outstanding aggregate of drift capacity and compressibility [22]. It can achieve high drug loading of general trouble-some materials with quick development with decrease cost and waste as recycling takes

place and enhanced stability and shelf-life [20, 23] as a result this process may be useful for herbal granulation.

#### 2.7 Melt Granulation Technology:

Hot-melt-extrusion (HME) is a standout amongst the most broadly connected preparing innovations in the plastic, elastic and sustenance industry. At present, the greater part of every single plastic item, including plastic packs, sheets and pipes are produced by this procedure. As of late, soften expulsion has discovered its place in the variety of the pharmaceutical assembling tasks. A few research bunches have assessed this innovation to accomplish improvement in disintegration rates for inadequately water dissolvable medications, to change tranquilize discharge and for transdermal entry of the medication. Fluidized-Hot-Melt-Granulation (FHMG) has gotten extensive consideration as of late with most of these procedures including the showering of liquid folio onto a bed of fluidized particles. Schaefer's gathering has demonstrated that the granule development system is subject to the proportion of cover bead size to powder molecule estimate [25, 26]. This process is beneficial for controlling and modifying the release of drugs with low energy input and its cost is also low. It requires no water or solvent hence water sensitive drug can be easily incorporated into it [22, 23]. Thus water sensitive herbal drugs can be used in this process.

#### 2.8 Foamed Binder Technology:

Foamed binder technology from The Dow Chemical Company can help achieve faster, simpler, and safer wet granulation processing. Using familiar, proven METHOCEL™ polymers, this technology greatly improves binder distribution in the formulation mix and yields a remarkable array of processing advantages. Foam processing also offers better end point determinations and reduced equipment clean-up time. Compared to conventional spray processing, foamed binder technology can shorten processing times by reducing water requirements. It can improve reproducibility through more uniform binder distribution. While foamed binder processing offers many advantages, this technology doesn't demand new equipment or radical changes in processing techniques [20]. This system of granulation uses no spray nozzle but is of better robustness and uniform distribution. It requires less water hence not much wetting, less time, low cost and good for water sensitive formulation [22, 23]. All these factors imply herbal drugs can be used in this process.

#### 2.9 Moisture Activated Dry Granulation:

MADG is an extremely straight forward and imaginative procedure where granules are made with water and a crushing fastener, as in wet granulation, however are not warm dried or processed a this procedure limits endpoint affectability. Moisture Activated Dry Granulation (MADG) was created because of the challenges experienced with wet granulation, as far as endpoint, drying and processing. Wet granulation process endpoint is exceptionally touchy to granulation time and shear and the wet granules should be dried to a limited scope of dampness substance, which is troublesome and the dried granules should be processed, however the processed granules frequently have either an excessive number of fines or such a large number of coarse particles (or both) — an unwanted bimodal dissemination [10, 15]. This system of granulation needs less energy but is of continuous processing hence

Table 1: Features of Herbal Granulation [28–30].

Reason of Granulation	Properties of Granules	Granulation Process Parameters	Evaluation of Granules
Improve flow	Controlled size distribution	Impeller speed	Particle size distribution
Density of materials	Specific granule void-age inter-granular porosity	Chopper speed	Bulk density
Improve content uniformity	Specific bulk density	Water addition rate and method	Angle of repose
Improve compression characteristics	Suitable structural stability and physical strength	Massing time	Tapped density
Control the rate of drug release	Particle size of the medication and excipients	Load of the mixer	Moisture content
Facilitate metering or volume dispensing	Type of folio (solid or frail)		Drug content
Decrease dust generation and reduce employee exposure to drug product	Volume of cover (less or more)		Effervescence time
Improve the appearance of the tablet	Wet massing time (less or more)		Dissolution studies
	Amount of shear connected to disseminate tranquilize, to the fastener and dampness		
	Drying rate (hydrate arrangement and polymorphism)		

requires less processing time. It requires no drying process [20, 22, 23] and all these factors imply herbal drugs can be used in this process.

**2.10 Freeze granulation Technology:**

The credentials for development of this novel alternate technique reserves for Swedish Ceramic Institute (SCI). This type of granulation enables production of dry granules from suspension. Here, the mechanism of granulation includes powder suspension is sprayed into liquid nitrogen and the drops (granules) are instantaneously frozen. Subsequently the granules are dried by sublimation of the ice without any segregation effects as in the case of traditional drying in air [27]. This system of granulation increases granule homogeneity and high yielding with decreased Material waste. Also it controls granule density and ideal for thermolabile drugs. The granules formed are solid granules with no cavities and the granule density is controllable through solid content. It requires mild drying process for preventing oxidation so as to deal with non-oxides and metals. The equipment is easily cleanable and the organic solvents can be recycled [20, 22, 23], all these factors imply herbal drugs can be used in this process.

**3. Ideal Characteristics of Granules Useful in Herbal Granulation**

The perfect qualities of granules incorporate consistency, great stream, and similarity. These are typically practiced through formation of expanded thickness, round shape, tight molecule measure dispersion with adequate fines to fill void spaces between granules, satisfactory dampness (between 12%) granulation fusing bound dampness, and consolidation of fastener, if vital. The adequacy of granulation relies upon the

accompanying properties; regarding this point some information is given in the following Table no 1.

**4. Herbal Tablets**

Natural Medicine is the most historical variety of scientific offerings in the world. Plants had been utilized by way of using way of all societies given that the opening as it used to be a quintessential issue of the sustenance and progress. A work was carried out by Pandey and co-workers upon coaching and contrast of herbal tablet with Pueraria tuberosa water extract with one-of-a-kind excipients verified that the organized pill factors has accurate bodily houses such as disintegration, hardness, and dissolution rate [31]. To adorn natural drug pills equal to the tincture, it is very integral that standardization of focus must be emphasized [32]. Another research was carried out by Avalaskar and co-workers upon method and evaluation of oral herbal granules for allergic reactions the utilization of vasaka species as the herbal drug. The examiner about concluded that natural granules formulated from dried aqueous extract of vasaka have ideal go with the flow residences alongside with that acceptable palatability and the give way interior 20 seconds in the oral cavity barring the use of water and as a stop quit end result it can be drastically regular with the aid of pediatric and geriatric patients [33]. Similarly a lot of one of kind herbal capsules can be used to put mutually herbal granules and from that distinctive integral medicaments such as tablets.

In many countries herbal products including tablets are sold in the market without any mandatory safety or toxicological evaluation. Many of these countries also lack effective measures to regulate manufacturing practices and quality of the product, but these herbal products are freely available to people

without prescription, the sold products' interaction with allopathic or other medicaments in terms of effectiveness and/or safety raise a serious question [34–36]. The alternative system of treatment, especially the herbal medicine has become more popular however here is limited scientific evidence to prove the safety and efficacy of most herbal products [37, 38]. Herbal-derived remedies need a strong assessment of their pharmacological qualities and safety issues due to ever-growing use of natural-derived substances all over the world, but cannot be depended upon just because of tradition or supposed firm beliefs or any assumptions [39]. Poor agriculture, poor harvesting and propagation methods and poor post-harvesting methods along with lack of research and development on product and poor processing with lack of good manufacturing practices make herbal products literally unsafe [36].

### 5. Future Aspects

The flow ability and compressibility of powdered materials can be enhanced by dry or wet granulation in the presence of a binder in dry or solution form, respectively. Wet granulation is by far the most often employed method for granulation [24]. Pharmaceutical industries are growing and have evolutions ahead to make, but also are hazardous to nature. For example in eye, being the most tactile organs of the body, diseases influencing eye makes the excellent hued world into obscured or dim in nature and incendiary sicknesses of the eye aggravation caused because of an eye injury, allergens, chemicals like acids, pesticides or some other hurtful synthetics from assembling forms in industries [40]. It is such incongruity that the enterprises giving such a great amount of item to day by day life to simple, additionally discharges risky issue in the nature.

### 6. Discussion

This review works primarily focus on the novel granulation methods to create granules and every strategy has its own favourable position and problems. Herbal drugs can likewise be fused into granules in order to plan herbal drugs medication tablets and utilizing the techniques above the best granulation technique can be related. Different sorts of excipients are utilized for the herbal tablet formulation and granules present better pharmacokinetics parameters like maintaining consistency of tablets. Enlisted in this paper are few granulation techniques (which are fluid bed granulation, steam granulation, melt granulation technology, moisture activated dry granulation, moist granulation technique, thermal adhesion granulation process, foamed binder technologies, pneumatic dry granulation, freeze granulation technology) in a gist among which one can be standout for herbal drug preparation. It would be a wonderful to find herbal medication tablet in the areas of fatal diseases or even slight disorders as herbal treatment would definitely reduce the cost as well as adverse events of the drug. Through few studies it is understood that herbal drug tablets were previously made and this article is to encourage more researchers to commit to this field of therapeutics.

### 7. Conclusion

Granules are the essential segments amid planning of tablets. In addition granules bestow the better pharmacokinetics parameter, for example, retention of dynamic elements of tablet. So, apart from the environment factor, industries and researchers are working hard for more betterment of pharmaceuticals. Betterment is such a process which shall be ever growing. This article focuses on the current techniques and this way in future a new improvised method can be produced by the combination of two or three granulation techniques all together and herbal tablets can be well prepared through these techniques.

**Conflict of interest:** Nil

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