Loading of Drug-Polymer Matrices in Microreservoirs for Oral Drug Delivery

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For major advances in microfabricated drug delivery systems (DDS), fabrication methods with high throughput using biocompatible polymers are required. Once these DDS are fabricated, loading of drug poses a significant challenge. Here, hot punching is presented as an innovative method for drug loading in microfabricated DDS. The microfabricated DDS are microcontainers fabricated in photoresist SU-8 and biopolymer poly-ε-caprolactone (PCL). Furosemide (F) drug is embedded in poly-ε-caprolactone (PCL) polymer matrix. This F-PCL drug polymer matrix is loaded in SU-8 and PLLA microcontainers using hot punching with >99% yield. Thus, it is illustrated that hot punching allows high-throughput, parallel loading of 3D polymer microcontainers with drug-polymer matrices in a single process step.

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