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(54) Title: PHARMACEUTICAL PREPARATIONS COMPRISING ELECTROCHEMICALLY ACTIVATED HYPOCHLORITE SOLUTIONS

(57) Abstract: The present application refers to pharmaceutical preparations comprising an active ingredient and a carrier wherein the carrier comprises an aqueous electrochemically activated salt solution.



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**Pharmaceutical preparations comprising electrochemically activated
hypochlorite solutions**

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Description

The present application refers to pharmaceutical preparations comprising an active ingredient and a carrier wherein the carrier comprises an aqueous electrochemically activated salt solution.

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Annolyte® or Imecalyte® is a neutral electrochemically activated salt solution, which is a highly effective disinfectant. This activated solution may be obtained by electrolysis of sodium chloride solutions. It can be used in applications like surface disinfection, e.g. of working plates, tables, floors, etc., for cold sterilizing procedures, in agriculture for the elimination of microbial organisms, for wash and laundry applications in swimming pools and even as prophylaxis against athlete's foot. A device for manufacturing neutral electrochemically activated salt solutions is described in EP-A-1 728 768, which is herein incorporated by reference. The Applicant, however, has no knowledge of these solutions as carriers for use in pharmaceutical compositions.

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WO 2004/031077 discloses a device for producing a biocidal solution by electrolytic treatment of an aqueous salt solution. The content of this document is herein incorporated by reference.

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WO 2005/065388 discloses an oxidative reduction potential water solution and its use as disinfectant or for wound treatment. The content of this document is herein incorporated by reference.

Subject-matter of the present invention is the use of aqueous electrochemically activated salt, particularly hypochlorite salt solutions as

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carriers in pharmaceutical preparations. The pharmaceutical preparations preferably comprise at least two separate phases, wherein a first phase comprises the active ingredient and a second phase comprises the carrier.

5 In a first aspect the present invention refers to a pharmaceutical preparation comprising an active ingredient and a carrier, wherein the carrier comprises an aqueous electrochemically activated salt solution having a content of free chlorine between 1 and 500 mg/l and a positive redox potential of between +150 and +1350 mV. The active ingredient is preferably physically separated
10 from the carrier, e.g. the active ingredient is present in a phase separate from the electrochemically activated salt solution. If the active ingredient is, however, sufficiently stable in the presence of the electrochemically activated salt, the pharmaceutical preparation may also consist of a single phase, e.g. an aqueous solution.

15 In a further aspect the present invention refers to the use of an aqueous electrochemically activated salt having a content of free chlorine between 1 and 500 mg/l and a positive redox potential of between +150 and +1350 mV as a carrier for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical preparation.

20 The aqueous electrochemically activated solution has a content of free chlorine (as determined by amperometric measurement (DPD) according to US 4,278,507, which is herein incorporated by reference), which provides sufficient activity, e.g. disinfectant or anti-microbial activity, without detrimentally affecting the stability of the preparation. The content of free
25 chlorine may be adjusted by diluting concentrated electrochemically activated salt solutions in a ratio of e.g. 1 part (vol) salt solution to from 1 to 250 parts (vol) of a physiologically acceptable carrier such as water, buffer or a saline solution. Preferably, the content of free chlorine is between 1 and
30 500 mg/l, particularly between 10 and 400 mg/l and more particularly between 100 and 350 mg/l.

The redox potential of the electrochemically activated salt solution is at least

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between +150 mV, preferably at least +200 mV, more preferably at least +300 mV, even more preferably at least +400 mV, even more preferably at least +500 mV and up to +1330 mV, preferably up to +1200 mV. In certain embodiments, the redox potential is +650 and +950 mV, particularly between
5 +700 and +900 mV. The electrochemically activated salt solution is preferably an alkaline metal hypochlorite solution, e.g. lithium, sodium or potassium hypochlorite solution. More preferably, the solution is a sodium hypochlorite solution.

10 The electrochemically activated salt solution usually has a pH from 2-8. In certain embodiments the pH may be from 2-5, e.g. from 2-4, from 2-3 or from 2-2.8. In other embodiments, the pH may be from 5-8, particularly from 5.9 to 7.6 and more particularly from 6.7 to 7.4.

15 The content of chlorate and/or the content of chlorite is preferably below toxic levels, e.g. less than 10 mg/l. Further, the solution is preferably free from detectable amounts of radicals such as OH radicals and from ozone. Furthermore, the solution is preferably free from heavy metal ions, e.g. from Mo ions.

20 The active ingredient can be any medicament suitable for use in human or veterinary medicine, e.g. selected from hydrophilic active ingredients or from lipophilic agents. In certain embodiments, it is preferred that the active ingredient is selected from lipophilic or amphiphilic ingredients, i.e.
25 ingredients, which have a butanol-water distribution coefficient of at least 0.5, preferably of at least 1. In other embodiments, the active ingredient is a hydrophilic ingredient such as polysaccharide. For example, the active agent may be selected from agents for the treatment of glaucoma, e.g. prostaglandines such as Latanoprost, beta-blockers such as Timolol, agents
30 for lowering increased intraocular pressure such as Dorzolamide, agents for the treatment of the dry eye syndrome (ophthalmic lubricants), such as hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (hypromellose) and hyaluronic acid and other pharmaceutically active agents.

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The pharmaceutical preparation of the present invention is stabilized against microbial degradation. Thus, the preparation is suitable for multi-use applications. The preparation for multi-use applications may even be devoid of conventional preservatives.

The preparation has a stability against microbial degradation of preferably at least 6 months, more preferably at least 12 months even when stored at room temperature. Preferably, the anti-microbial activity of the electrochemically activated salt solution may be determined by measuring the product $c \times t$ of concentration (c) and action time (t) according to a method described by Schleupen, GWF, 1996. Preferably, the value of $c \times t$ is 1 mg/l x min or less, more preferably 0.5 mg/l x min or less in order to obtain reduction rates of 10^6 against microorganisms such as *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* or *Legionella pneumophila*.

The preparation may be for any type of administration, e.g. for local or for systemic administration. For example, the preparation is for ocular, nasal, otic, topical, pulmonal, mucosal, oral or intraperitoneal administration, e.g. for administration by injection. Preferred preparations are for ocular administration, e.g. for the treatment of glaucoma or of the dry eye syndrome.

In one preferred embodiment of the invention, the pharmaceutical preparation comprises a single phase comprising both the active ingredient and the electrochemically activated salt. In this embodiment, the active ingredient is sufficiently stable against degradation in the presence of the chemically activated salt. Suitable examples of active ingredients are polymers selected from polysaccharides and polyvinylpyrrolidone polymers. The polysaccharides may e.g. be selected from cellulose or cellulose derivatives or glucosamino glycanes such as heparin, heparane sulfate and hyaluronic acid. More preferably, the preparation may comprise an ophthalmic lubricant and a carrier, wherein the carrier comprises an aqueous

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electrochemically activated salt solution having a content of free chlorine as described above, i.e. between 1 and 500 mg/l and a redox potential as described above, i.e. between +150 and +1350 mV. The ophthalmic lubricant may be a polymer, e.g. polysaccharide or a polyvinyl-pyrrolidone, for example cellulose or a cellulose derivative such as hydroxypropylmethylcellulose or a glucosamine glycan such as hyaluronic acid. The pharmaceutical preparation is preferably a homogenous aqueous solution. In this embodiment it is preferred that no further active agents and/or no preservatives are present in the preparation. The preparation according to said embodiment can be used for treating and/or preventing the dry eye syndrome.

In another embodiment, the preparation preferably forms at least two separate phases wherein the active agent is present in a first phase and the electrochemically activated salt solution is present in a second phase separate from the first phase. The first phase may be a solid particulate phase, a liquid hydrophobic phase or a solid or liquid phase having a barrier towards the second phase which is an aqueous phase comprising the carrier. Thus, the preparation may be an emulsion, e.g. a microemulsion, or a liposomal preparation, or a microcapsule preparation, or dispersion wherein the active agent may be emulgated or dispersed optionally in the presence of a carrier, e.g. a lipophilic carrier and/or surfactants, within the aqueous carrier. The active agent may thereby be physically separated from the electrochemically activated salt solution.

Especially preferred are microemulsions as described in EP 07 008 347.1, which is herein incorporated by reference.

In addition to the active agent and the electrochemically activated salt solution, the preparation may contain other known ingredients, e.g. buffers, adjuvants, auxiliary agents, fillers, diluents, etc.

The preparation of the invention may be used in human or veterinary

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medicine.

Still a further aspect of the present invention refers to the use of an electrochemically activated salt solution as described above for the cleaning
5 of contact lenses, e.g. glass or plastic contact lenses. In this embodiment, the solution may be devoid of any active agent or may comprise an active agent, e.g. a polymer as described above.

Still a further aspect of the present invention refers to the use of an
10 electrochemically activated salt solution as described above for the rinsing of body cavities, e.g. as a solution for the nasal, ocular or otic application. In this embodiment, the solution may be devoid of any active agent, or may comprise an active agent, e.g. a polymer as described above.

15 Further, the present invention shall be described in more detail by the following examples.

Example 1

20 **Preparation and characterisation of microemulsions with an electrochemically activated salt solution as carrier**

1.1 Composition of tested formulations

25 The following microemulsions comprising 0.0050% latanoprost as an active ingredient were prepared. All percentages refer to weight percent.

	ME1	ME2	ME3	ME4
30 Latanoprost [%]	0.0050	0.0050	0.0050	0.0050
Ethyl oleate [%]	4.38	4.38	4.01	3.02
Tween 80 [%]	4.52	4.53	4.01	3.02
35 Tween 20 [%]	2.21	2.21	2.01	1.46

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	Water [%]	75.90	85.55	66.96	50.01
	Sodium Hyaluronate [%]	0.025	0.025	0.020	0.020
5	Sodium Citrate [%]	0.90	0.89	0.76	0.58
	Sorbitol [%]	1.92	1.82	1.61	1.18
10	Calcium Citrate [%]	0.010	0.010	0.0041	0.0032
	IMECALYTE® [%]	10.11	0.56	20.61	40.7
	Redox Potential [mV]	244	188	325	398

15 1.2 Stability of latanoprost in IMECALYTE® microemulsions

The stability of latanoprost in microemulsions comprising an electrochemically activated salt solution (IMECALYTE®) as a carrier was determined by HPLC. As comparison, the stability of latanoprost in IMECALYTE® solutions was tested.

The amount of latanoprost (µg/ml) after storage at room temperature for the indicated time periods was as follows:

Room temperature	ME1 10% IMECALYTE®	ME2 0.5% IMECALYTE®	Pure solution 0.5% IMECALYTE®	Pure solution 10% IMECALYTE®
t=0	60.3	60.2	58.8	58.8
t=5 min				2.1
t= 30 min				n.d.
t= 2 weeks	60.2	60.3	48.2	-
t=4 weeks	60.4	60.3	35.4	-
t=12 weeks	59.6	60.2	17.4	-

25

The results show that latanoprost is protected from degradation induced by IMECALYTE® in microemulsion formulations ME1 and ME2. In contrast thereto, latanoprost is unstable in IMECALYTE® solutions. In 0.5% IMECALYTE®, significant degradation is detected after two weeks. In a 10%

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IMECALYTE® solution, latanoprost is completely degraded within a few minutes.

1.3 Antimicrobial activity

5

The antimicrobial growth activity of latanoprost containing microemulsions ME1-4 against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* was tested. The starting concentration of *S. aureus* was 2.82×10^5 /ml for ME1 and ME2 and 1.7×10^6 /ml for ME3 and ME4. The starting concentration of *P.*
10 *aeruginosa* was 2.15×10^6 /ml for ME1 and ME2, 3.18×10^5 /ml for ME3 and 3.18×10^6 /ml for ME4.

After 14 days, no viable *S. aureus* and *P. aeruginosa* microorganisms (concentration <10/ml) could be detected in ME1, ME3 and ME4. In ME2,
15 after 28 days, no *S. aureus* organisms were detectable. Growth of *P. aeruginosa*, however, could not be significantly inhibited in ME1.

The result of Example 1 shows that an active ingredient such as latanoprost is protected from degradation in IMECALYTE®-based microemulsions.
20 Further, these microemulsions exhibit significant antibacterial properties.

Example 2

Preparation and characterisation of IMECALYTE®-based hyaluronic 25 acid formulations

The following hyaluronic acid formulations were prepared. All percentages are weight percentages.

	HS1	HS2
Sodium Hyaluronate [%]	0.30	0.30
Sodium citrate [%]	0.85	0.96
Sorbitol [%]	1.78	1.99

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Water for inject. [%]	86.90	96.25
IMECALYTE® [%]	10.17	0.50
Redox Potential [mV]	367	181

It was tested if IMECALYTE® has a relevant effect on formulation properties such as drop erogation. The contact angle of erogated drops on a reference paper surface was measured immediately after manufacture of formulations HS1 and HS2 and after storage for three months at room temperature. As
5 comparison, a hyaluronic acid formulation corresponding to HS2 (however without IMECALYTE®) was used.

The following results were obtained:

10

	Contact angle t=0	Contact angle t=3 months
HS2 no IMECALYTE®	120.7° +/- 6.3	121.5° +/- 4.8
HS2	118.8° +/- 3.3	119.6° +/- 5.2
HS1	116..9° +/- 5.6	118.4° +/- 5.6

Further, the spreading of erogated drops of different hyaluronic acid formulations immediately after manufacture (t=0) and after storage for three months at room temperature (t= 3 months) was determined.

15

	DROP DIAMETER 2R mm		
	t=5 sec	t=30 sec	t=300 sec
<i>at t=0</i>			
HS2 no IMECAL.	1.8	1.7	2.0
HS2	1.4	1.5	1.5
HS1	1.5	1.4	1.4
<i>at t=3 months at RT</i>			
HS2 no IMECAL.	1.9	2.0	1.9
HS2	1.5	1.4	1.5
HS1	1.6	1.5	1.5

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The above results show that IMECALYTE® has no relevant effect on the drop erogation characteristics of hyaluronic acid formulations. The quality of erogation and drop formation of the IMECALYTE®-based solutions was very good.

Further, the antimicrobial activity of IMECALYTE®-based hyaluronic acid formulations HS1 and HS2 was determined. As test organisms, *S. aureus* (starting concentration $7.27 \times 10^5/\text{ml}$) and *P. aeruginosa* (starting concentration $1.29 \times 10^6/\text{ml}$) were used. With solution HS1, the concentration of viable *P. aeruginosa* was below $10^2/\text{ml}$ after 6 h. With *S. aureus*, no viable microbes could be determined after 14 days. With the formulation HS2, viable *P. aeruginosa* organisms could not be detected after 7 days, Viable *S. aureus* organisms could not be detected after 14 days.

The above results show that IMECALYTE®-based hyaluronic acid formulations are both stable and antimicrobially active.

Throughout this specification and the claims which follow, unless the context requires otherwise, the word "comprise", and variations such as "comprises" and "comprising", will be understood to imply the inclusion of a stated integer or step or group of integers or steps but not the exclusion of any other integer or step or group of integers or steps.

The reference in this specification to any prior publication (or information derived from it), or to any matter which is known, is not, and should not be taken as an acknowledgment or admission or any form of suggestion that that prior publication (or information derived from it) or known matter forms part of the common general knowledge in the field of endeavour to which this specification relates.

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THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Pharmaceutical preparation comprising an active agent and a carrier, wherein the carrier comprises an aqueous electrochemically activated salt solution having a content of free chlorine between 1 and 500 mg/l and a redox potential of between +150 and +1350 mV, wherein the active agent is present in a phase separate from the electrochemically activated salt solution.
2. The preparation of claim 1, wherein the content of free chlorine is between 10 and 400 mg/l, particularly between 100 and 350 mg/l.
3. The preparation of claim 1 or 2, wherein the redox potential is between +650 and +950 mV, particularly between +700 and +900 mV.
4. The preparation of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the electrochemically activated salt solution is a sodium hypochlorite solution.
5. The preparation of any one of claims 1-4, wherein the hypochlorite solution has a pH from 2 to 8.
6. The preparation of any one of claims 1-5, wherein the content of chlorate and/or the content of chlorite is less than 10 mg/l.
7. The preparation of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the active agent is selected from prostaglandines, beta-blockers, agents for lowering increased intraocular pressure, or ophthalmic lubricants.
8. The preparation of any one of claims 1-7, which is for multi-use application.
9. The preparation of any one of claims 1-8, which is for local, systemic, ocular, nasal, otic, topical, pulmonal, mucosal, oral or intraperitoneal administration.
10. The preparation of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the active agent is present in a

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solid particulate phase, a liquid hydrophobic phase or a solid or liquid phase having a barrier towards the electrochemically activated salt solution.

11. The preparation of any one of claims 1-10, which is an emulsion or dispersion.
12. Use of an aqueous electrochemically activated salt solution having a content of free chlorine between 1 and 500 mg/l and a redox potential of between +150 and +1350 mV as a carrier for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical preparation in human medicine.
13. Use of an electrochemically activated salt solution for the cleaning of contact lenses.
14. Use of an electrochemically activated salt solution for the rinsing of body cavities for nasal, ocular or otic application.
15. Pharmaceutical preparation comprising an ophthalmic lubricant and a carrier wherein the carrier comprises an aqueous electrochemically activated salt solution having a content of free chlorine between 1 and 500 mg/l and a redox potential of between +150 and +1350 mV.
16. The preparation of claim 15, wherein the preparation is an aqueous solution.
17. The preparation of claim 15 or 16, wherein the ophthalmic lubricant is a polysaccharide or polyvinyl pyrrolidone polymer such as cellulose, a cellulose derivative, e.g., hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, or a glucosamine glycane, e.g., hyaluronic acid.
18. The preparation of any one of claims 15-17, wherein no further active agents and/or preservatives are present.
19. Use of the preparation of any one of claims 15-18 for treating and/or preventing the dry eye syndrome.

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20. Pharmaceutical preparation comprising an active ingredient and a carrier, wherein the carrier comprises an aqueous electrochemically activated salt solution having a content of free chlorine between 1 and 500 mg/l and a redox potential of between +150 and +1350 mV, and the active ingredient is a polysaccharide or a polyvinylpyrrolidone polymer such as cellulose, a cellulose derivative, or a glucosamine glycan, e.g., hyaluronic acid.
21. Pharmaceutical preparation according to claim 1, 15 or 20 or a use according to claim 12, 13 or 14 substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the Examples.