

Evaluation of the Effect of Biofield Energy Treatment on Physicochemical and Thermal Properties of Hydroxypropyl β -Cyclodextrin

Keywords: Hydroxypropyl β -Cyclodextrin; The Trivedi Effect[®]; Energy Healing Treatment; Complementary and Alternative Medicine; PXRD; PSA; DSC; TGA/DTG

Abstract

Hydroxypropyl β -Cyclodextrin (HPBCD) has many applications in the foods, nutraceuticals, and pharmaceuticals industries. The primary objective of this study was to evaluate the influence of the Trivedi Effect[®] on the physicochemical and thermal properties of HPBCD using modern analytical techniques. The HPBCD test sample was divided into two parts. One part did not receive the Biofield Energy Treatment and was called as a control sample, whereas, the other part received the Biofield Energy Treatment remotely by a renowned Biofield Energy Healer, Alice Branton and was called as a treated sample. The particle size values of the treated HPBCD were decreased by 5.32%, 1.51%, 0.36%, and 1.12% at d_{10} , d_{50} , d_{90} , and D (4,3), respectively compared with the control sample. Thus, the surface area of the treated HPBCD was significantly increased by 6.67% compared with the control sample. The evaporation and melting temperature of the treated HPBCD were increased by 4.76% and 1.92%, respectively compared with the control sample. However, the latent heat of evaporation and latent heat of fusion of the treated HPBCD were significantly decreased by 7.95% and 33.85%, respectively compared to the control sample. The total weight loss in the treated HPBCD sample was decreased by 1.83% compared with the control sample. But, the residue amount was 40.55% more in the case of the treated HPBCD compared to the control sample. The Trivedi Effect[®]-Consciousness Energy Healing Treatment introduced a new form of HPBCD which may show better stability, solubility, dissolution rate, absorption, and bioavailability compared to the control sample. The treated would be more useful for the improvement of solubility of the lipophilic drug, stabilize volatile and unstable compounds, preparation of cholesterol free food products, weight loss supplements, and other anti-obesity medication, and also for the industry using it as a raw material.

Introduction

Hydroxypropyl β -cyclodextrin (HPBCD) is the cycloamylose with 7-membered sugar ring molecule in the structure. Cyclodextrins are hydrophilic outside and hydrophobic inside; they can form complexes with hydrophobic (lipophilic) compounds. The unique structures of cyclodextrin owe their stability to intramolecular hydrogen bonding between the hydroxyl groups of neighbouring glucopyranose units. Therefore they can improve the solubility, bioavailability and membrane permeability of such compounds [1,2]. In the food, pharmaceutical, and nutraceutical industries, HPBCD is also employed for the preparation of cholesterol-free products, alcohol powder, weight loss supplements, aerosols, and other anti-obesity medications. Mainly due to its surface-active properties, HPBCD can also be used as an emulsifying fiber [3-6]. It can stabilize



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volatile or unstable compounds, reduce the unwanted tastes and odor, intensify color, improve light stability and increase water solubility [3,7]. HPBCD used to produce chiral HPLC columns for the chiral enantiomers separation, and are also the core ingredient in air freshener (*i.e.*, Febreze) which “trap” odor, thereby reduce the odor [2,8]. The solubility of natural cyclodextrins is very poor; even the chemically modified cyclodextrins can only achieve a 50% (w/v) concentration in water [1].

The Trivedi Effect[®] (Biofield Energy Healing Treatment) has the significant impact on the physicochemical properties (particle size, surface area, crystallite size, solubility, thermal properties, etc.) of the various objects [9-11]. The Trivedi Effect[®] is natural and only scientifically proven phenomenon in which a person can harness this inherently intelligent energy from the Universe and transmit it anywhere on the planet through the possible mediation of neutrinos [12]. A unique para-dimensional electromagnetic field exists around the body of every living organism, which generated from the uninterrupted movement of the electrically charged particles (ions, cells, etc.) inside the body known as the “Biofield” (A Putative Energy Field). All over the world the Biofield based Energy Healing Therapies have been accepted and reported in many scientific journals with significant outcomes against various disease conditions [13,14]. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) recommend and included the Energy therapy under the Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) category along with naturopathy, homeopathy, traditional Chinese herbs and medicines, Ayurvedic medicine, Tai Chi, Qi Gong, Reiki, healing touch, chiropractic/osteopathic manipulation, etc., which has been accepted by the most of the U.S. population [15,16]. The Trivedi Effect[®] Consciousness Energy Healing Treatment (Biofield Energy Healing Treatment) also reported their significant outcomes in the different field of sciences which are Biotechnology [17,18], Microbiology [19,20], Agriculture [21,22], Material Science [23,24], Organic Chemistry [25,26], Nutraceutical/Pharmaceutical Sciences [27-29], and medical science [30,31]. Therefore, the current study was designed to evaluate the influence of the Trivedi Effect[®] Consciousness Energy Healing

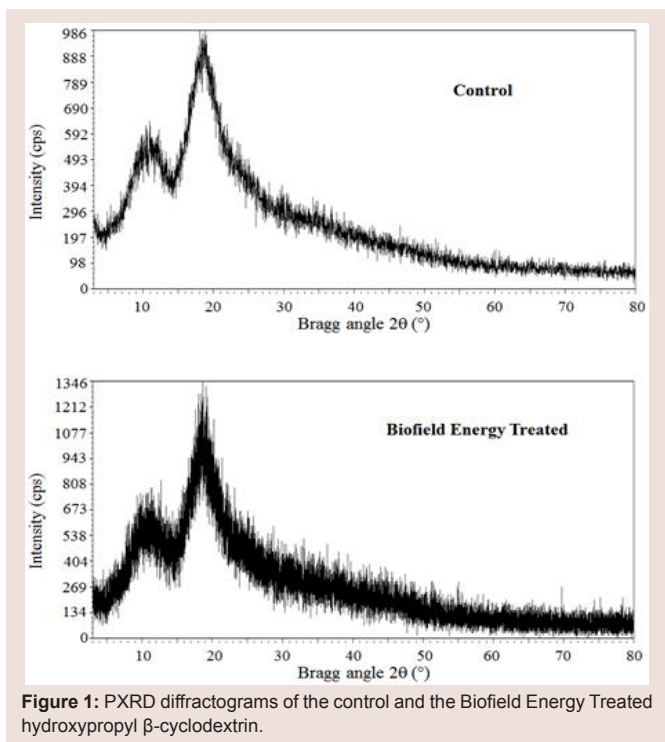


Figure 1: PXR D diffractograms of the control and the Biofield Energy Treated hydroxypropyl β -cyclodextrin.

Table 1: Particle size distribution of the control and the Biofield Energy Treated hydroxypropyl β -cyclodextrin.

Parameter	d_{10} (μm)	d_{50} (μm)	d_{90} (μm)	D(4,3) (μm)	SSA (m^2/g)
Control	23.1	77.72	163.02	86.47	0.15
Biofield Treated	21.87	76.55	162.44	85.5	0.16
Percent change* (%)	-5.32	-1.51	-0.36	-1.12	6.67

Table 2: DSC data for both control and the Biofield Energy Treated samples of hydroxypropyl β -cyclodextrin.

Sample	Melting point ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)		$\Delta\text{H}(\text{J/g})$	
	1 st Peak	2 nd Peak	Evaporation	Melting
Control Sample	110.02	317.25	115.7	35.6
Biofield Energy Treated	115.26	323.35	106.5	23.55
% Change*	4.76	1.92	-7.95	-33.85

Treatment on HPBCD using Powder X-ray Diffraction (PXR D), Particle Size Analysis (PSA), Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) analytical techniques, and Thermo Gravimetric Analysis (TGA)/Differential Thermo Gravimetric Analysis (DTG).

Materials and Methods

Chemicals and reagents

The hydroxypropyl β -cyclodextrin (HPBCD) powder was purchased from Tokyo Chemical Industry Co. Ltd, Japan. Remaining chemicals used during the experiments were of analytical grade available in India.

Consciousness energy healing treatment strategies

The test sample (*i.e.*, HPBCD) powder was divided into two parts. One part of the test sample was received the Trivedi Effect[®] Consciousness Energy Healing Treatment remotely under standard

laboratory conditions for 3 minutes and known as the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD sample. The Biofield Treatment was provided through the healer’s unique energy transmission process by the renowned Biofield Energy Healer, Alice Branton, USA, to the HPBCD sample. Subsequently, the other part of the test sample was considered as a control/untreated sample (Biofield Energy Treatment was not provided). The control sample was later treated with a “sham” healer. The “sham” healers did not have any understanding about the Biofield Energy Treatment. After the treatment, the Biofield Energy Treated and untreated HPBCD samples were kept in sealed conditions and characterized using modern analytical techniques.

Characterization

The PXR D, PSA, DSC, and TGA analysis of HPBCD were performed. The PXR D analysis of HPBCD powder sample was performed with the help of Rigaku MiniFlex-II Desktop X-ray diffractometer (Japan) [32,33]. The average size of crystallites was calculated from PXR D data using the Scherrer’s equation (1)

$$G = k\lambda/\beta\cos\theta \quad (1)$$

Where G is the crystallite size in nm, k is the equipment constant (0.94), λ is the radiation wavelength (0.154056 nm for $K\alpha_1$ emission), β is the full-width at half maximum, and θ is the Bragg angle [34].

Similarly, the PSA (particle sizes and surface area) was performed using Malvern Mastersizer 2000, from the UK with a detection range between 0.01 μm to 3000 μm using the wet method. The DSC analysis of HPBCD was performed with the help of DSC Q200, TA instruments. The TGA/DTG thermograms of HPBCD were obtained with the help of TGA Q50 TA instruments [35,36].

The % change in particle size, specific surface area (SSA), peak intensity, crystallite size, melting point, latent heat, weight loss and the maximum thermal degradation temperature (T_{max}) of the Biofield Energy Treated sample was calculated compared with the control sample using the following equation 2:

$$\% \text{ change} = \frac{[\text{Treated-Control}]}{\text{Control}} \times 100 \quad (2)$$

Results and Discussion

Powder X-ray diffraction (PXR D) analysis

PXR D study of the control and the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD was done to determine the crystalline pattern of the samples. The PXR D experimental results of the control and the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD samples did not show sharp and intense peaks in the respective diffractograms (Figure 1). Thus, it was concluded that both samples were amorphous in nature and the Biofield Energy Treatment might not affect the crystallinity and pattern of the HPBCD.

Particle size analysis (PSA)

The PSA analysis of both the control and the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD were performed, and the results are presented in (Table 1). The particle size values of the control sample at d_{10} , d_{50} , d_{90} , and D (4,3) were 23.10 μm , 77.72 μm , 163.02 μm , and 86.47 μm , respectively. Similarly, the particle sizes of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD at d_{10} , d_{50} , d_{90} , and D (4,3) were 21.87 μm , 76.55

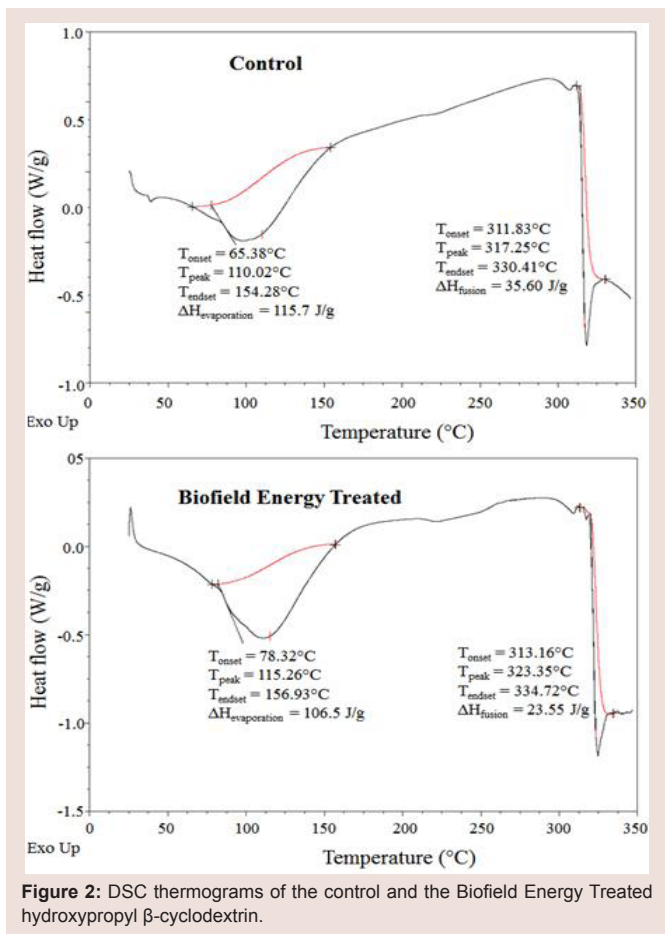


Figure 2: DSC thermograms of the control and the Biofield Energy Treated hydroxypropyl β -cyclodextrin.

μm , 162.44 μm , and 85.5 μm , respectively. Therefore, the particle size values in the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD was decreased by 5.32%, 1.51%, 0.36%, and 1.12% at d_{10} , d_{50} , d_{90} , and $D(4,3)$, respectively compared to the control sample (Table 1). The specific surface area of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD (0.16 m^2/g) was increased by 6.67% compared with the control sample (0.15 m^2/g). Hence, the Consciousness Energy Healing Treatment might act as an external force to breakdown the larger HPBCD particles to the smaller particle, hence increased the surface area. The particle size, shape, and surface area of a particle have the significant impact on the solubility, dissolution rate, absorption, bioavailability, and even the therapeutic efficacy if it is a drug [37-39]. Literally, the solubility of HPBCD is 50% (w/v) concentration in water [1]. Due to reduced particle size and increased surface area, the surface-active properties of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD would be very high. The improved quality of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD would be more useful for the improvement of solubility of the lipophilic drug, stabilize volatile and unstable compounds, preparation of cholesterol free food products, weight loss supplements and other anti-obesity medication [3-7] and for the industry using it as a raw material.

Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) analysis

The thermal analysis of both control and the Biofield Energy Treated samples has been performed to evaluate the impact of the Trivedi Effect[®] on the thermal behavior of HPBCD. The thermograms of the control HPBCD sample showed two sharp endothermic peaks

at 110.02 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 317.25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (Figure 2). Similarly, the thermograms of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD sample showed the sharp endothermic peaks at 115.26 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 323.35 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (Figure 2). The 1st endothermic peak was due to the evaporation of water molecule from the sample, whereas the 2nd large endothermic pick was due to the melting of HPBCD. The experimental results were well correlated with the reported literature [40]. The evaporation and melting temperature of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD were increased by 4.76% and 1.92%, respectively compared with the control sample (Table 2). However, the latent heat of evaporation ($\Delta H_{\text{evaporation}}$) and latent heat of fusion (ΔH_{fusion}) of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD were significantly decreased by 7.95% and 33.85%, respectively compared with the control sample (Table 2). Although the heat energy required by the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD was less, but the evaporation and melting point was increased compared to the control sample. Therefore, it was concluded that the thermal stability of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD was increased compared to the control sample. Any change in the molecular chains and the crystal structure influence the latent heat of fusion [41]. Therefore, Alice Branton’s Biofield Energy Treatment could have disturbed the molecular chains and crystal structure of HPBCD which lead to the elevation of the melting point of the treated sample compared to the control sample.

Thermal gravimetric analysis (TGA)/ differential thermogravimetric analysis (DTG)

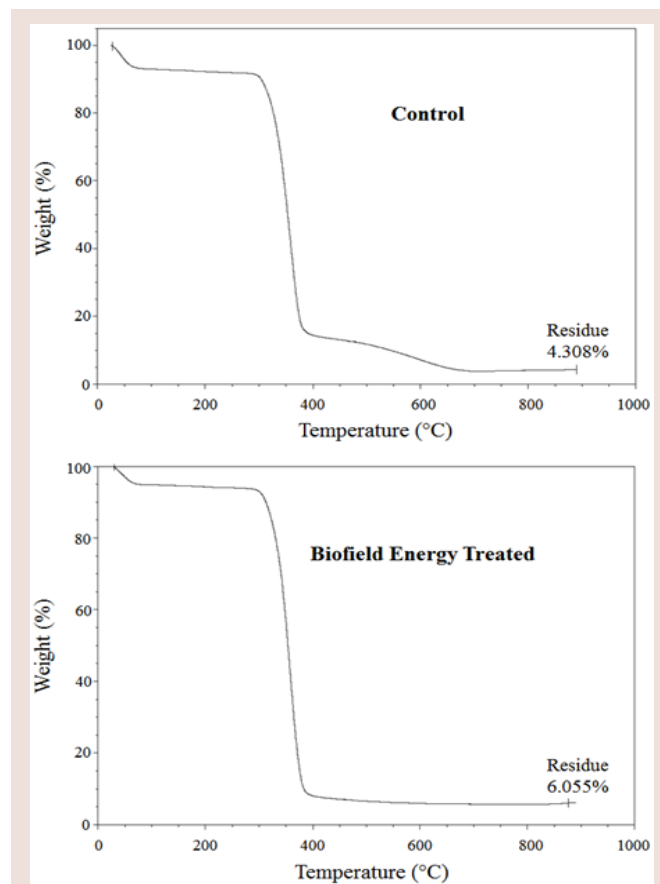


Figure 3: TGA thermograms of the control and the Biofield Energy Treated hydroxypropyl β -cyclodextrin.

Table 3: TGA/DTG data of the control and Biofield Energy Treated samples of hydroxypropyl β -cyclodextrin.

Sample	TGA		DTG
	Total weight loss (%)	Residue %	T _{max} (°C)
Control	95.69	4.31	357.49
Biofield Energy Treated	93.95	6.06	357.23
% Change*	-1.83	40.55	-0.07

*denotes the percentage change of the Biofield Energy Treated sample with respect to the control sample,
T_{max} = the temperature at which maximum weight loss takes place in TG or peak temperature in DTG.

The TGA/DTG thermal analysis was performed, and the thermograms of the control and the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD samples are displayed in (Figures 3 and 4). The thermograms showed two steps of the degradation process. The total weight loss in the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD (93.95%) was decreased by 1.83% compared with the control sample (95.69%). Therefore, the residue amount was 40.55% more in the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD compared to the control sample (Table 3).

Similarly, the DTG thermograms of the control and the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD showed one peak (Figure 4). The Maximum Thermal Degradation Temperature (T_{max}) of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD were almost the same compared with the control sample. Overall, TGA/DTG thermal analysis revealed that the thermal stability of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD was increased compared with the control sample.

Conclusion

The Trivedi Effect® Consciousness Energy Healing Treatment has shown a significant impact on the particle size, surface area, and thermal properties of hydroxypropyl β -cyclodextrin. The particle size values of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD were decreased compared to the control sample. The specific surface area of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD was significantly increased by 6.67% compared with the control sample. Due to reduced particle size and increased surface area, the surface-active properties of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD would be very high. The evaporation and melting temperature of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD were increased compared with the control sample. However, the $\Delta H_{\text{evaporation}}$ and ΔH_{fusion} of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD were significantly decreased by 7.95% and 33.85%, respectively compared with the control sample. The total weight loss in the Biofield Energy Treated sample was decreased compared with the control sample. However, the residue amount was 40.55% more in case of the Biofield Energy Treated HPBCD compared to the control sample. It can be concluded that the Trivedi Effect® Consciousness Energy Healing Treatment introduced a new polymorphic form of HPBCD which may show better stability, solubility, dissolution rate, absorption, and bioavailability. This quality would be more useful for the improvement of solubility of the lipophilic drug, stabilize volatile and unstable compounds, preparation of cholesterol free food products, weight loss supplements, and other anti-obesity medication and also for the industry using it as a raw material.

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