

# ENVISIONING NEW CONCEPTS FOR 3D PRINTING AND SOLUBILITY ENHANCEMENT: TABLET MANUFACTURING OF LOADED PARTECK SLC® THROUGH Z-FORM BINDER JETTING TECHNOLOGY

aaps  
PharmSci 360

Add your Assigned Poster Number by replacing this text

Nadine Gottschalk<sup>1</sup>, Thomas Kipping<sup>1</sup>, Erik Peiter<sup>1</sup>, Siddhant Palekar<sup>2</sup>, Michelle Schilling<sup>2</sup>, Sarah Erickson<sup>2,3</sup>

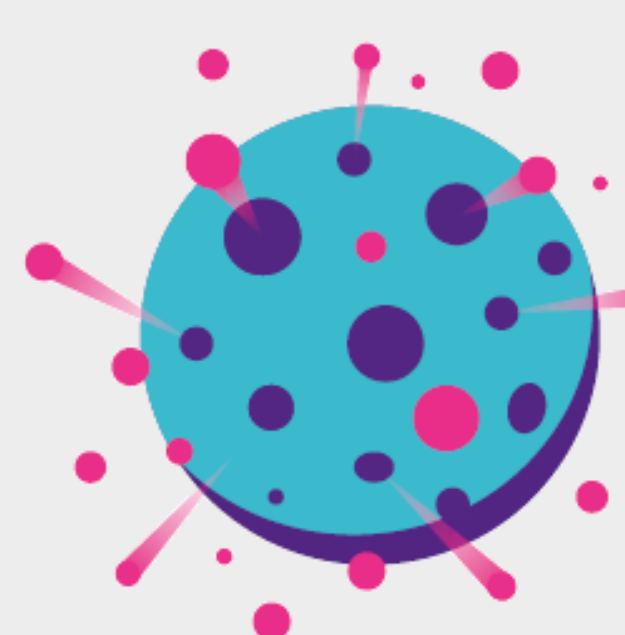
<sup>1</sup> Merck Life Science KGaA, Frankfurter Straße 250, 64293 Darmstadt, Germany

<sup>2</sup> Aprecia Pharmaceuticals, LLC, 10901 Kenwood Road, Blue Ash, OH 45242, USA

<sup>3</sup> John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University, Boston, MA 02134 USA

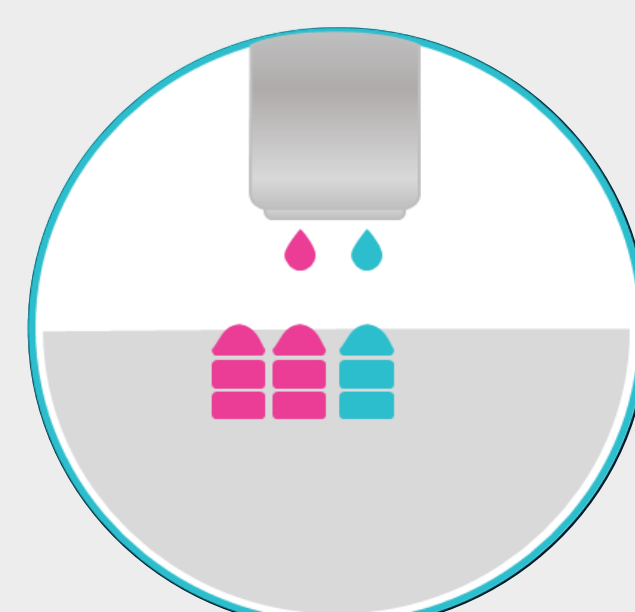
CONTACT INFORMATION: ERIK.PEITER@MERCKGROUP.COM

## PURPOSE



Majority of drug substances in development are poorly soluble: **Solubility enhancement through mesoporous silica**: Encapsulation and stabilization in the nanosized silica pores

Traditional drug product development is often time-consuming and costly → 3D printing **binder jetting** (BJ) provides the benefits of **rapid manufacturing and scalable production** (1)



The BJ technology **Z-Form Flex** deposits powder into preformed blister cavities and forms the dosage forms **layer-by-layer directly in their primary packaging**

## OBJECTIVE(S)

- Combine the use of the **mesoporous silica Parateck® SLC** loaded with a poorly soluble drug (carbamazepine, CBZ) with binder jetting technology **Z-Form Flex** to accelerate development and improve drug delivery

## CONCLUSION(S)



Parateck® SLC loaded with CBZ can be **successfully used** in BJ technology Z-Form Flex



**Suitable tablet properties**: Amorphous API, uniform drug content, rapid dissolution profile



Combining both technologies could **expedite the development** of poorly soluble drugs

## RESULT(S)

### Tablet properties and SEM-EDS

- Tablets showed a **consistent appearance** upon removal from the blisters (Fig. 1a)
- Average mass of 806.2 mg (RSD 5.6%) **CBZ was evenly distributed** in the tablet being visualized through SEM-EDS (Figure 1b)

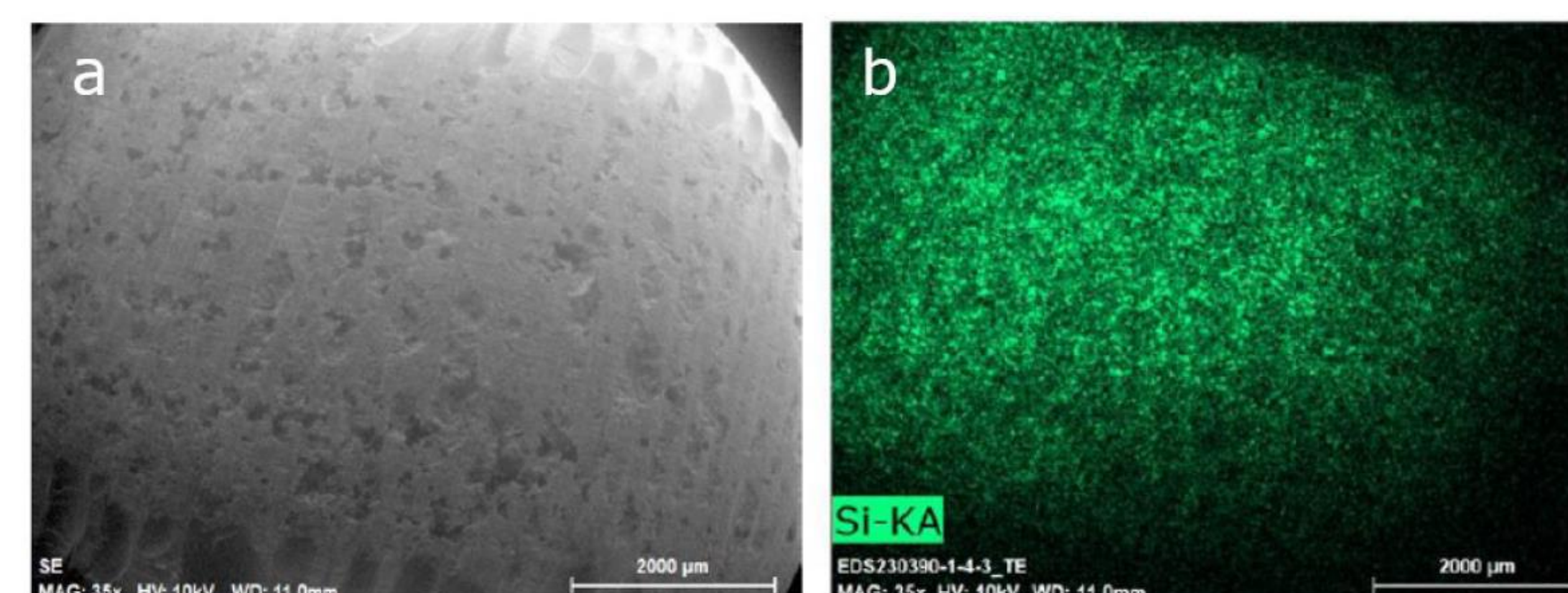


Figure 1: SEM image of tablet cross-section (a), EDS image of tablet cross-section showing distribution of silica (b)

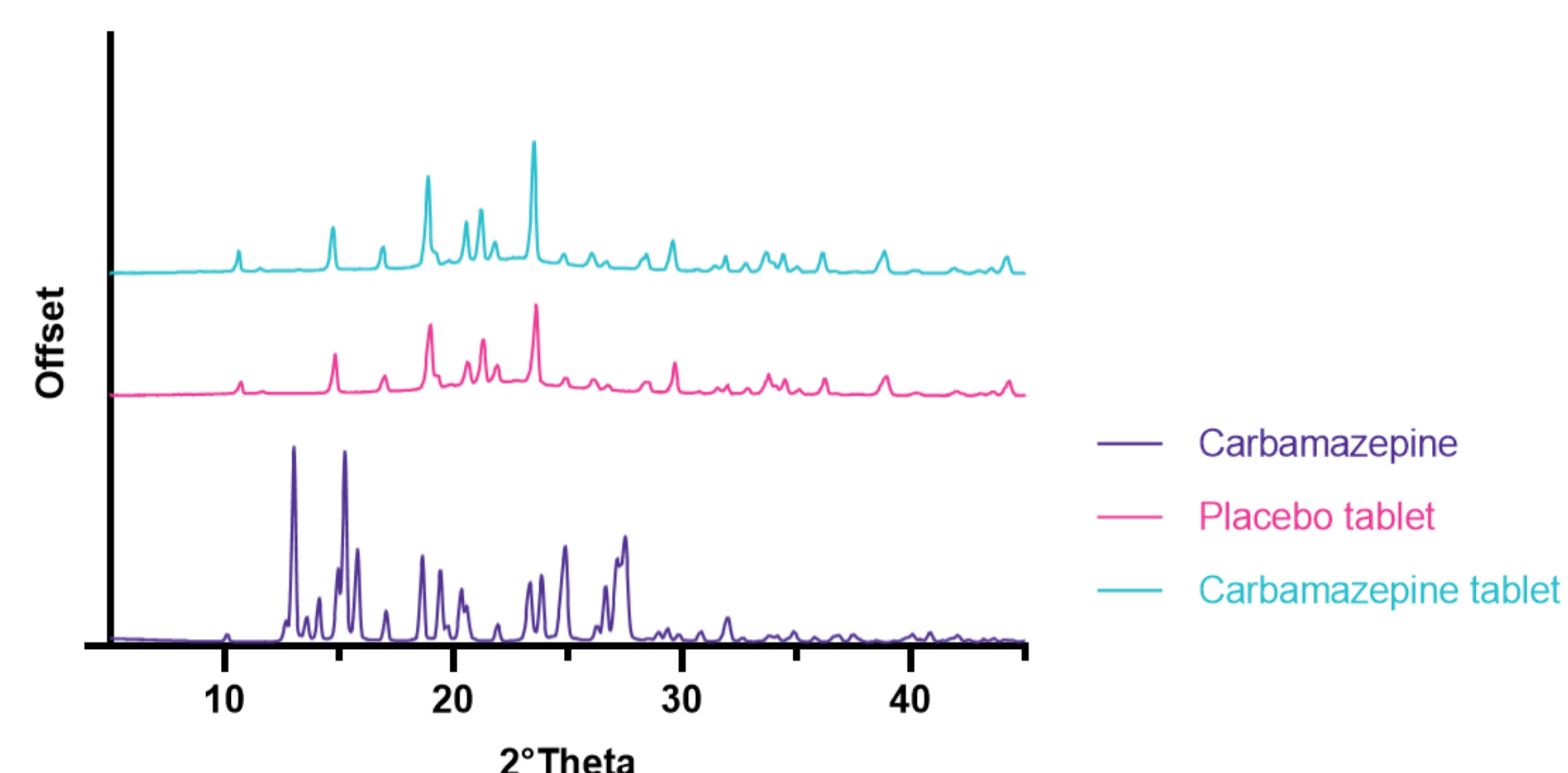


Figure 2: XRPD patterns of CBZ, placebo tablet and CBZ tablet

### Solid state characterization

- CBZ was amorphous** as no diffraction peaks related to CBZ were visible (Fig. 2).
- The peaks observed in the diffractogram were associated with the excipients in the tablet, as demonstrated by the comparison with a placebo tablet

### Content and dissolution

- Tablets showed a **uniform drug content** of 5.0% (RSD 1.6%)
- The 3D printed tablets exhibited a **rapid release** with over 85% of CBZ being dissolved within 5 min

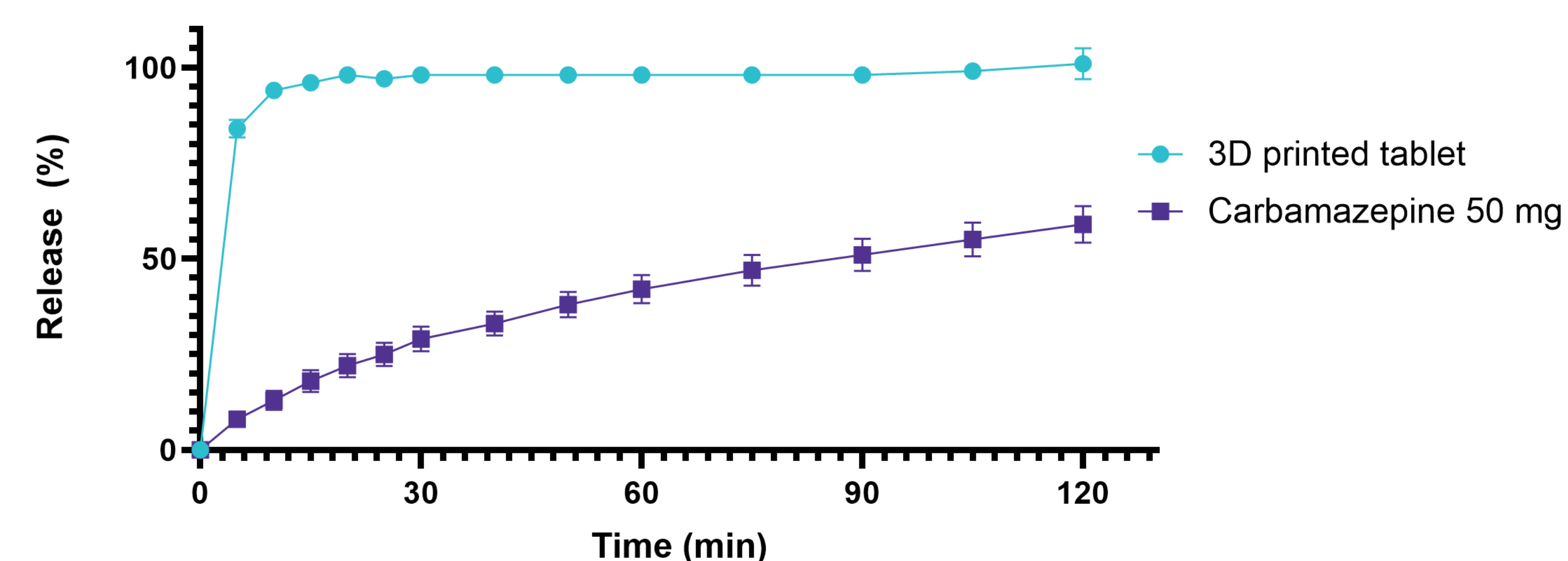
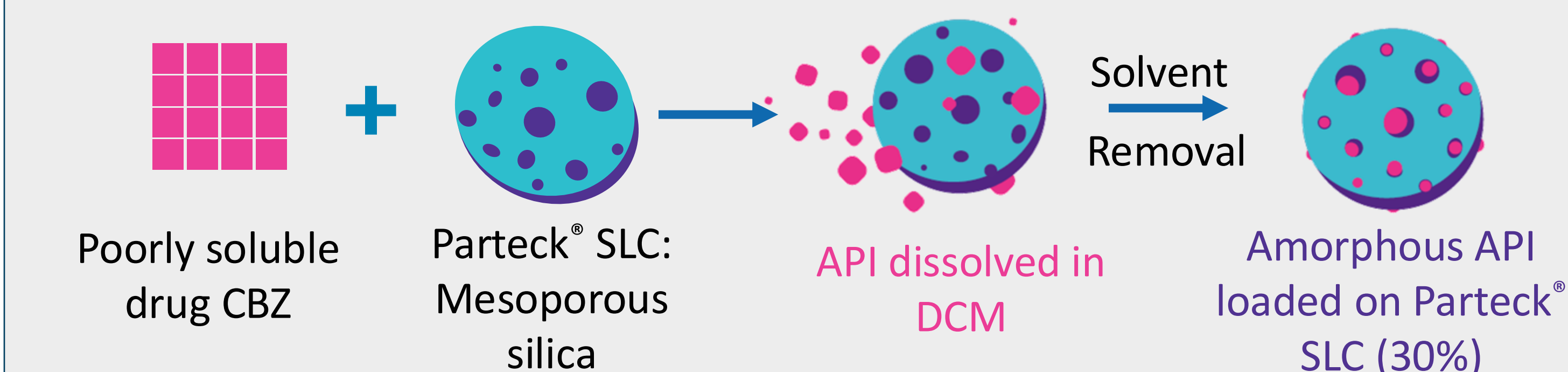


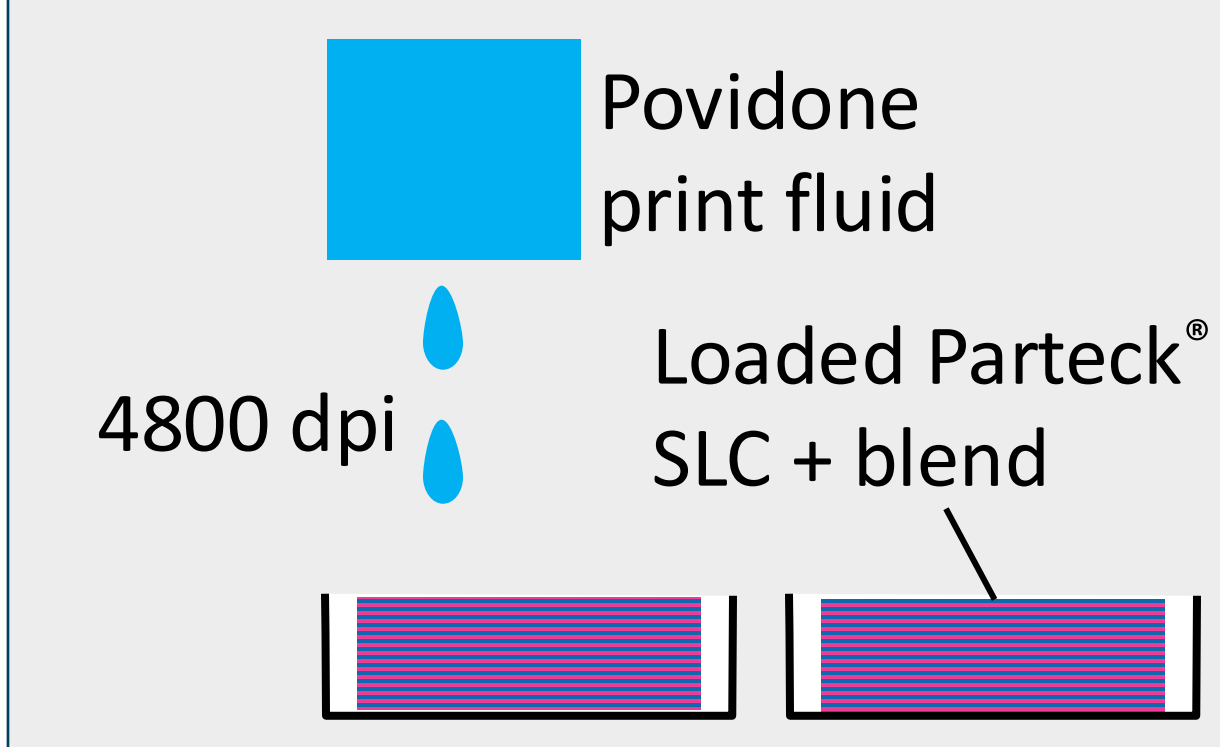
Figure 3: Dissolution profile SLC preloaded CBZ 3D printed tablets vs. pure CBZ

## METHOD(S)

### Silica loading



### In-blister printing (Z-Form)



Ingredients	Composition (%w/w)
Parateck® SLC (pure and loaded)	26.00
Mannitol	57.24
Microcrystalline Cellulose	4.89
Corn Starch	2.09
Colloidal Silicon Dioxide	0.70
Povidone	9.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### Analytics

**XRPD**: Miniflex (Rigaku, Japan), D/teX Ultra 2 detector, copper anode at 40 kV and 15 mA, step size 0.02° and 0.8°/min, range 3 – 50°  
**SEM-EDS**: Tescan VEGA3 XMU (TESCAN, Germany), wolfram cathode, acceleration voltage 0.2 kV to 30 kV; EDS: Quantax (Bruker, USA)  
**Content**: Tablets were dissolved in 250 mL of methanol. HPLC (Agilent 1260 Infinity, USA), Ascentis Express ES-Cyano column (10 cm x 4.6 mm I.D., 2.7 µm), 30 °C, flow 1.4 mL  
**Dissolution**: AT7 (Sotax Switzerland) with paddles in 500 mL of water, 75 rpm. Absorption measured at 288 nm

## FUNDING/GRANT/ENCORE/REFERENCE OR OTHER USE

- Tracy, T., Wu, L., Liu, X., Cheng, S., Li, X., 2023. 3D printing: Innovative solutions for patients and pharmaceutical industry. Int. J. Pharm. 631, 122480.
- Ting, J.M., Porter, W.W., Mecca, J.M., Bates, F.S., Reineke, T.M., 2018. Advances in polymer design for enhancing oral drug solubility and delivery. Bioconjug. Chem. 29, 939–952

APRECIA  
THE 3DP PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY

MILLIPORE  
SIGMA