

**DISSOLUTION BEHAVIOURS OF SOME COMMERCIAL HERBAL DRUGS
AND THEIR PREPARATIONS CONTENT**

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The aim of this work was to investigate the *in vitro* bioavailability of active principles or marker constituents of different HDs (Passiflora, Senna, Ginkgo) and some their commercial dried extracts. Both HDs and extracts were evaluated as home-made hard gelatine capsules.

All commercial samples were a gift from Aboca s.s (Italy). A paddle dissolutor according to Eur. Pharm. was used. The analysis of constituents was performed by UV-Vis spectroscopy using appropriate 1 throughout 1 h.

All the pharmaceutically equivalent HDPs showed different dissolution behaviours. Flavonoids of all Ginkgo preparations were dissolved more than 80%. Dissolved sennosides of Senna extract reached about 90% in comparison with the 10% of the corresponding powder. Both extracts of Passiflora showed more than 90% dissolved flavonoids, while the powder reached only about 50%. A rapid and complete dissolution of the constituents represents in many instances the pre-requisite to have the clinical efficacy of an HDP or HMP. However, the excipients and the processing can lead to the different dissolution rate and/or absorption, as demonstrated in our investigation. This is really important because it may modify the biopharmaceutical equivalence even if the products are pharmaceutical equivalents.