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STUDY OF THE IRON STATE IN PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS USING MÖSSBAUER SPECTROSCOPY

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This work is devoted to study of the iron state in iron-containing pharmaceuticals using Mössbauer spectroscopy. Obtained results showed useful application of Mössbauer spectroscopy for characterization of the iron state in various pharmaceutical products.

Iron is the metal of life. Iron can be found in various iron-containing proteins which provide vitally important processes, e.g., oxygen transport, electron transport and others. Iron deficiency causes severe pathological consequences in the body known as the iron deficiency anemia. Various iron-containing pharmaceuticals are used to treat or prevent anemia. These pharmaceutical products may contain ferrous and ferric compounds such as ferrihydrite $5\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$, akaganéite $\beta\text{-FeOOH}$, ferrous sulfate FeSO_4 , ferrous fumarate $\text{FeC}_4\text{H}_2\text{O}_4$, iron chelates and several other compounds. ^{57}Fe Mössbauer spectroscopy could be a useful technique for evaluation of the iron state, control of possible iron-containing contamination and product aging [1–4]. Therefore, in the present work we have studied the iron state in the following pharmaceutical products Tardiferon® containing FeSO_4 , PreNatal containing $\text{FeC}_4\text{H}_2\text{O}_4$, Iron Complexes containing iron glycine and iron citrate, Ferrum Lek and Maltofer® containing $\beta\text{-FeOOH}$. The Mössbauer spectrum of Tardiferon® demonstrates the presence of several minor quadrupole doublets corresponding to ferrous compounds in addition to quadrupole doublet associated with the main ferrous compound. The Mössbauer spectrum of PreNatal [Figure 1] indicates the presence of two quadrupole doublets related to the main ferrous compounds and one quadrupole doublet assigned to the minor ferric compound. The Mössbauer spectra of Maltofer® [Figure 1] and Ferrum Lek show several quadrupole doublets corresponding to different layers/areas of the $\beta\text{-FeOOH}$ nanosized iron cores, i.e., structural heterogeneity (see the heterogeneous iron core model in [5]). Obtained results showed useful application of Mössbauer spectroscopy for characterization of the iron state in various pharmaceutical products to reveal additional iron-containing contaminations and ferrous compound oxidation that may be useful for the analysis of these products quality.

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