

Table 15.2 Consumer Panel Evaluation of Two Final Products

Attributes	% Preference	
	Microscopic sponge entrapment system	Encapsulation system
Less oily	72	28
Less greasy during application	78	22
Disappears faster	72	28
Less greasy afterfeel	78	22
Less residue on skin	67	33

Aesthetic appeal plays an important role in the use of topical drugs. Users tend to reject those products they judge to be too oily, too greasy, slow in absorption, or leave a noticeable residue on the skin.

A double-blind crossover panel test with 200 subjects was performed with the same two products used in the experiment described in Figure 8. Subjects tested the two formulations on a blind basis for aesthetic appeal (Table 2). The product with the Microsponge system rated significantly higher in each of the attributes evaluated by the panel.

IX. POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS FOR MICRO-SPONGE SYSTEMS

Designed expressly for applications in which the skin itself is the target organ, Microsponge topical delivery systems offer the formulator a range of alternatives limited only by one's own imagination to develop drug or cosmetic products with enhanced safety or efficacy.

A. Sunscreens

High levels of sunscreens can be utilized for longer-lasting product efficacy to increase protection against sunburn and sun-related injuries (aging and skin cancer). Even at elevated sunscreen concentrations, oiliness, irritancy, and sensitization could be reduced.