

mechanisms or enzymatic cleavage: a universal model predicting release kinetics is not possible (Lin and Metters 2006).

Concluding Remark

To conclude, this chapter has highlighted that several parameters may be considered in determining the kinetics involved in hydrogel based drug delivery formulations. Many of factors that contribute to the development of a potential drug-carrier device can be exploited in an attempt to augment the release profile achieved. These attributing factors are tailored for specific medical indications. It has been shown that the theoretical methods used to describe drug release are in fact models and should be treated as generalizations or over simplifications of real phenomena. It is implausible to assume that every variable impacting upon the release profile has been accounted for. This is of particular relevance within the hydrogel domain due to the anomalous mechanism of drug release often associated with these materials.

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