

# Synthesis of Molecularly Imprinted Polymers for Selective Extraction Followed by Solid Phase Determination of Metformin in Pharmaceutical Preparation and in Human Serum

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## Abstract

This paper demonstrates that the synthesising and storage of molecular-imprinted polymers (MIP) at room temperature using bulk polymerisation of Metformin (Met) is characterised by high sensitivity, reduced costs, increased stability, and extended life. The research used 0.8:4:20 mmol ratios of template, monomer and cross-linking agents for the polymerisation in order to ensure an appropriate adsorption capacity. Benzoyl peroxide BPO was employed as the initiator for the functional monomer styrene  $C_8H_8$ , cross-linked with Ethylene glycol dimethacrylate EGDMA  $C_{10}H_{14}O_4$ , thereby creating MIP for Metformin (Met-MIP) that could be characterised with UV-Visible Spectrophotometry at 236nm, for pharmaceutical drugs and human serum. Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) and scanning electron microscopy (SEM) was used for MIP drug. The elution process that was applied to the template (Met.) from the Met-MIP created cavities that were caused by the porogenic mixture solvents that were created from methanol, chloroform and acetic acid (70:20:10) mL respectively. The maximum adsorption capacity was 1.2320, 2.4448  $\mu\text{mol/g}$  for two studies using 0.1 and 0.2 g weights of Met-MIP respectively. A solid-phase extraction (SPE) syringe packed with molecular imprinted polymers (MIPs) was employed to selectively separate and pre-concentrate the Metformin in multiple pharmaceutical drugs from several sources. The human serum was based on the use of deionized water to dilute the serum, followed by the heating of the serum with methanol. Subsequently, a few drops hydrochloric acid 1M were applied to gate transparency solution and detect Metformin at UV region 236 nm by applying the standard addition method.

**Keywords:** Adsorption process, Metformin, (Molecular Imprinted Polymers) MIP, Serum, (Solid-Phase Extraction) SPE.

## Introduction

Metformin (Met) or Glucofage is an oral diabetes medication that helps control blood sugar levels and is used together with diet and exercise to improve blood sugar control in adults with type 2 diabetes

mellitus. It is a component of drugs like metformin-alogliptin (Kazano) and metformin-canagliflozin (Invokamet). In the last stages of type 2 diabetes, metformin can also be used with insulin. Metformin

decreases hepatic glucose production, and increases insulin-mediated peripheral glucose uptake, and decreases intestinal glucose absorption, it is also used off-label to treat polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS)<sup>1,2</sup>.

Common adverse effects include diarrhea, nausea, and abdominal pain. It has a low risk of causing low blood sugar. High blood lactic acid levels are a concern if the medication is used in overly large doses or prescribed to patients with severe kidney problems. It is not recommended for those with significant liver disease<sup>3</sup>. Metformin is a biguanide antihyperglycemic agent that works by decreasing glucose production by the liver, increasing the insulin sensitivity of body tissues, and increasing GDF15 (growth differentiation factor, a protein coding gene) secretion, which reduces appetite and caloric intake<sup>1</sup>. Fig. 1 shows the structure of metformin.

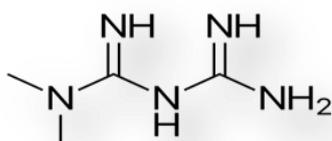


Figure 1. Structure of Metformin<sup>1</sup>.

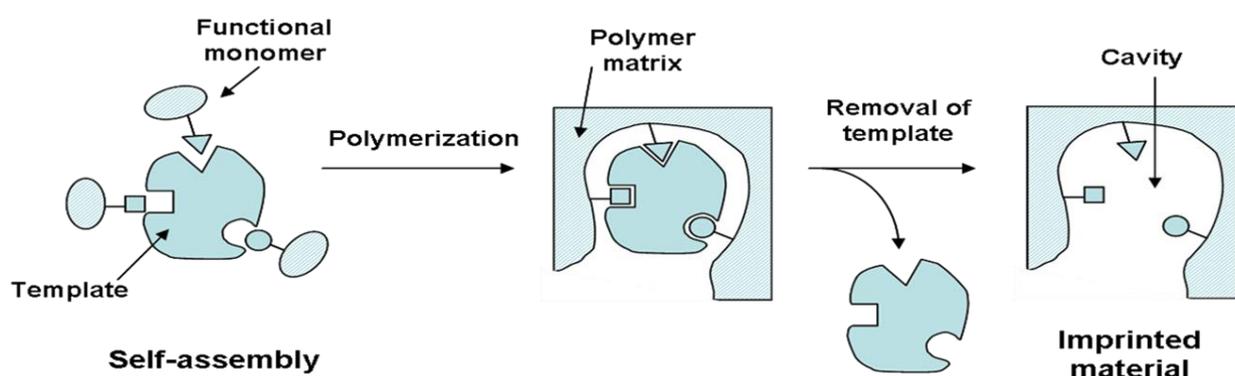


Figure 2. Molecular imprinted polymer cycle<sup>9</sup>.

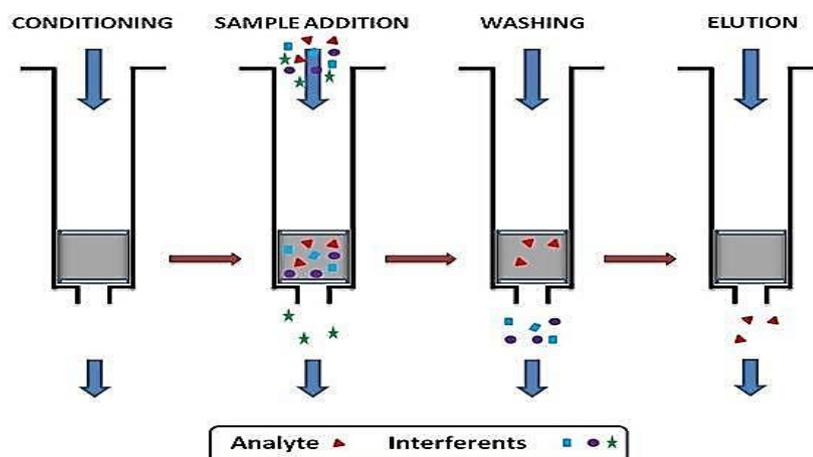
Certain MIP applications were prepared in SPE<sup>10,11</sup>. The concentration of the solute in the fluid phase at constant temperature provides the adsorption isotherm. An isotherm is the relation between the concentrations of a solid and fluid, used to describe states of sorption process<sup>12</sup>.

- Solid phase extraction (SPE) is a technique designed for rapid, selective sample preparation and

In the beginning, the imprint molecule with the present monomers forms a complex in molecular imprinted polymers (MIP). The functional groups are maintained in situ following the polymerization cycle<sup>4</sup>, as depicted in Fig. 2, by a strongly cross-linking polymer structure.

In addition, the steric configuration of all these connections around a given substratum and the template is really an important characteristic for the formation of binding sites<sup>5,6</sup>, providing additional shape, size, and flexibility to promote the selective identification followed by a high target affinity. As a result, the process of recognition in MIPs can be characterized in resemblance to enzyme-proven mechanisms – substratum-Complex is formed in the (lock and key) model<sup>7,8</sup>.

purification prior to the chromatographic analysis (e.g. HPLC (high performance liquid chromatography), GC (gas chromatography), TLC (thin layer chromatography))<sup>13,14</sup>. In SPE, one or more analytes from a liquid sample are isolated by extracting, partitioning, and adsorbing onto a solid stationary phase, Fig. 3<sup>15</sup>.



**Figure3. Illustrate the process of SPE.**

In this work identify the MIP preparation was performed in conjunction with the recognition cite styrene  $C_8H_8$  with crosslinking ethylene glycol dimethacrylate EGDMA  $C_{10}H_{14}O_4$ , whereby benzoyl peroxide BPO functioned as the target molecule (Metformin) initiator. Subsequently, the impact of the monomer dosages on the adsorption performance

was observed. The study also examined adsorption behaviors with diverse functional monomers, cross-linking agents, and solvents. SEM, FTIR was employed to characterise the primed MIPs. Furthermore, this research investigated the impact of solid phase extraction and initial Metformin concentration on adsorption capacity.

## Materials and Methods

Metformin. HCl from Samarra/Iraq was provided, Styrene, EGDMA, Benzoyl peroxide was purchased from Sigma Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA, www.sigma-aldrich.com), Methanol, Nitrogen gas (99.99) were supplied from Al-Watan factory (Al-Nahda Street/ Baghdad/Iraq), Chloroform and Acetic acid were purchased from Merck (Darmstadt, Germany).

### Preparation and Processing:

The Met-MIP preparation process used high-purity chemicals:

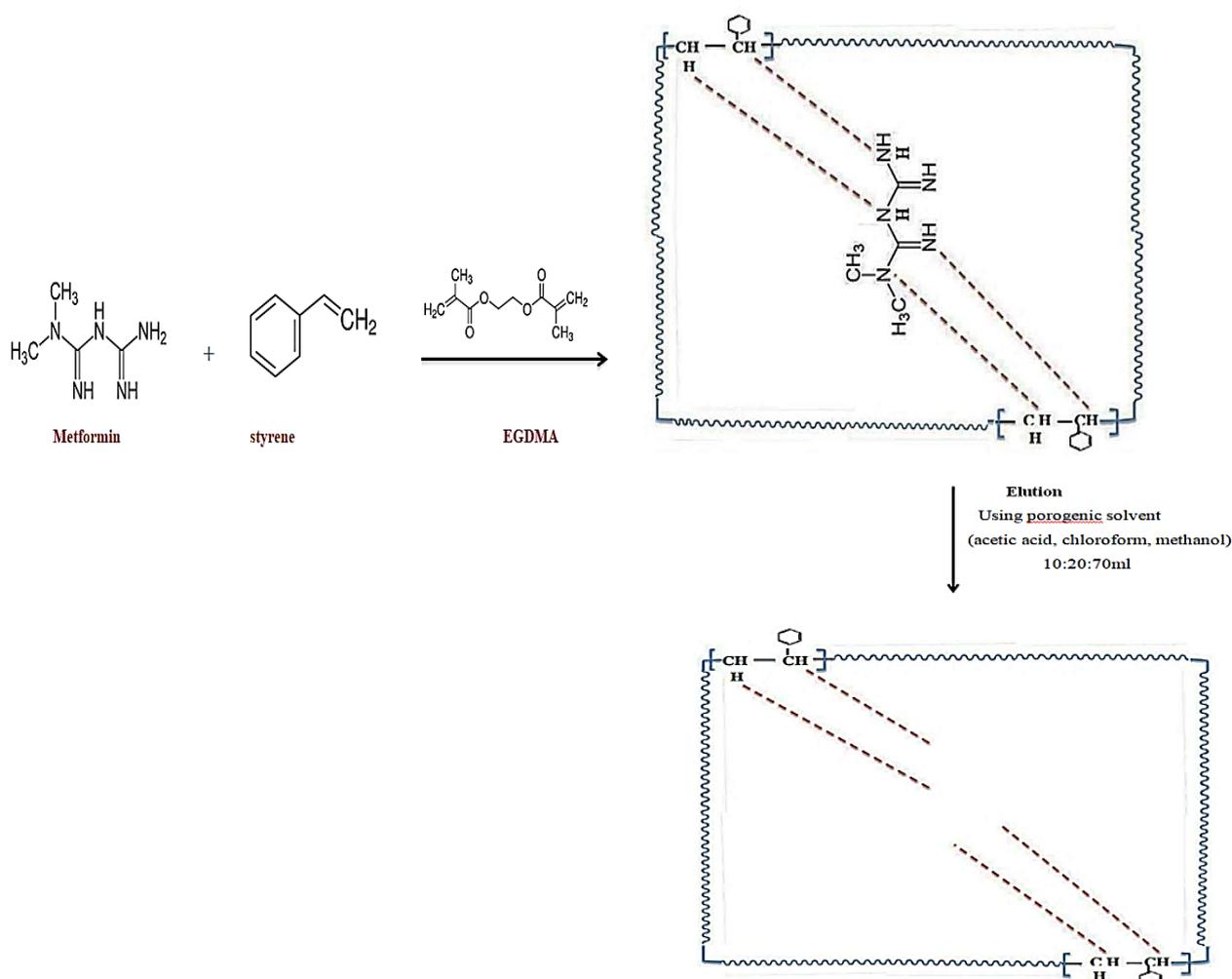
Specifically, 0.8 mmol of Metformin (Metformin. HCl) 0.1325g was dissolved in 4 mL of methanol with stirring, 4 mmol of Styrene 0.4180g with 2 mL methanol was added, waiting for few seconds at room temperature. Subsequently, 20 mmol of cross-linker Ethylene glycol dimethacrylate EGDMA 3.9644g, 2mL of methanol, and 0.3 g of benzoyl peroxide were dissolved in chloroform to create an initiator. These were added to the mixture, which was shaken well in order to produce a clear solution. The solution was bubbled with Nitrogen gas for 20 minutes in order to eliminate the dissolved oxygen

from the monomer solution. It was then sealed in the tube.

The solution was placed in a water bath, where it remained overnight at a temperature of 60 °C. Thus, the Met-MIP polymerization process 0.8:4:20 was completed, leading to the formation of a white polymer with a fluff structure has been formed. This was left to dry overnight at room temperature. The Met- MIP was synthesized using the self-assembly (non-covalent) bulk polymerization method.

Soxhlet solid liquid extraction was performed to remove template (Metformin) from MIP. This relied on the use of a porogenic solvent consisting of 10 mL of acetic acid, 20 mL of chloroform, and 70 mL of methanol. The removal process was successful following repeated for 16-18 hours, following which the particles were rinsed in methanol and water in order to eliminate residual acetic acid. Subsequently, the polymer was dried at room temperature, before being crushed with a mortar and sieved to produce 125 $\mu$ m particles. A proposed successive mechanism for Met-MIP can be represented by the following scheme 1 and illustrate the structure of synthesized

polymer after elution process by using a suitable porogenic solvent.



**Scheme 1. Suggested mechanism of the synthesized of Met-MIP, using styrene as a functional monomer, EGDMA as cross-linker and the Structure of synthesized polymer after elution process.**

#### **Sample Preparation of (Metformin. HCl) (Glucophage)**

The samples of pharmaceutical were prepared by taking the average weight of ten tablets of Metformin, they were crushed and grinded. Tablets containing 500 mg of Metformin were weighed 0.5264, 0.5598, 0.5567 g of Metformin drugs (Metforal/Germany, Glucophage/ Italy and Piophage / Iraq) dissolved in 100 mL of methanol solution,

then filtered through cellulose filter paper 0.07 $\mu$ m in order to obtain the concentrations  $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $1.4 \times 10^{-4}$  and  $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$  mmol/mL (0.1, 0.14, 0.16 $\mu$ mol/mL) (equivalent to 0.00166, 0.00232, 0.00265)g of active ingredients (Table 1), which have lowest standard deviation (SD) value and these concentrations were used with MIP in a solid phase extraction (SPE) column MIP-SPE which was prepared.

**Table 1. Pharmaceutical drugs prepared for treating with Met-MIP polymer**

No. of Samples	Commercial name, Country Content 500mg	Average weight for 10 of tablets (g)	Weight of sample equivalent to 0.00166g ( $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$ ) mmol/mL of the active ingredient	Weight of sample equivalent to 0.00232g ( $1.4 \times 10^{-4}$ ) mmol/mL of the active ingredient	Weight of sample equivalent to 0.00265g ( $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$ ) mmol/mL of the active ingredient
1	Glucophage/Germany	0.5264	0.0017	0.0024	0.0028
2	Metforal / Italy	0.5598	0.0019	0.0026	0.0030
3	Piophage / Iraqi	0.5567	0.0018	0.0026	0.0029

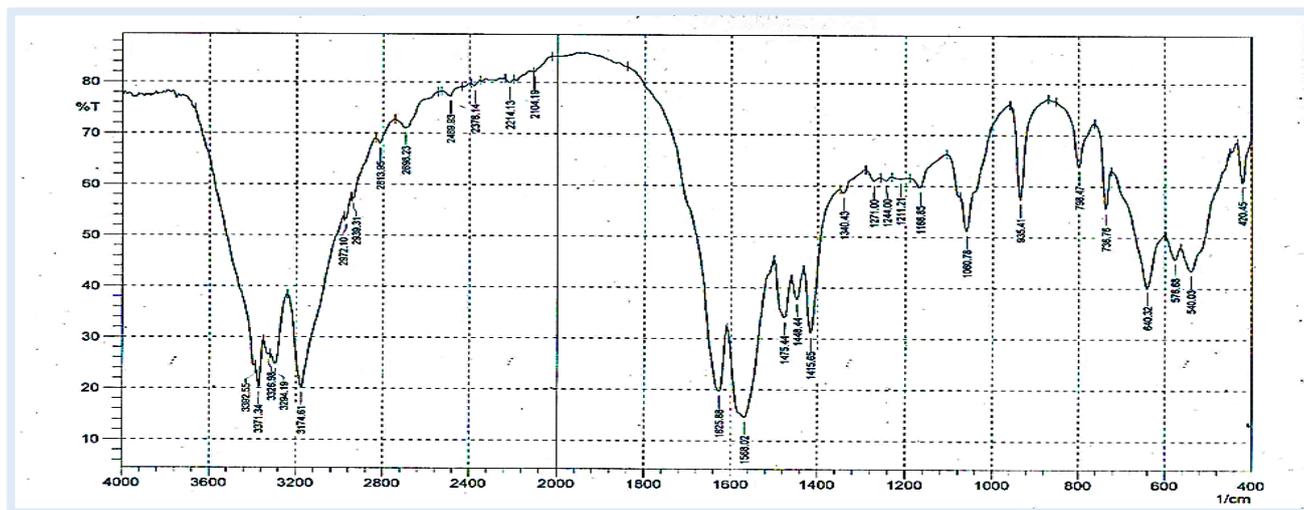
**Accuracy of the work for extraction and determination of Metformin**

**1. FT-IR Spectrum of Molecularly Imprinted Polymers for (MET):**

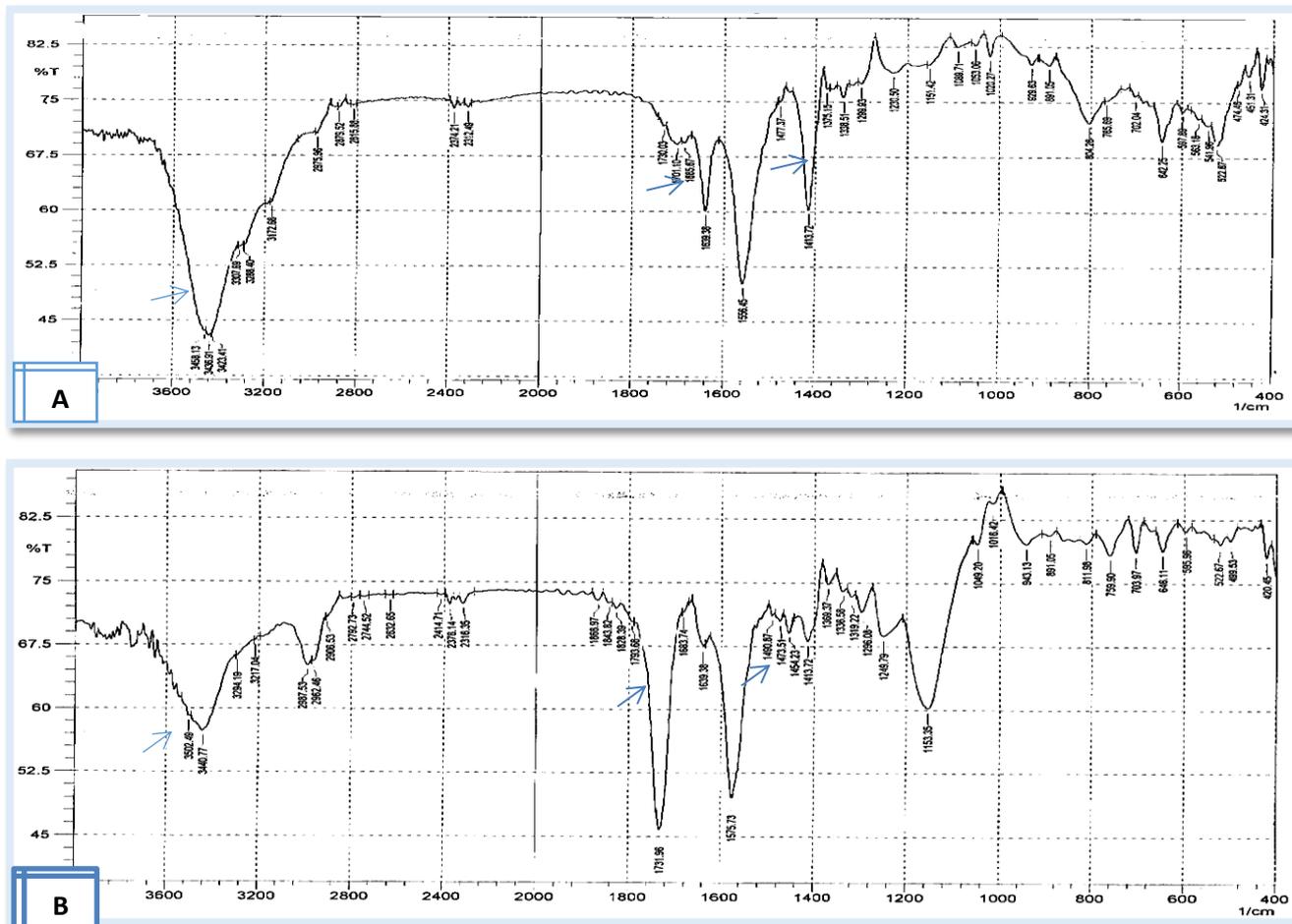
The functional groups present in a compound can be detected using FT-IR Fourier transmission infrared

spectrometer, which comprises a significant chemical characterization process. The Metformin FT-IR spectra presents multiple functional groups, in addition to Met-MIP both prior to and following the Metformin template removal.

Figs. 4, 5 A, B for Met-MIP and Table 2 show the details of bands.



**Figure 4. FT-IR spectra of Metformin standard.**



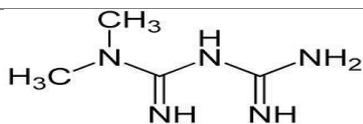
**Figure 5. A, B FT-IR spectrum of Met-MIP before and after extraction.**

The spectrum of Met shows strong bands at 3392 and 3326  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for N-H<sub>2</sub> stretching, 3307, 3288  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for Met-MIP before elution while in 3294, 3217  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  after elution become smallest. As it explain in Table 2, C=N stretching bands appear at 1625, 1639  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in both Met and MIP before extraction respectively but after extraction it be very smallest, C-H aliphatic bands in Metformin have been seen at 2972, 2939  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , in Met-MIP before elution at 2975  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and after elution at 2987 and 2962  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . To

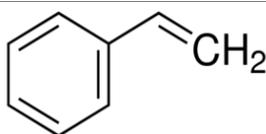
improve that Metformin had been removed successfully in addition to N-H<sub>2</sub>, NH str. and C=N, there is C=C group of monomer in 1413  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  which disappears after eluting that means there is an interaction between C=C of monomer and N-H of template (Met.), C=O takes two form ketone 1730, 1731  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and enole form in (3423, 3436, 3458), (3502, 3440)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  respectively. (The bands values <sup>16</sup>).

**Table 2. The structures of the main three compositions of Met-MIP and the bands indicate MIP before and after removal template.**

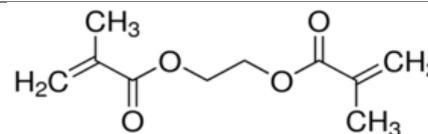
Band	Drug(Template)	MIP before extraction	MIP after extraction
N-H <sub>2</sub> N-H str.	3392,3326	3307, 3288	/ 3294, 3217
C=N str.	1625	1639	/
C-H aliph.	2972 2939	2975	2987 2962
C=O est.	/	/1730	1731
C=O enol.	/	3423,3436,3458	3502, 3440
C=C aro.	/	1413	/1413



**Template**  
(Metformin)



**Monomer**  
(Styrene)

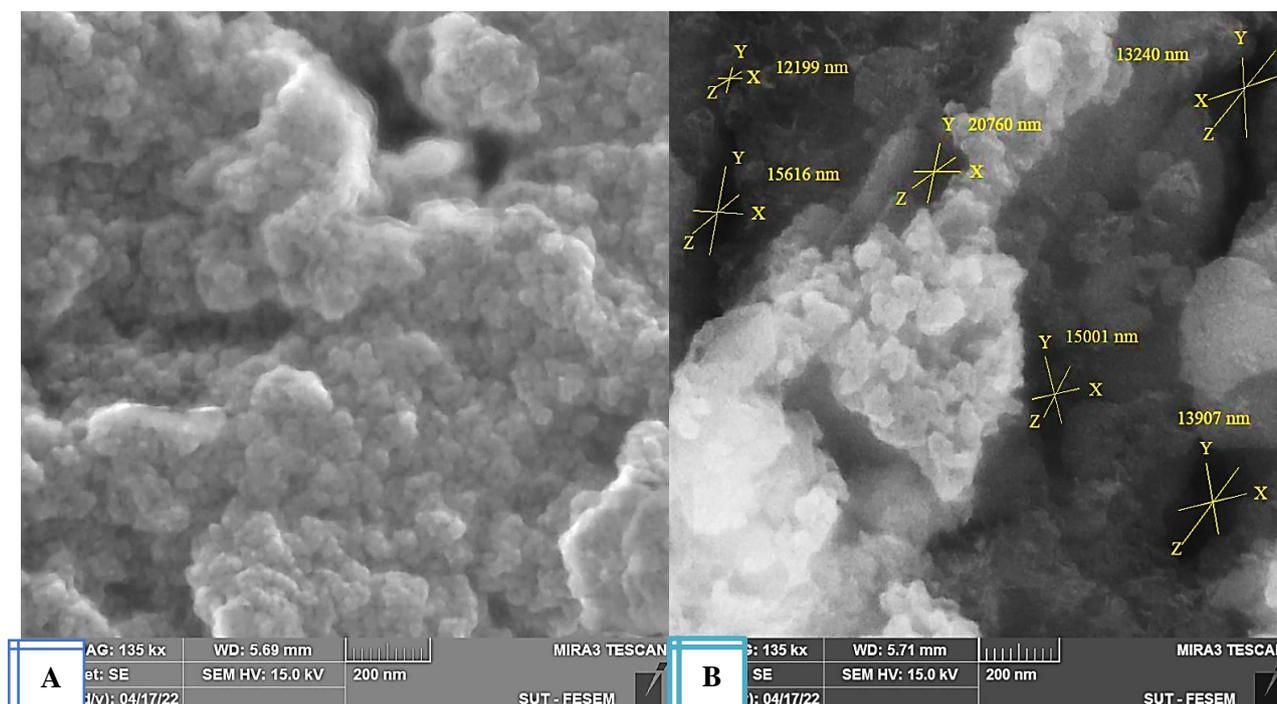


**Cross linker**  
(EGDMA)

## 2. Scanning Electron Microscopy SEM for MIP-Met:

The morphological evaluation is critical to the appreciation of the morphological traits, cavity sizes, and surface configurations of MIPs both prior to and

following the Metformin template removal. SEM images were used to analyze the morphology of the Met-MIP. Fig. 6 (A,B) and the results of calculated the dimensions of six cavities are cleared in Table 3 by using image j program.



**Figure 6. A, B surface morphologies of the particles before and after elution for Met- MIP respectively, and three dimensions of cavities with their areas.**

**Table 3. Calculated mean, angle, lengths of some cavities (selected six of them) and their areas using image j program.**

Cavities	Area	Mean	Min	Max	Angle	Length
1	119.898	20760.62	19717.79	22748	180	62.961
2	143.212	15001.08	12886.43	17185	178.636	76.67
3	316.398	13907.2	11822	16873	-168.93	171.08
4	226.474	13240.39	10985.6	15765.67	-177.732	122.977
5	193.169	12199.21	9740.667	15734.51	177.99	104.087
6	73.271	15616.87	13623.65	18701.75	174.644	39.103
<b>Total Mean</b>	178.737	15120.9	13129.35	17834.65	60.768	96.147
<b>SD</b>	86.354	3020.344	3507.103	2643.141	181.362	47.186
<b>Total</b>	73.271-	12199.21-	9740.667-	15734.51-	-177.732-	39.103-
<b>Min-Max</b>	316.398	20760.62	19717.79	22748	180	171.08

3D of Cavities between min = 12199.21nm (12.19921 $\mu$ m) to max = 20760.62nm (20.76062 $\mu$ m) that mean the number of molecules of Metformin fill cavities ranging around this range.

We notice that the holes vary in diameter range between (12.19921-20.76062)  $\mu$ m and most of the holes are large, which leads to the retention of large quantities of the drug and this is consistent with the high value of the capacity in isotherm.

### 3. UV-VIS Spectrophotometry

A column (10 mL solid phase extraction of plastic syringe (height=7cm, diameter=1.5cm) (was used and each syringe was packed with different weights 0.1 and 0.2g from Met- MIP. The resulting solutions ( standard solution, pharmaceutical drugs of Metformin and serum) was poured from the top of the column and the movement of the solution was 70 rpm by electric vacuum.

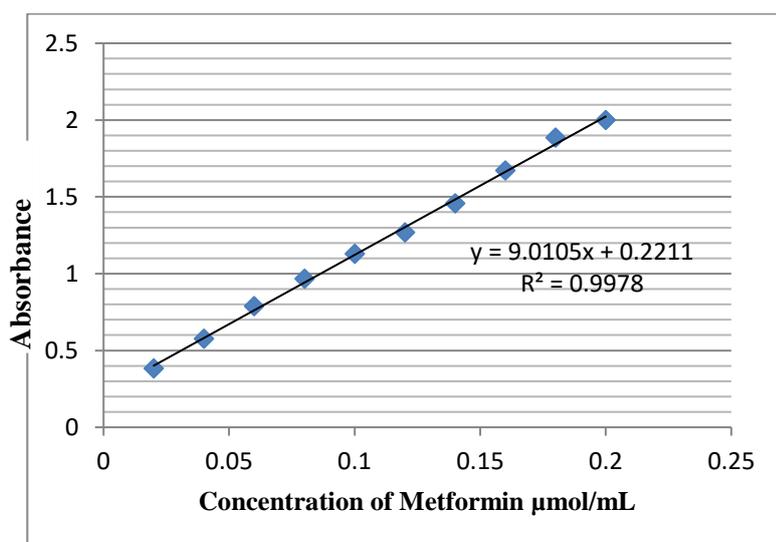
A series of standard solutions of Metformin. HCl 0.02, 0.04, 0.06, 0.08, 0.1, 0.12, 0.14, 0.16, 0.18, 0.2

μmol/mL was prepared by dissolving 0.0116g in methanol volumetric flask 100 mL as a stock solution, after passing the solution of Metformin in syringe packed with Met-MIP, the residue which has less absorption was measured by UV-VIS instrument at 236 nm<sup>17</sup>, that indicates to lower concentration at final process, for good expressive example of the

advantages of the use of impressed polymers in SPE in the quantification of the Metformin.

A calibration curve between standard solutions of different concentrations of Metformin. HCl (0.02-0.2)

μmol /mL and their absorbance are plotted in Fig. 7.



Concentration of Metformin μmol /mL	Absorbance
0.02	0.3836
0.04	0.5749
0.06	0.7889
0.08	0.9656
0.10	1.1281
0.12	1.2688
0.14	1.4575
0.16	1.6705
0.18	1.8855
0.20	1.9987

**Figure 7. Calibration curve between concentration of Metformin standard μmol/mL and its absorbance.**

• **Adsorption Capacity and Pre-concentration:**

A series of adsorption achievement for different initial concentrations of Met-MIP

ranging from 0.02 to 0.2 μmol/mL on adsorption capacity μmol/g was studied for 0.1 and 0.2 g weight of MIP using the following equation Eq. 1<sup>18</sup>:

$$Q = (C_i - C_f)(\mu\text{mol/mL}) * \frac{\text{vol (mL)}}{W \text{ of Mip(g)}} \dots\dots 1$$

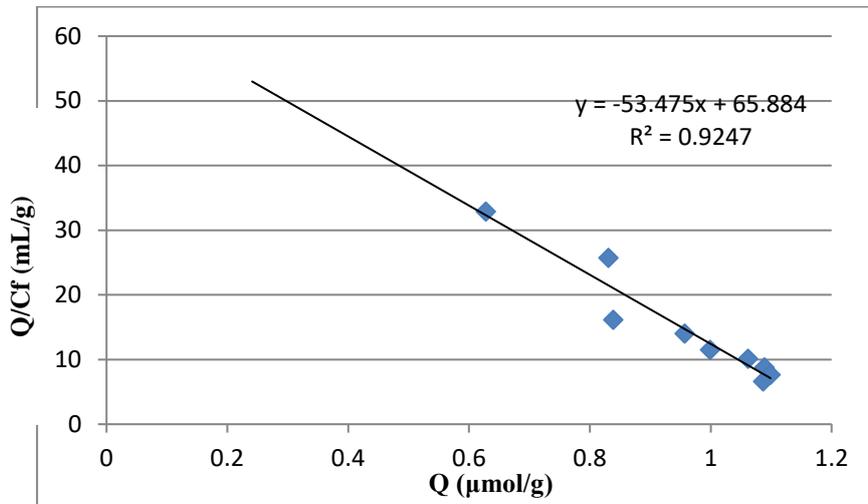
**C<sub>i</sub>**- initial concentration, **C<sub>f</sub>** - final concentration (after passing through column packed with Met-MIP)

**Table 4. The optimal synthesis conditions for the molecularly imprinted polymer for Metformin developed in this study in 0.1 g of MIP**

W mip(g)	C <sub>i</sub> (μMol/mL)	C <sub>f</sub> (μMol/mL)	Vol (mL)
0.1	0.02	0.0119	3
	0.04	0.0191	3
	0.06	0.0323	3
	0.08	0.0520	3
	0.10	0.0681	3
	0.12	0.0867	3
	0.14	0.1046	3
	0.16	0.1240	3
	0.18	0.1434	3
	0.20	0.1638	3

The relation between initial concentration C<sub>i</sub> (μmol/ml) and capacity Q (μmol/g):

The relation between capacity Q (μmol/g) and Q/C<sub>f</sub> (mL/g):



Q µmol/g	Q/Cf (mL/g)
0.241	20.252
0.628	32.880
0.831	25.728
0.839	16.135
0.957	14.053
0.999	11.522
1.062	10.153
1.089	8.782
1.099	7.664
1.087	6.636

Figure 8. Illustrate the relation between capacity Q (µmol/g) and Q/Cf (mL/g)

From slope equation:

Slope = -1/kd .....2

-53.475 = -1/ kd

Kd = 0.0187

Intersept = 65.884

Intersept = Qmax/ kd .....3

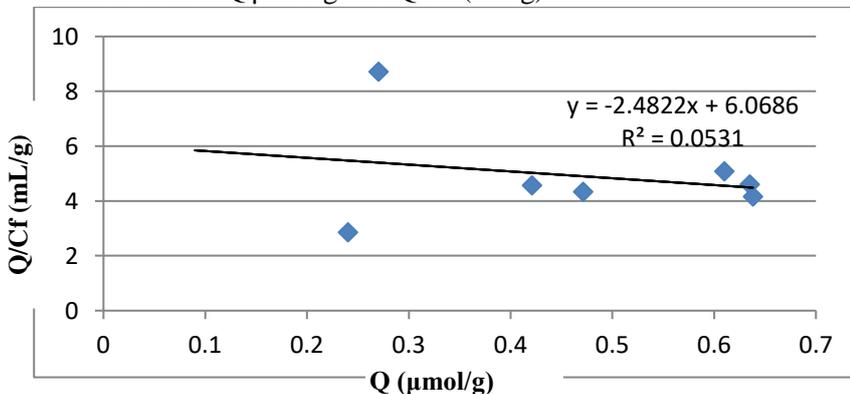
Qmax = 65.884 \* 0.0187

= 1.2320 µmol/g for Met-MIP using 0.1g weight of MIP

Table 5. The optimal synthesis conditions for the molecularly imprinted polymer for Metformin.HCl developed in this study in 0.2 g of MIP

W mip(g)	Ci(µMol/mL)	Cf(µMol/mL)	Vol (mL)
0.2	0.02	0.012	14
	0.04	0.031	6
	0.06	0.054	3
	0.08	0.0720	3
	0.10	0.0840	3
	0.12	0.0920	3
	0.14	0.1086	3
	0.16	0.1200	3
	0.18	0.1436	3
	0.20	0.1575	3

The relation of Q µmol/g and Q/Cf (mL/g):



Q µmol/g	Q/Cf (mL/g)
0.560	46.667
0.270	8.709
0.090	1.667
0.120	1.660
0.240	2.857
0.421	4.570
0.471	4.337
0.610	5.083
0.635	4.608
0.638	4.162

Figure 9. Illustrate the relation between capacity Q (µmol/g) and Q/Cf (µmol/g)

Slope =  $-1/kd$

$-2.4822 = -1/kd$

$Kd = 0.4029$

Intersept = 6.0686

Intersept =  $Q_{max}/kd$

$Q_{max} = 0.4029 * 6.0686$

= 2.4448  $\mu\text{mol/g}$  for Met-MIP using 0.2g weight of MIP

**- Effect of Weight of Solid Phase Met-MIP:**

Weight of MIP has an effect on the separation process because this process occurs by using solid phase extraction technique, and depending on the

sites in the MIP. Two tubes contain 0.1, 0.2 gm from Met-MIP and series of different concentrations from 0.02 to 0.2  $\mu\text{mol/mL}$  of standard solutions of metformin were studied for 0.1 and 0.2 g weight of MIP and comparison the adsorption capacity  $\mu\text{mol/g}$ .

The volumes solution of the analytes was 3mL for all concentrations 0.02-0.2  $\mu\text{mol/mL}$  for 0.1g weight of Met- MIP, (Table 4), while the volumes for concentrations 0.02- 0.2  $\mu\text{mol/mL}$  for 0.2g weight of Met- MIP were 14-3 mL (Table 5), therefore, a good capacity 2.4448  $\mu\text{mol/g}$  has been achieved when using 0.2g weight of Met- MIP than 1.2320  $\mu\text{mol/g}$  for Met-MIP using 0.1g, that mean a larger amount of interaction position available in 0.2 g so a promote linking sites has been done and the interaction taking place in more than site.

**Table 6. Precision and accuracy of the analysis of pharmaceutical drugs.**

Drug name	MI P	Concentration Ci	Absorption before isotherm process	Absorption after isotherm process	Concentration Cf	Vol mL	Q $\mu\text{Mol/g}$	RSD% = $(\delta n-1 / \text{Mean}) * 100$ Precision	Rec. % = $(\text{practical value} / \text{True value}) * 100$ Accuracy	Re %
Metformal/ Germ any	0.1	0.08	1.0016	0.9221	0.0737	8	0.504	0.124	103.73	3.73
	0.2			0.8988	0.0718	15	0.615	0.118		
Glucose / Italy	0.1	0.10	1.1377	1.0081	0.0827	7	1.211	0.153	100.85	0.85
	0.2			1.0819	0.0551	12	2.694	0.162		
Piophage/ Iraq	0.1	0.08	0.9056	0.7221	0.0638	7	1.134	0.114	97.47	-
	0.2			0.5431	0.0479	15	2.407	0.121		

\* For n=5 absorptions of drugs before isotherm process.

The true value is the absorption at 0.08, 0.1  $\mu\text{mol/ml}$  in calibration curve for MIP.

\* For n=5 absorptions of drugs before isotherm process (passing through MIP column), \* The true value is the absorption at 0.1, 0.12  $\mu\text{mol/mL}$  in calibration curve of Metformin.

In Table 6 the volumes passing through MIPs column for pharmaceutical drugs consuming mls more than standard due to interferences and additions using in manufacture drugs.

**- In Human Serum**

**1- Sample Collection**

In total, 5 ml of blood was gathered and placed in serum separator tubes (SST). The clot activator SST contained a gel in the form of an inert

thixotropic polymer<sup>19, 20</sup>, which was located at the bottom, its purpose being to separate blood cells from serum through centrifugation. This was performed for each patient and healthy individual. Blood samples were allowed to stand for 5 minutes following centrifugation at ~ 2000 rpm. The serum was frozen at 20°C, so that it could later be employed for the estimation of Metformin.

## 2- Procedure

This method uses one ml of each human serum. In other words, it requires serum from the control group (healthy individuals who do not take Metformin) and the patients' group (who took Metformin drug), both of which were diluted in 10 mL of deionized water. Subsequently, 1 mL of diluted serum was placed in a 10 ml volumetric flask, to which was added 2-3 drops of 1 N HCl solution, the purpose being to eliminate the viscosity of the serum<sup>21,22</sup>. Methanol was used to make the volume up to 10 ml. The solutions were then warmed in a water bath for 10-15 minutes at a temperature not exceeding 60 °c in order to create a transparent solution.

Several series of solutions were created for each control and patient group. This was realized through the transferal of 1 ml to each eleven volumetric flask (10 mL) (we doubled the amount of serum to get the quantity needed for 11 volumetric flask) followed by the addition of constant volumes of standard Metformin (0.1 mL) from different concentrations 0, 0.02, 0.04, 0.06, 0.08, 0.1, 0.12, 0.14, 0.16, 0.18, 0.2 µmol/mL to obtain 0, 0.0002, 0.0004, 0.0006, 0.0008, 0.001, 0.0012, 0.0014, 0.0016, 0.0018, 0.002 µmol/mL. Flask No.1 is the sample (serum). The findings were subjected to mathematical evaluation ( $M_1V_1=M_2V_2$  for the standard addition method) (see Table 7). Furthermore, the absorption recorded for each volumetric flask was gauged with the assistance of UV-Visible spectrophotometry, which focused on the control serum and then measured the patient serum at the maximum 236 nm absorption, the objective being to eradicate the majority of interferences. Subsequently, the resultant solution was scanned in the 190-300 nm range. Fig. 15 presents the calibration curve that was plotted between the concentrations and absorptions.

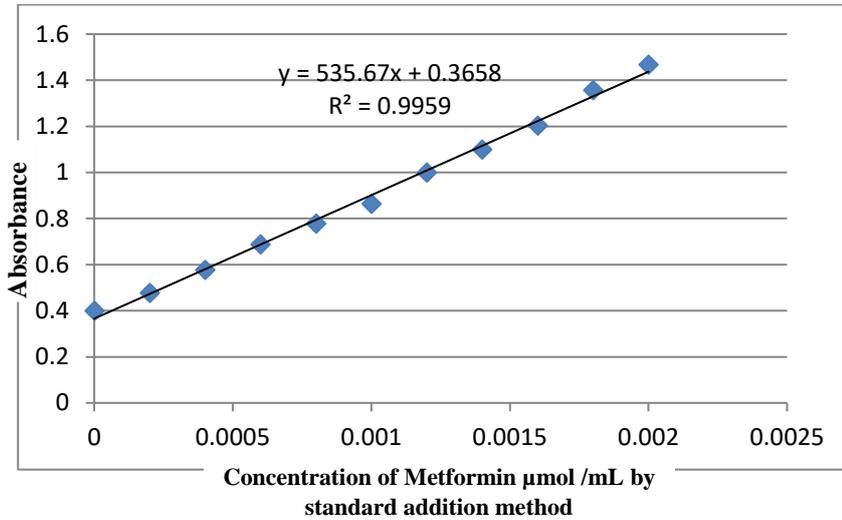
**Table 7. Results of standard addition for the determination of Metformin in human serum.**

Human	Diluted Serum	1N HCl	Metformin µMol/mL											
			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Control	1 mL	2-3 drops	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Patient	1 mL	2-3 drops	0	0.0002	0.0004	0.0006	0.0008	0.001	0.0012	0.0014	0.0016	0.0018	0.002	

Metformin in serum was statistically evaluated by considering the length of time the drug was in the body of the patient, the rate at which it was metabolized, and the medication dose. These variables differ between patients. In addition, it has an onset of action of about 1.5 hours, half-life in the

circulation of about 1.5–4.9 hours, and duration of action of 16–20 hours<sup>23</sup>

Calibration curve between concentrations and absorptions.



Concentration of Metformin in serum μmol/mL by standard addition method	Absorbance of Metformin in serum by standard addition method
0	0.4001
0.0002	0.4775
0.0004	0.5778
0.0006	0.6889
0.0008	0.7779
0.0010	0.8644
0.0012	0.9997
0.0014	1.1005
0.0016	1.204
0.0018	1.3568
0.0020	1.4689

**Figure 10. Calibration curve between concentrations of Metformin in serum using standard addition method μmol/ml and its absorbance.**

When  $y = 0.4001$  that mean the absorbance of Metformin in this sample of serum is 0.4001

It found that the absorption 0.4001 are nearest to the absorption 0.3836 which has concentration 0.0200 μmol /mL in calibration curve (Fig. 10) and substituting for  $y = 0.4001$  the concentration is 0.0209 μmol /mL. This means the concentration of Metformin in this sample of serum is 0.0209 μmol

/mL by ratio and proportion. So a comparison for absorption of this concentration after passing through Met-MIP column was studied in pharmaceutical drugs solution and human serum.

\*To know the concentration of drug in human serum we must multiply this concentration 0.0209 μmol /mL x 10 (Dilution coefficient).

### Discussion

This paper presents a comparison between two approaches to the drug Metformin. The T-Test statistical evaluation<sup>24, 25</sup> was designed to facilitate a comparison between the identification of Metformin once it had passed through the Met-MIP syringe solid phase extraction process and the human serum at 236 nm:

$$/t/ = \frac{\bar{X}i1 - \bar{X}i2}{(S(\sqrt{1/n1 + 1/n2}))}$$

If  $\bar{X}i1 = \bar{X}i2 \longrightarrow$  Null hypothesis when  $t_{calculated} < t_{tab}$

That mean  $\bar{X}i1 - \bar{X}i2 = zero$

$\bar{X}i1 \neq \bar{X}i2 \longrightarrow$  Alternative hypothesis when  $t_{calculated} > t_{tab}$

That mean  $\bar{X}i1 - \bar{X}i2 > < zero$

\*  $\bar{X}i1 = 0.0967$  Mean for  $n1=3$  absorption value after passing through Met-MIP column in pharmaceutical drugs solution with  $S1$  variance= 0.065

$\bar{X}i2 = 0.1651$  Mean for  $n2=3$  absorption value after passing through Met-MIP column in human serum with  $S2$  variance=0.044

$$S^2 = (n1 - 1) * S^2_1 + (n2 - 1) * S^2_2 / n1 + n2 - 2$$

$t_{calculated} = 1.537$ ,  $t_{tab} = t_{0.05/2, (n1+n2)-2} = 2.776$

It found  $t_{calculated} < t_{tab}$  at confidence level 95% therefor there is no significant difference between two approaches, So Null hypothesis will be accepted.

## Conclusion

New and bulk polymers were created by using styrene and crosslinking ethylene glycol dimethacrylate EGDMA  $C_{10}H_{14}O_4$  as Met-MIP, different studies and experiments were used to reach for selective molecular imprinted polymer by prepare and optimize required monomers, cross-linker using suitable solvents, porogen solvent for template removal and the optimal molar ratios of Template (Metformin) to monomer to cross-linker. Irregular shapes three-dimension network structure of polymers can be seen by SEM before and after removal template, FTIR, all improve the healthy work.

One slope gain when studying the capacity of adsorption of Met-MIP with uniform values

(homogeneous structure) in this study proves that the capacity increases with increasing the weight of the MIP. The maximum adsorption capacity was 1.2320, 2.4448  $\mu\text{mol/g}$  for two studies of 0.1, 0.2 g of Met-MIP respectively. A standard addition method using to eliminate the interferences when detect the concentration of Metformin in human serum. T-Test statistical evaluation was designed to facilitate a comparison between the identification of Metformin once it passed through the Met-MIP syringe solid phase extraction process and the human serum at 236 nm and when it found that  $t_{\text{calculated}} < t_{\text{tab}}$  at confidence level 95% by UV for Metformin drug therefor there is no significant difference between two methods. So Null hypothesis will be accepted.

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## Authors' Declaration

- Conflicts of Interest: None.
- We hereby confirm that all the Figures and Tables in the manuscript are ours. Furthermore, any Figures and images, that are not ours, have been

- included with the necessary permission for re-publication, which is attached to the manuscript.
- Ethical Clearance: The project was approved by the local ethical committee in University of Baghdad.

## Authors' Contribution Statement

Both authors conceived the idea and supervised the findings of this work. R.A. K. developed the theory, investigated the topic of the article, and performed

the computations. Both authors verified the analytical methods, discussed the result and contributed to the final manuscript.

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## تصنيع بوليمرات مطبوعة جزيئياً متبوعاً بالاستخلاص الانتقائي بالطور الصلب لتقدير الميتفورمين في المستحضرات الصيدلانية وفي مصل الانسان

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### الخلاصة

يوضح هذا البحث تحضير وتخزين البوليمرات الجزيئية المطبوعة (MIP) في درجة حرارة الغرفة عن طريق البلمرة الصلدة لـ Metformin (Met) والتي تتميز بالحساسية العالية والتكلفة المنخفضة والاستقرار العالي. إذ تم أخذ نسب 0.8: 4: 20 ملي مول لل قالب ، و للمونومر ولعوامل الربط المتصالب للبلمرة من أجل ضمان قدرة امتزاز مناسبة. المونومر الوظيفي الستايرين C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub> تم ربطه مع إيثيلين جليكول ثنائي ميثاكريلات EGDMA C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>4</sub> رابط التشابك وبالتالي إنشاء MIP لـ Metformin كـ Met-MIP تم تمييزه باستخدام مقياس الطيف الضوئي UV-VIS عند 236 نانومتر في الأدوية الصيدلانية ومصل الانسان ، والتحليل الطيفي بالأشعة تحت الحمراء والمسح المجهر الإلكتروني للطبقة الدوائية. أنشأت عملية الشطف التي تم تطبيقها على القالب اي انتزاع القالب الـ Met من Met-MIP تجاوبت ناتجة عن استخدام المذيب المكون للفجوات المكون من الميثانول والكلوروفورم وحمض الخليك (10:20:70) ملتر على التوالي. كانت السعة القصوى للامتزاز Met-MIP هي 1.2320 ، 2.4448 ميكرو مول / غم عند استخدام وزن 0.1 و 0.2 غم من Met-MIP على التوالي. استخدمت سرنجة الطور الصلب (SPE) المعبأة ببوليمرات مطبوعة جزيئياً (MIPs) للفصل الانتقائي والتركيز للميتفورمين في العديد من الأدوية الصيدلانية من عدة مصادر. اعتمد المصل البشري على استخدام الماء منزوع الأيونات لتخفيف المصل ، يليه تسخين المصل مع الميثانول ، ثم اضافة بضع قطرات من حمض الهيدروكلوريك MI للحصول على محلول رائق ليتم الكشف عن الميتفورمين في منطقة الأشعة فوق البنفسجية عند طول موجي 236 نانومتر من خلال تطبيق طريقة الإضافة القياسية.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** عملية الامتزاز ، ميتفورمين ، بوليمرات الطبعة الجزيئية ، المصل ، استخلاص الطور الصلب.