

# Advanced Drug Delivery Technologies for Enhancing Bioavailability and Efficacy of Risperidone

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**Abstract:** Multidisciplinary research has been conducted on novel drug delivery technologies to maximize therapeutic advantages while curtailing undesirable reactions. Drugs under BCS Class II often have a low bioavailability because the dissolution phase limits the absorption efficiency. In this review, risperidone was used as a pharmacological model to examine the impact of solubility enhancement at the primary administration site for such pharmaceuticals. For tackling drug-related pertains like disease diagnostics, therapy, and prophylactic measures at the cellular or molecular levels, implementing nanocarriers in therapeutics has significant potential. The comprehensive pharmaceutical compositions of risperidone nano-microparticles that have been developed to alleviate psychosis are highlighted in the study, which also illustrates potential future developments in such domains.

**Keywords:** nanoparticles, risperidone, psychosis, micro particulates, bioavailability

## Introduction

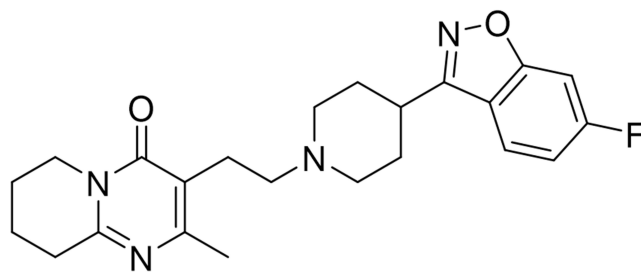
Risperidone, an antipsychotic pharmaceutical ingredient, is administered to address psychotic conditions like schizophrenia and bipolar disorder (acute mania). Yet, it has also been given approval to be employed to cure autism-related hyperactivity.<sup>1</sup> Considering it has less extrapyramidal adverse consequences than traditional antipsychotics, the medication was recognized by the US FDA as a second-generation antipsychotic (SGA) medicine in 1993.<sup>2</sup> It was reported to be the first medication that the FDA accepted for autism. It was introduced to the market at the beginning of the 1990s, many years after the advent of the prototype of the SGA, clozapine, which was licensed in Europe in the 1970s. Majorly, it is well managed with dose-dependency but infrequent extrapyramidal deleterious reactions.<sup>3</sup>

Risperidone has already been marketed under various brand names. Among these, risperdal and resomer tablets are widely used for the treatment of schizophrenia and bipolar disorders. Oral solution of risperidone under the brand name Risperdal and Risdone, which is easy to administer. Risperdal Costa is a long-acting injectable for patients who cannot adhere to a daily dose regimen. Risperdal M-Tab is an oral disintegrating tablet, that is convenient and quick to use for patients having swallowing difficulty. Other than these, risperidone is available in a generic version as well under the name risperidone. Microparticle formulations- This includes examples like Perseris.

Risperidone is a benzisoxazole derivative. The chemical entity of risperidone is “3-[2-[4-(6-fluoro-1,2-benzoxazol-3-yl)piperidin-1-yl]ethyl]-2-methyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydropyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidin-4-one”<sup>4</sup> scaffold as the core linked via piperidine to a benzisoxazole moiety (Figure 1).

The chemical composition is  $C_{23}H_{27}FN_4O_2$  with a molecular weight of 410.49 g/mol. Nearly incompatible in water, risperidone is a white to almost white powder that is soluble in methylene chloride, methanol, and 0.1 N HCl.<sup>5</sup>

Risperidone has documented low oral bioavailability and a 3-hour half-life due to first-pass metabolism. Additionally, risperidone’s unintended administration has an assortment of undesirable outcomes.<sup>6</sup> Risperidone, like many other drugs,



**Figure 1** Chemical structure of Risperidone.

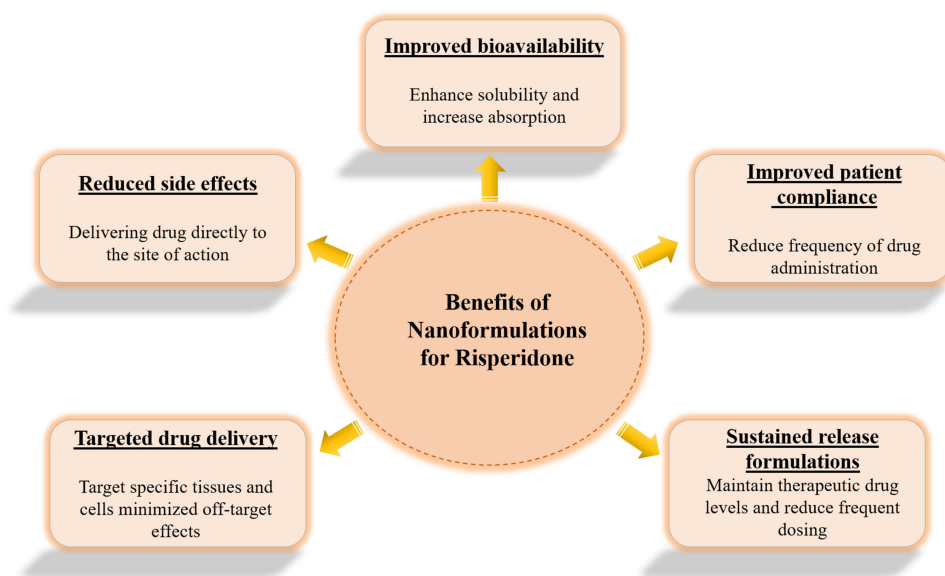
needs to cross the blood–brain barrier (BBB) to employ its impact on the central nervous system, where it primarily acts on dopamine and serotonin receptors.<sup>7</sup> The BBB is a highly selective and protective obstacle that separates the bloodstream from the brain's extracellular fluid. It regulates the movement of components, including drugs, from the blood into the brain.<sup>8</sup>

Risperidone-loaded Nano-Micromaterials were investigated to prevent these pharmaceutical-delivering complications. Risperidone's biodistribution and bioavailability can potentially be increased for better pharmacotherapy through the intravenous delivery of nanoparticles (Nps) to maintain plasma levels.<sup>9</sup>

The use of nano/microcarriers in medicine holds considerable prospects for addressing drug-related issues like disease diagnosis, therapy, and preventive strategies at the cellular and molecular divisions. The spectrum of nanoformulations particle sizes is 1–1000 nm (1  $\mu$ m). For diagnostics and/or therapy, chemicals are typically adsorbed, entrapped, conjugated, or encapsulated in nanosciences.<sup>10</sup> The nanotechnology's selective ligand(s) in the nanotechnology may interact with distinct targets or receptors on the cell surface to produce targeted or synergistic consequences. Currently, sophisticated nanoformulations have been created to approach particular cellular compartments.<sup>11</sup>

To attain desirable or beneficial *in vitro/in vivo* characteristics, such as bioavailability advancement, toxicity elimination, dose diminution, solubility improvements, and drug targeting, along with product stability, surface-modified nanotechnologies (ie, hydrophilic surfaces) via PEG or its analogs in a spectrum of 100–200 nm are typically favored.<sup>12</sup>

Benefits of Nano-Micro carriers for risperidone include improved bioavailability, sustained release formulations, targeted delivery, reduced side effects, and improved patient compliance (Figure 2).<sup>13</sup>



**Figure 2** Representation focusing on the benefits of nanoformulations.

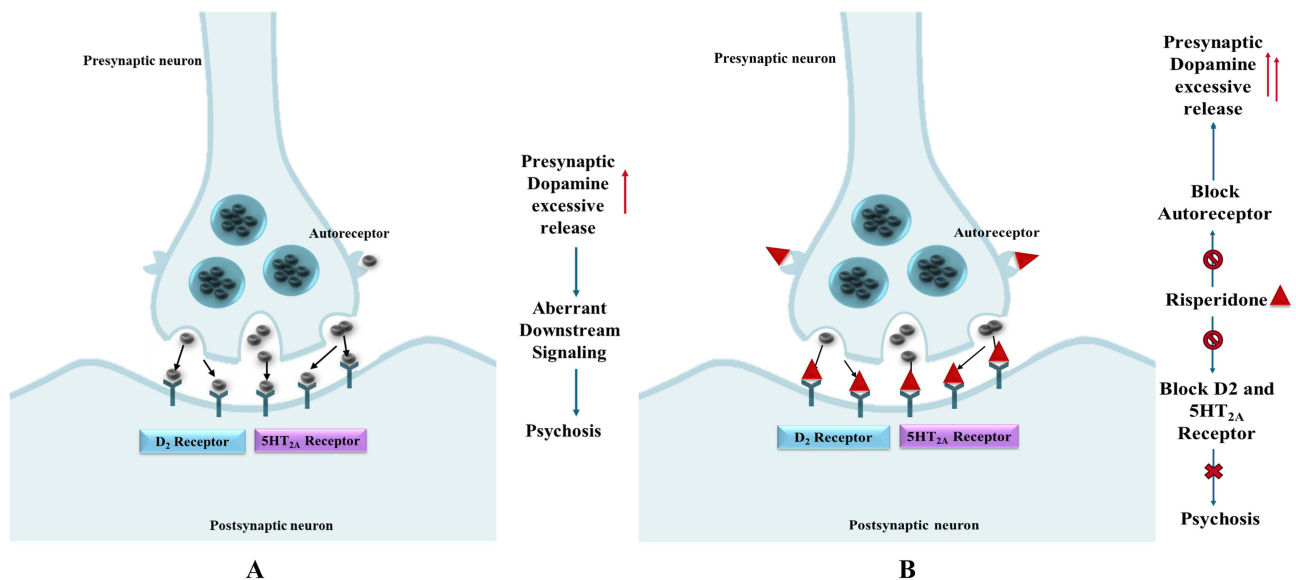
## Mechanism of Action

Risperidone inhibits the brain's D<sub>2</sub> dopaminergic and 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> serotonergic receptors. Schizophrenia is hypothesized to be caused by an overabundance of serotonergic 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> and dopaminergic D<sub>2</sub> action, accordingly, which activates the central mesolimbic and mesocortical networks. Risperidone temporarily inhibits D<sub>2</sub> dopaminergic receptors, which lowers dopaminergic neurotransmission and lessens the favorable signs of schizophrenia, including delusions and hallucinations.<sup>14</sup> Risperidone interacts with the dopaminergic D<sub>2</sub> receptors momentarily and with low potency; the receptor's activation should be between 60% and 70% for best results.<sup>15</sup> Risperidone's quick dissociation from D<sub>2</sub> receptors helps to reduce the likelihood of extrapyramidal symptoms (EPS), which are brought on by the persistent and intense blocking of D<sub>2</sub> dopaminergic receptors. Risperidone differs from other antipsychotic medications because it binds to the D<sub>2</sub> receptor with low potency and dissociates quickly. There is a reduction in serotonergic reactivity as a result of risperidone's strong propensity for adhering to 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> receptors. Additionally, blocking the 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> receptor lowers the incidence of EPS, perhaps by enhancing dopamine production from the frontal cortex rather than the nigrostriatal tract.<sup>16</sup>

The pharmacological development of risperidone was based on its predecessor ritanserin, a 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> blocker that was able to demonstrate effectiveness in managing adverse sensations, but not sufficiently in treating positive symptoms of schizophrenia. It also reduced neuroleptic-induced extrapyramidal symptoms (EPS).<sup>17</sup> A drug that possesses the primary pharmacologic activity of D<sub>2</sub>/5-HT<sub>2A</sub> receptor antagonism, with a greater impact on 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> receptors than on D<sub>2</sub> receptors, was created by altering the compound. Other serotonin-dopamine antagonists were developed using these pharmacologic characteristics as a framework. A significant improvement in therapeutic options for schizophrenia individuals is provided by risperidone and the related sdas.<sup>18</sup>

Medication with risperidone may cause neurological adverse impacts such as akathisia, rigidity, or tremor. Nevertheless, several research initiatives looking at the connection between risperidone or 9-hydroxy risperidone concentrations and neurological impairment came up with inconsistent conclusions. Another frequent problem for risperidone individuals is hyperprolactinemia. In addition to potentially causing sexual dysfunction, it may also pose an extended risk for cardiovascular disease and a decline in bone mineral density.<sup>19</sup>

The illustration representing the mechanism of action of risperidone is shown in Figure 3.



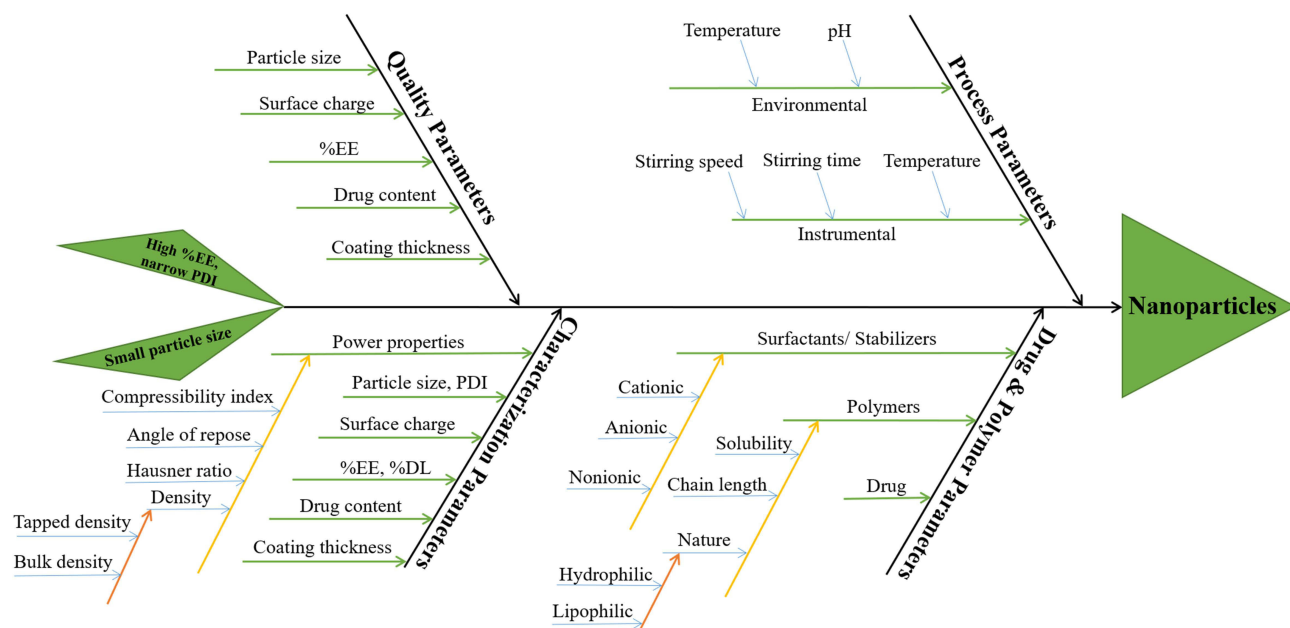
**Figure 3** Illustration depicting (A) the proposed mechanism for the generation of Psychosis by excessive release of dopamine, (B) the intricate mechanism of action of risperidone for inhibition of psychosis by blocking the autoreceptor, D<sub>2</sub> receptor, and 5HT<sub>2A</sub> receptor.

## Formulation Development Strategies for Risperidone

The main factor attributing to the reduced therapeutic efficacy of nano-formulations is the capacity to develop self-aggregation when exposed to low concentrations of drugs, hence compromising the stability of the formulation. There are various major factors to consider in formulating drugs in nano-form to improve uptake and efficiency<sup>20–22</sup> as shown in (Figure 4), Stabilization criteria, Process elements, Constituent attributes, and Characterization methodology are the four main divisions of the Ishikawa flowchart.<sup>23</sup> All aspects were represented under each section. From these, the following significant elements were chosen and addressed: Instrumental, Temperature, stirring time, and speed of stirring higher stirring rates could result in better interaction, which may produce nanoparticles that are smaller and more homogeneous.<sup>24</sup> Fortunately, overly rapid spinning rates can also lead to the aggregation or fragmentation of nanoparticles. Environmental-temperature, pH, as well as chemical interactions normally proceed swiftly at elevated temperatures, and pH affects the surface charge of nanoparticles. Temperature also affects the reaction rates. Regardless of the pH level, nanomaterials can have positive, negative, or neutral charged potentials. It has been demonstrated in the characterization methodology that energy attributes, particle size, PDI (Polydispersity index), interface charge, %EE (Entrapment efficiency), %DL (Drug loading), chemical content, and coating layers exhibit a substantial influence on the density and packing characteristics of nanoparticle aggregates. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM), dynamic light scattering (DLS), and laser diffraction are all displayed using PDI.<sup>25</sup> The manner of specimen setup, microscopy technique, and data interpretation can impact the precision of coating thickness estimates. Other factors, such as surfactants and stabilizers, may also influence the electrostatic associations between nanoparticles and their persistence in suspension. Lipophilic and hydrophilic drugs can be incorporated. Hydrophilic drugs may have faster distribution patterns than lipophilic drugs due to changes in kinetics. While shortest sequences may have a higher drug loading capability, longer ones may have a higher degree of steric integrity. The extruder covering pore size also significantly impacts the ultimate product size.<sup>26</sup>

### Risperidone Liposome

Liposomes are micro or colloidal carriers, generally ranging from 0.05 to 5.0  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter, that develop when certain lipids are hydrated in aqueous solutions. The size of liposomes is an essential variable that influences the amount of liposomes removed by the reticuloendothelial system risperidone (RES).<sup>27</sup> Liposomes with a diameter smaller than 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  show a less severe opsonization process compared to liposomes with a diameter larger than 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$ . Therefore, the rates at which liposomes are taken up by the RES are directly related to the size of the vesicle.<sup>28</sup> Liposomes can be



**Figure 4** Ishikawa diagram representing various critical parameters for the preparation of nanoparticles.

characterized based on their lamellarity, including uni-, oligo-, and multi-lamellar vesicles. Also, liposomes can be classified according to their size, so they can be small, intermediate, or large. Moreover, liposomes may be classified based on the method used for their production, such as reverse phase evaporation vesicles (REV) or various other methods. Unilamellar vesicles have a single lipid bilayer and usually have sizes ranging from 50 to 250 nm.<sup>29</sup> Microspheres are small, offer a substantial aqueous core, and are typically used for the encapsulation of medicines that are soluble in water. Multilamellar vesicles consist of many annular lipid bilayers grouped in a manner like the layers of an onion skin. Such vesicles generally have sizes ranging from 1 to 5  $\mu\text{m}$ . Passive entrapment of lipid-soluble drugs is helped by the increased lipid content shown within these multilamellar vesicles.<sup>30</sup>

Liposomes have been utilized as delivery methods for multiple chemicals caused of their special biocompatibility. NPs give significant improvements in the therapeutic indices of the therapeutic molecules enclosed in them.<sup>31</sup> Liposomes have a biphasic nature, allowing them to act as carriers for drugs that are both lipophilic and hydrophilic. The distribution and behavior of drug molecules within a liposomal environment vary according to their solubility and partition characteristics, which lead to distinct entrapment and release characteristics.<sup>32</sup>

Liposomes are widely acknowledged as effective for drug delivery due to their structural responsiveness, as well as their natural properties like biocompatibility, biodegradability, non-toxicity, and non-immunogenicity.<sup>33</sup> The application of liposomes as a drug delivery system has significantly enhanced treatments in various biomedical areas. The following works through the stabilization of therapeutic compounds, overcoming barriers related to cellular and tissue absorption, as well as the targeted delivery and distribution of compounds to specific areas in cells.<sup>34</sup> Liposomes offer two significant advantages concerning drug administration in organisms, specifically biocompatibility, and biodegradability, respectively, both of which can be related to the natural properties of lipids.<sup>35</sup>

The *In vitro* dissolution studies showed that Narayan et al. These liposomes were generated using the thin-film hydration approach, where usual liposomes made from soya phosphatidylcholine (SPC) and cholesterol were loaded. The lipid-based film hydration method has been used with some modifications. To achieve better brain penetration. The enhanced formulation was assessed based on its physicochemical characteristics. The liposomes revealed distinct spherical vesicular structures, such as a smooth bilayered surface, with a size range that extends from 90 to 100 nm. A sustained high encapsulation efficiency, ranging from 91% to 94%, was observed.<sup>36</sup>

## Risperidone Nanoparticles

Nanotechnology is a field of study and innovation that focuses on research and development performed at the atomic, molecular, or macromolecular scales. Nanoparticles can be readily identified as the fundamental components for the study of nanotechnology.<sup>37</sup> Nanoparticles can be identified as dispersions of solid particles with diameters usually lying within the range of 10–1000nm. Pharmaceutical drugs are solubilized, immobilized, encapsulated, or linked onto a matrix that includes nanoparticles. Nanoparticles, nanospheres, and nanocapsules can be obtained via the chosen method of preparation.<sup>38,39</sup> R Rukmangathen et al formulated nanoparticles for the management of schizophrenia through intranasal administration. Using Chitosan, tripolyphosphate, and tween 80/poloxamer 188, Nps were formulated by ionic gelation. It was observed that Nps were shown controlled drug release via Fickian diffusion. As risperidone is classified as part of BCS class II, it has a high hydrophobicity and is extensively metabolized by the liver, as a result, its bioavailability is reported to be variable (70%). L. Lugasi et al, reported that encapsulation of RSP into nanoparticles was done to stabilize it by enhancing tolerability and adherence and thus increasing the bioavailability, thereby improving the antipsychotic activity and reducing the side effects.

## Risperidone Nanoemulsions

Nanoemulsions are liquid-in-liquid dispersions characterized as having kinetic stability having droplet sizes usually in the range of 100 nm.<sup>40,41</sup> The narrow sizes of such particles give rise to beneficial features, including a significant surface area corresponding to their volume, strong strength, clearly transparent attributes, and customized rheological characteristics.<sup>42</sup> A standard nanoemulsion is composed of three primary components: oil, water, and an emulsifier. The usage of an emulsifier is essential for promoting the development of small droplets since it decreases the interfacial tension, which refers to the energy per unit area at the interface between both the water and oil phases of the emulsion.



The emulsifier also fulfills an objective in the stabilization of nanoemulsions by using repulsive electrostatic interactions and steric hindrance.<sup>43</sup> The small dimensions of these particles allow them to effectively bypass tissues at a profound level, hence extending their presence inside the bloodstream and allowing separate bio-nano interactions. On average, a surfactant acts as an emulsifier, however, proteins and lipids have also proven efficacy in the development of nanoemulsions. They have kinetic stability, indicating that with time, a phase separation occurs in nanoemulsions. To create nanoemulsions, a process that involves two stages is necessary. Initially, coarse emulsions develop, and they are subsequently treated with high-pressure homogenization or ultrasonication to minimize the size of the larger droplets to the nano-size, resulting in the formation of nanoemulsions.<sup>44,45</sup>

Dorđević et al proposed that a possible enhancement of brain drug availability in P80- and PL188-containing preparations of risperidone could be attributed, in part, to the restriction of the P-gp efflux system at the blood–brain barrier<sup>46</sup>

In vivo studies carried out with risperidone nanoemulsion (RSP-nes) stabilized with P80 (RSP-nes) showed a 1.2–1.5-fold increase in relative bioavailability, a 1.1–1.8-fold decrease in liver accumulation, and around 1.3-fold higher drug entry to the brain after the intraperitoneal injection of RSP-nes compared to the administration of the free drug solution in a rat model.<sup>47</sup> Also, according to behavioral research, it was observed that rats treated with RSP-nes had decreased in both initial and amphetamine-induced locomotor activity. The animals that received RSP-NE revealed an early initiation of antipsychotic symptoms that were maintained for around 90 minutes after delivery.<sup>48</sup>

The investigators conducted a study into a nanoemulsion formulation containing risperidone (RSP) to enhance medication delivery to the brain via intranasal administration. The study's investigation of both risperidone nanoemulsion (RNE) and mucoadhesive nanoemulsion (RMNE) encompassed the assessment of drug concentration, globule size, pH, percentage transmittance, and zeta potential. The study primarily examined the biodistribution of RMNE, RNE, and risperidone solution (RS) in the brain and blood of Swiss albino rats. The drugs were administered using intravenous and intranasal ways to accomplish this.<sup>49</sup> The biodistribution study of risperidone formulation was conducted using technetium-labeled substances, with suitable optimization techniques. The localization of the medication in the rat brain was determined using gamma scintigraphy imaging, followed by intravenous and intranasal administrations.<sup>50</sup> The results of the study demonstrated that mucoadhesive nanoemulsions showed higher drug transport efficiency (DTE %) and direct nose-to-brain drug transport (direct transport percentage, DTP%) compared to other produced nanoemulsions.<sup>51</sup> These findings suggest that mucoadhesive nanoemulsions are more effective and offer better brain targeting for the delivery of RSP. Multiple studies have provided solid evidence of the swift and substantial transportation of the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) surface protein (RSP) via the intranasal route using respiratory mucosal nanotechnology enhancers (RMNE). This transport efficiency was found to be much higher compared to the intranasal administration of RSV alone (RS), as well as intranasal and intravenous administration of RSV surface protein encapsulated in nanocarriers (RNE). Moreover, these investigations specifically focused on the transportation of RSP into the brain of rats.<sup>52</sup>

## Risperidone Nanosuspensions

Nanosuspension technology is currently seeing significant growth and advancement in the field of pharmaceutical science research and development. The utilization of the nanosuspension method is a prevalent and widely applicable technique in the field of nanotechnology.<sup>53</sup> This is mainly because newly developed chemical entities (NCEs) show practical insoluble in aqueous environments and offer difficulties for formulation using traditional methods. Pharmaceutical nanosuspensions consist of aqueous dispersions of insoluble drug particles that can be nanosized and exhibit variability. Those nanosuspensions are stabilized by the presence of surfactants.<sup>54</sup> Nanosuspensions are now showing potential in both in vivo and in vitro conditions for the delivery of water-insoluble drugs. This can be related to their small size at the nanoscale, thus great specific surface area, and distinct physicochemical characteristics. The achievement of a high drug loading capacity (100%) in nanosuspensions can lead to the efficient delivery of drugs into cells, resulting in achieving therapeutic concentrations that are sufficiently high and optimizing the pharmacological effects.<sup>55</sup>

## Risperidone Niosomes

The multi-lamellar vesicular complexes known as niosomes are made of non-ionic surfactants. They resemble liposomes but are made of non-ionic surfactant rather than the phospholipids found in liposomes.<sup>56,57</sup>

A widely recognized antipsychotic medication, risperidone is frequently used for the management of schizophrenia alongside other psychotic diseases. Risperidone taken orally is converted by the cytochrome P-450 enzymes into the equipotent 9-hydroxy risperidone, which has a narrow window of entry into the BBB. To solve this problem, risperidone-containing niosomes were developed, improved, and tested under the presumption that non-ionic surfactants inhibit cytochrome P-450 enzymes from metabolizing risperidone into its derivatives. Following testing of various levels and a span of 60 compositions, which had the finest entrapment efficacy (92.83%), niosomes were made using the sonication process. Vesicle sizes between 180 nm and 388.9 nm had higher zeta potential ranges and lower PDI (0.171 to 0.437) (−20.4 mv to −50.6 mv). Vesicles appeared to be spherical by TEM, and no probable incompatibilities among the formulation constituents were found, according to FTIR and DSC analyses. The in-vitro prolonged release profiles and Fickian diffusing mechanisms of niosomes were both present. For the compositions maintained at ambient temperatures ( $25\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ) and under refrigeration ( $4\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ ) for 90 days, no appreciable changes in fundamental attributes, vesicle size, or entrapment effectiveness were found. The niosomes were resistant to the bile salts' (sodium desoxycholate) solubilizing effects. Niosomes provide higher risperidone bioavailability and so can be exploited for efficient drug administration. Niosomes are self-assembled vesicles synthesized from non-ionic amphiphilic surfactants. Cholesterol and the charged compounds are introduced to the solution to increase stabilization and give the bilayers more stiffness. Niosomes were developed as a substitute for liposomes since they have advantages over them in terms of stability, sterilization, and mass synthesis. They are structurally identical to liposomes. Like liposomes, niosomes have hydrophilic and bilayer chambers that can, correspondingly, contain hydrophilic and hydrophobic pharmaceuticals. Additionally, they might augment the biodistribution along with the absorption of medicines, facilitate drug targeting, and ameliorate pharmacokinetics.<sup>58–62</sup> Risperidone-containing niosomes were created by Sambhakar S. et al. Additionally, it was shown that the flow and permeability coefficient improved despite the usage of bile salts, resulting in a bioavailability of 111%. An additional group of investigators generated proniosomes of RIS and upon executing the assessed study prolonged releasing drugs with improved bioavailability was detected. The augmentation proportion was discovered to be approximately 2-fold for niosomes without bile salts and 1.33-fold for niosomes having bile salts. They also concluded that more potent medications may be provisioned further.<sup>63,64</sup>

## Risperidone Microparticles/Microspheres

Since they exhibit better pharmacological and diagnostic effectiveness than traditional drug delivery forms (DDS), microparticulate technologies (typically of 1–1000 m) are frequently used as DDS. It is possible to achieve consistent and prolonged blood levels with successive injections by using microparticle technologies that encase risperidone in a biodegradable polymer and sequential hydrolysis of the microspheres.<sup>65,66</sup> First and subsequent levels of risperidone and its active component could very well be provided by extended-release microparticles of the drug. Individuals who are diagnosed with schizophrenia will adhere to treatment more readily, experience fewer negative consequences, and have a better quality of life if long-acting dosage forms made with atypical antipsychotics are prepared properly.<sup>67</sup> If the medicine is adjusted, systemic regulated release microspheres are a dependable way for delivering it to the target site with precision and keeping the appropriate concentrations at the region of concern without triggering any negative side implications. Due to its many potential uses, the biodegradable microspheric DDS has attracted a lot of consideration. Compared to other dose forms, it offers more benefits.<sup>68</sup> Additionally, because the microspheres are micron-sized, they can conveniently fit into numerous parenteral regions and capillary beds. Although an array of polymers can be used to create these microspheres, biodegradable polymers like polylactide-co-glycolide (PLGA) and polycaprolactone (PCL) have become increasingly popular due to their useful and commercially feasible DDS.<sup>69</sup> Due to their simplicity in planning, feasible commercial accessibility, adaptability, biological compatibility, hydrolytic deterioration into innocuous services, and potential for regulated release uses, the aforementioned polymers have drawn attention as suitable matrices for drug delivery microspheres. It is also biocompatible with a wide range of other polymers.<sup>70</sup> Medical professionals using TDM for risperidone LAI microsphere formulations should: 1) examine steady state to be attained 6 weeks shortly after the first injection; 2) be cognizant of co-medications with inducers/inhibitors; 3) serious inflammations/infections; and 4) hepatic/renal impairment; and 3) apply Castberg's suggestions to estimate risperidone dosage, who allocated the implemented LAI dose by the quantity of days.<sup>71,72</sup> Table 1 below summarizes various formulation development strategies of risperidone for improving solubility and bioavailability.

**Table 1** Tabular Representation Emphasizing Formulation Development Strategies of Risperidone Employed for Improving the Solubility and Bioavailability

Formulation	Method	Purpose	Component of delivery system	Conclusion	Ref
Nanoparticles	Ionic gelation	Intranasal administration of NP for the management of schizophrenia	Chitosan, tripolyphosphate, tween 80/ poloxamer 188	- NPs possess a zeta potential of +36.6 mV and an average size of 86 nm- EE was 77.96%- Showed controlled drug release via Fickian diffusion	[73]
	Thermal step-growth polymerization	To improve the aqueous solubility of risperidone and stability of NPs in aqueous phase	Polyethylene glycol (PEG), L-amino acids, poly-L-lactic acid (PLLA), L-glutamic acid (Glu), L-lysine (Lys), L-phenylalanine (Phe), L-histidine (His), sodium hydroxide (NaOH)	- NPs ranging around 58 to 86 nm.- Nontoxic improved aqueous solubility, can cross BBB	[74]
	Nanoprecipitation method	To provide sustained drug release and enhance therapeutic efficacy by reducing dose-dependent side effects	L-amino acids and PLGA (Poly lactic acid: Glycolic acid, Poly Vinyl Alcohol (PVA)	- Size of NPs was 213.3 nm, EE 82.89%.- Sustained drug released was observed for 168 hrs via fickian diffusion.	[75]
	Nano-precipitation	The development of nanoparticles for transdermal drug delivery	Poloxamer, (pluronic) lecithin organogel (PLO), soya lecithin, isopropyl-(palmitate or myristate)	- Yielded nano-sized diameters from 58 ± 2 and 86 ± 3 nm- NPs were spherical, size around 109 nm- Entrapment efficiency was 58%- Possessed sustained drug release for 72 hours	[76]
Nanosuspension	Nanoprecipitation	For prolonged psychotic treatments through novel parenteral drug delivery systems	Poly (D, L-Lactide) (PDLLA), Pluronic F-68, and Pluronic F-127	- Size of nanoparticle ranging between 78–184 nm with EE 91–94%- Showed sustained release followed by fickian diffusion	[77]
	Liquisolid technique	To increase the solubility for BCS II	Silicon dioxide (SiO <sub>2</sub> ), Transcutol HP, Labrasol and Labrafil, Pharmaburst 500, Poly ethylene glycol 400, Tween 20	- When the inlet temperature was 125°C and the speed was 40 rpm- The investigation found that the highest yield and lowest particle size were achieved	[78]
Niosomes	Sonication method	The study was to improve the bioavailability of risperidone	Span 20, 40, 60, 80, Tween 20, 40, 80, cholesterol, and stearyl amine	- Niosome vesicles ranging between 180–288 nm, EE 92.83%- Improved bioavailability of RIS followed by Fickian diffusion	[79]
	Film hydration technique	Prepared the proniosomal formulations for transdermal drug delivery	Phospholipon 90G (PL90G), Phospholipid GmbH, Cholesterol	- Vesicle size from 498.43±1.27 nm and EE% 90.43±1.21%- The transdermal flux across rat skin range of 117.4±8.61 mg/cm <sup>2</sup> /h- On rats indicated sustained release of drug with better bioavailability	[80]
Nanoemulsion	Spontaneous Emulsification method	Development of nanoemulsion for direct nose-to-brain delivery.	Capmul MCM, Capmul GMO, Labrafac CC, Labrafil 1944 MS, Transcutol, Tween 80, ethyl oleate	- Particle size ranging around 15.5 ± 2.12 nm- In-vivo studies revealed the nanoemulsion to be free from nasal ciliotoxicity- Showed high diffusion coefficient, (suitable for direct nose-to-brain delivery)- Nanoemulsion was stable for 3 months	[81]
	Solvent extraction method,	To accomplish the delivery of drugs to the brain via the nose.	Tween 80, polyethylene glycol 400, Polycarbophil (AA-1), Transcutol, stannous chloride dihydrate (SnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O), Sodium pertechnetate	- Globule size range of 15.5–16.7 nm- Nasal pH range (3.5–6.4)	[82]

(Continued)



Table I (Continued).

Formulation	Method	Purpose	Component of delivery system	Conclusion	Ref
Liposomes	-	To development of sustained released liposomes and toxicity studied	Triolein, cholesterol	- SEM study revealed release of spherical-shaped liposomes (diameter- 8 $\mu$ m)- Showed sustained drug release lasting up to 15 days	[83]
	Thin film hydration method	To develop functionalized risperidone liposomes for brain targeting via the nasal route	Soya schizophrenia phosphatidylcholine (SPC), cholesterol, octadecyl amine/ stearyl amine (SA), Sephadex-G25, and Triton®-X 100	- Vesicle size ranged from 90 to 100 nm- Entrapment efficiency of liposomes was between 50 and 60%- Direct delivery from nose to brain transport bypasses BBB	[84]
Nanocarrier	Ionic gelation method	Encapsulating risperidone into nano carries based on chitosan with the help of ionic binding interaction	Chitosan, Sodium tripolyphosphate (TPP), Poloxamer 188	- Size was between 300 and 400 nm- EE was 25.62% with addition of 0.050% SDS (Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate)	[85]
Polymeric nanoparticles	Nanoprecipitation method	To extended-release for IV (intravenous) route and reduce dose-dependent extrapyramidal side effects	PCL, Pluronic F-68, Pluronic F-127, Apomorphine hydrochloride	- The particle-size distribution of nanoparticle is $99.1 \pm 12.7$ nm with zeta potential range of $-22.4 \pm 2.3$ mV to $-29.7 \pm 1.2$ mV- This improves the therapeutic efficacy- Poorly soluble drugs	[86]
	Nanoprecipitation method	To develop extended-release and thermal-responsive in situ gel containing risperidone	PLGA (lactate and glycolate), PL-407, and apomorphine hydrochloride,	- The particle size ranged between 85 and 219 nm. About 89% to 95% EE.- Obtained prolonged effect of extended-release for 72 hours.	[87]
Carbon nanotubes	Electrochemical methods	To enhance the sensitivity of detecting risperidone	Graphene oxide (GO), diamond/graphite nano mixture (NDG), N, N-dimethylformamide (DMF), acetonitrile (ACN), acetic acid, phosphoric acid, sodium hydroxide	- Wide linear dynamic range from 0.04 to 7 $\mu$ m- Maintained its stability over an extended period- The results showed good repeatability and reproducibility	[88]
Dendrimers	Microdialysis Eppendorf tube diffusion technique	In vitro toxicity evaluation of G4 PAMAM dendrimers risperidone complexes	Methanol, chloroform, HCl, NaCl, and PAMAM DG4	- The best conditions for efficiently incorporating risperidone into DG4- Concentrations of DG4 below $3 \times 10^2$ mm and risperidone at 5.1 mm- A period of 106 hours in a buffer solution stability	[89]
Nanocrystal	Lyophilization technique	Proposed to overcome the solubility issue of RIS	Trehalose dihydrate (TD), sodium deoxycholate (SDC), polycaprolactone (PCL), Pluronic F-68, hydroxy propyl beta cyclodextrin (HP $\beta$ CD), L-arginine and Pluronic	- Average particle size, PDI range $214 \pm 3.4$ nm, and zeta potential $0.120-10.2 \pm 0.90$ mV- Enhanced the water solubility of the drug	[90]
Microsphere	Solvent extraction/ evaporation method	To develop a parenteral delivery system of risperidone that would provide initial and extended drug release	Poly (D, L-lactide-co-glycolide) (PLGA), risperidone hydrochloride	- Size ranging between (19–49 $\mu$ m)- Drug loading parameters range from (31–37%) and uniform bulk density (0.66–0.69) g/cc	[91]
	Homogenization, vortex mixing	Carrying out the in vitro- in vivo correlation (IVIVC) of polymeric microspheres loaded with risperidone	PLGA poly (lactic-co-glycolic acid), Poly (vinyl alcohol), trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)	- Drug capacity for loading was 39%- Displays similar D50 values and span values of $p > 0.05$ - Has a porosity percentage of $43.97 \pm 4.60$	[92]

(Continued)

**Table I** (Continued).

Formulation	Method	Purpose	Component of delivery system	Conclusion	Ref
	Single-emulsion solvent evaporation method	To prolonged drug delivery of PEG-PLGA polymers are also useful materials for small lipophilic molecules	PEG-PLGA – poly (ethylene glycol) methyl ether-block-poly (D, L-Lactide-co-glycolide) s, poly (vinyl alcohol)	- The particle size ranges from 20 to 30 $\mu\text{m}$ - The DLG 50–7P formulation demonstrated a linear release effect of risperidone for one month	[93]
	Solvent extraction/ evaporation technique	To develop PLGA–lipid microcapsules (MCs) For parenteral controlled drug release	Expansorb DLG, PVA, isopropyl myristate Ph-Eur, dichloromethane, and hydroxystearic acid	- The spherical particle sizes are around 2 micrometers- Improved release profiles, which modify the lipid composition rapidly	[94]

**Note:** Data from these studies.<sup>73–94</sup>

## Toxicological Studies

When atypical antipsychotic medications are used therapeutically, undesirable adverse reactions commonly emerge. These side events might happen either early or late in the duration of the treatment and can be idiopathic or dose-dependent.<sup>95</sup> Numerous neurological disorders, including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and depressive symptoms, are treated with drugs like risperidone. Risperidone's acute and long-term toxicities provide the most threat.<sup>96</sup>

These drugs have a complicated pharmacology and serious adverse interactions. Risperidone's negative consequences, which include immune system modifications, have been extensively researched. According to clinical reports, individuals on risperidone are more vulnerable to infections.<sup>97</sup> Risperidone and its active derivative, paliperidone, appear to have a primary impact on the bone marrow compartment, causing immunosuppression, myeloid dysplasia, leukopenia, neutropenia, lymphopenia, and thrombocytopenia.

Risperidone is linked to a reduction in platelet-associated antibody titers, a block in phagocytosis, and the emergence of intermittent eosinophilic pneumonia. The strongest evidence points to decreased blood levels of several cytokines and immune regulators as the rationale for the risperidone-induced immunosuppression. Immune function networks connected to T cell maturation/differentiation were among the more severely damaged by risperidone therapy. The vitality of human blood lymphocytes is decreased by risperidone.<sup>98</sup>

In lymphocytes that were administered with risperidone, the lysosome membrane was harmed. ROS, particularly superoxide radicals and hydrogen peroxide, are linked to lysosomal destruction.<sup>99</sup> The lysosomes' high iron (ferruginous) component enables interactions that result in potent oxidative species, including the production of an exceedingly reactive hydroxyl radical via a Fenton-type response, which causes membrane LPO and lysosome leakiness and the ensuing dissolution of its digesting proteases. The oxidative stress produced by mitochondria and redox-active, iron-rich lysosomes is increased as a result of this damaging mechanism.<sup>100</sup> Risperidone excess dosage was typically accompanied by brief, typically mild neuromuscular (lethargy, muscle spasms/dystonia) and cardiovascular (tachycardia, hypotension, alterations in the electrocardiogram) symptoms. The hazardous consequences of an excessive intake of risperidone are mostly an amplification of its pharmacological actions. CNS and respiratory depression, miosis or mydriasis, hypertension or orthostatic hypotension, sinus tachycardia, agitation, psychosis, anticholinergic stigmata, and, less frequently, seizures, cardiac conduction abnormalities, atrial and ventricular dysrhythmia fibrillation are all signs of toxic effect.<sup>101</sup>

The more prevalent symptoms are CNS repercussions, which may vary from moderate poisoning indications like ataxia and fatigue to serious symptoms like significant unconsciousness and decline in neurological responses. Upon overdosing with any atypical drug, sinus tachycardia, and orthostatic hypotension are usually observed.<sup>102</sup> Other adverse events included anxiety, droopy eyes, early menstrual flow, fainting spell, headache, heavy tongue, hot flashes, hyperthermia, multiple bruises, musculoskeletal pain, nervousness, oculogyric crisis, premature adrenarche, restlessness, tachycardia, thirst, worsened behavioral problem, and worsened muscle cramp as well as extrapyramidal manifestations.<sup>103</sup> Risperidone induces oxidative stress and damages lysosomes and mitochondria in normal blood cells. **Figure 5** shows risperidone mainly inhibits certain receptors responsible for its therapeutic action and adverse reaction. Some of the

receptors promoting therapeutic action are  $D_2$  dopamine and  $5-HT_{2A}$  serotonin and the other reliable for adverse reactions are Muscarinic  $M_3$ , Histamine  $H_1$ , Adrenergic receptors.

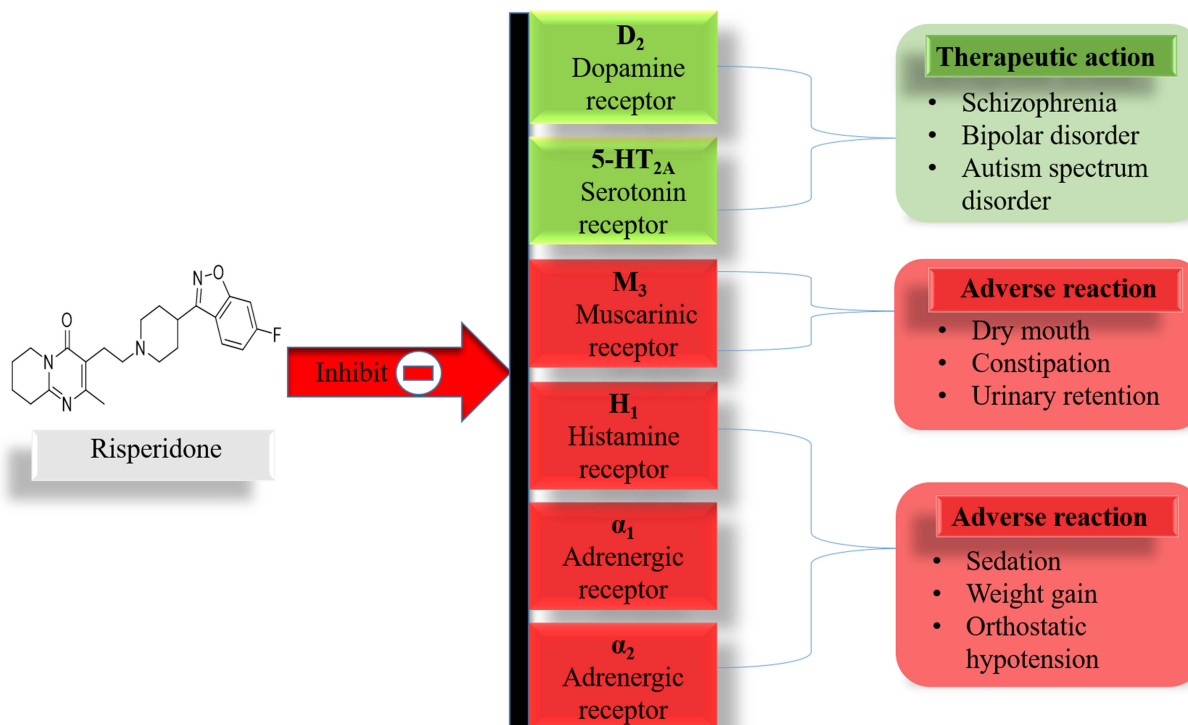
## Clinical Trials of Risperidone and Risperidone Related Formulations

Risperidone is an efficient antipsychotic that alleviates both unfavorable and favorable aspects of schizophrenia, according to scientific research. Extrapyramidal adverse reactions are not more frequent at acceptable dosage regimens than they are with a placebo. The medication seems to be a step forward in the management of psychosis.<sup>104</sup> The outcomes of additional controlled trials assessing this medication's tolerability and efficiency with other antipsychotic medications, as well as clinical evidence, will determine the level to which it will be used as a first-line therapy for the management of schizophrenia patients.<sup>105</sup>

Experimental trials were found evaluating the effectiveness and acceptability of risperidone. Table 2 below summarizes the findings of the identified risperidone for various neurological disorders depending on the stability, safety, and efficacy profiles.

## Patents Related to and/or Risperidone-Based Formulations

Risperidone continues to be the focus of multiple patents and compositions, which exemplify the continuous endeavors in pharmaceutical studies to improve its therapeutic effectiveness, distribution methods, and patient results. Patents of risperidone frequently encompass original formulations, modes of delivery, and inventive amalgamations with other substances. For example, pharmaceutical formulations may prioritize enhancing the bioavailability of drugs, prolonging the release patterns of active compounds, or mitigating the adverse effects linked to medication. The aforementioned patents not only represent the continued commitment to enhancing the pharmacological features of risperidone but also highlight the broader industry advances regarding personalized treatment and optimal drug delivery methods. The ever-changing intellectual rights landscape in the pharmaceutical sector is a testament to the industry's commitment to tackling the complex difficulties related to



**Figure 5** Receptors responsible for the therapeutic and adverse reactions of risperidone.

**Table 2** Clinical Trials Conducted for risperidone<sup>106</sup>

NCT Number	Disease Indication/Details	Phase	Purpose
NCT00269919	Schizophrenia/Schizoaffective Disorder	IV	To evaluate the injectable long-acting formulation's quality of life, long-term safety and efficacy
NCT00177164	Bipolar I Disorder	III	For treatment continuity and clinical stability, the long-acting injectable version of risperidone is better than the oral second-generation antipsychotic medications
NCT00249223	Schizophrenia/Psychotic Disorders	III	When used in individuals with persistent schizophrenia, risperidone injection therapy is equally safe and effective as risperidone pills
NCT00330863	Schizophrenia/Schizoaffective Disorder	IV	To determine whether administering antipsychotic medicine via injection once every two weeks can aid individuals with schizophrenia in maintaining more control over their symptoms, as opposed to taking medication orally every day
NCT00294008	Schizophrenia/Tranquilizing Agents/Mental Disorders/Therapeutic Uses/Physiological Effects of Drugs/Psychotropic Drugs/Antipsychotic Agents	NA	This web-based registry study was non-interventional and attempts to assess demographic, therapeutic, and outcome data for patients receiving long-acting injectable risperidone.
NCT00215579	Schizophrenia/Schizoaffective Disorder	IV	Inadequate clinical response to a long-acting injectable formulation as the main antipsychotic may boost drug compliance and lead to better results.
NCT00563017	Schizophrenia, Catatonic/Schizophrenia, Disorganized/Schizophrenia, Paranoid/Schizophrenia/Psychotic Disorders	NA	The purpose of this research was to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of patients experiencing long-acting injections of risperidone microspheres.
NCT01855074	Schizophrenia/Schizophreniform Disorder/Schizoaffective Disorder	IV	The purpose of this was to investigate whether long-acting injectable risperidone microspheres are safe and effective for use in treating schizoaffective, schizophreniform, or schizophrenia diseases.
NCT02687984	Schizophrenia	I	To determine the relative safety, bioavailability, and tolerability, of single SC injections of RBP-7000, a medication that has been developed with two separate molecular weights that stays stable in schizophrenia patients

antipsychotic medications, with the eventual goal of enhancing the well-being of persons suffering from psychiatric diseases.<sup>107–112</sup> The patents associated with risperidone-based formulations are listed below in [Table 3](#).

## Future Perspectives

Nano and microparticulate systems hold great potential for research in advancing drug delivery systems and improving the therapeutic efficacy of drugs. Risperidone, an antipsychotic drug used for treating schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, has limited therapeutic efficacy due to poor physicochemical properties. The nanocarriers of risperidone present exciting possibilities for future research. Nanocarriers have the potential to improve the solubility and bioavailability of risperidone, resulting in better drug absorption and distribution. Future research could explore more strategies that could improve the solubility and bioavailability of risperidone. Future research could look at the importance of controlled sustained drug release formulations, which could result in prolonged therapeutic action, reduced administration frequency, and improved patient

**Table 3** Tabular Insights of Patents Associated with Risperidone-Based Formulations

Patent Number	Year	Patent Title	Area of Patent	Ref
CN112451483B	2020	Preparation method of paliperidone palmitate suspension	The paliperidone palmitate increases the absorption rate and the bioavailability of the paliperidone palmitate	[107]
JP5795606B2	2008	Slow-broadcast formulation of risperidone compound	This improves risperidone's bioavailability. Especially the development of a sustained release is required	[108]
WO2007138462A2	2007	Aqueous oral formulations of risperidone	It's acid addition salt and preservative. The pH of the solution was maintained between the ranges of about 2 to 6. This solution is essentially free of sorbitol.	[109]
US11712475B2	2008	Sustained delivery formulations of risperidone compound	In along with treating Tourette syndrome, psychotic depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and some types of bipolar disorder, it is also used in small dosages to treat autism spectrum disorders.	[110]
CN104288091B	2014	Risperidone nano-suspension temperature-sensitive gel and its preparation method	The benefits of a high drug load and stability on liquid administration of the gel form	[111]
EP3160444B1	2015	A pharmaceutical oil-in-water nano-emulsion	Improved drug release and loading characteristics, extended shelf life, thermodynamic stability, enhanced bioavailability, and decreased toxicity	[112]

compliance. Targeted drug delivery systems aim to target specific tissues or organs, especially in the central nervous system, which is another exciting possibility that can improve the therapeutic outcome and minimize side effects. Efforts can be made to improve the stability and shelf life of these formulations, for improving long-term viability. Combination therapies, involving a combination of risperidone with another therapeutic agent, and personalized therapies could be a potential research area for effective management of diseases/disorders. If common challenges viz. commercial production, economy, toxicity, stability, and regulatory approval associated with nanocarriers are adequately addressed, their application in drug delivery could be more viable and justified. Leading technologies such as 3D printing, nanometers, nanotubes, and micro-needles can also be investigated for the delivery and therapeutic effectiveness of risperidone.

## Conclusion

Nanopsychiatry is a novel term that is used to emphasize the importance of combining psychiatry with nanocarriers. Nano/microcarriers are used for curing psychosis, illustrating the clinical success development for the treatment of psychotic disorders. A recent review shows the promising results of antipsychotic nano/microcarriers for bioavailability enhancement, dose reduction, extended and controlled drug release, and toxicity reduction. The development of risperidone nano and microparticles represents a significant advancement in pharmaceutical technology. These innovative drug formulations have the potential to address key challenges associated with the delivery and efficacy of risperidone. Researchers, pharmaceutical companies, and regulatory agencies continue to explore and evaluate the potential benefits and challenges associated with risperidone nano and microparticles. As this field of research evolves, it may lead to improved treatment options for individuals with psychiatric disorders and pave the way for similar innovations in drug delivery for other therapeutic areas.

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## Disclosure

The authors report no conflicts of interest in this work.



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