

THIS 2025, CHOOSE

SOFTGELS

YOUR TRUSTED SOLUTION

Discover the **endless opportunities** this technology can offer to your Brand.



SOFTGEL

Consumer Preference

FACTS & INSIGHTS



OVERVIEW:

The softgel capsule has been in the market **since the 19th century evolving to the present day**. Because of this, consumers feel familiar with the technology, trusting its **efficiency, quality and convenience**.

The softgel capsule has a strong recognition in the **supplement and the prescription market**, facilitating patient adherence to the drug by offering easiness of swallowing, plus many other thanks to the texture of its shell, among other benefits.

Straus, Mike. Advances in softgels, capsules, and tablets are keeping these formats at the forefront of the Industry. Nutritional Outlook. Nov 2018.

Lisa Schofield. Softgels' Clear Advantages. Natural Products Insider. 2019





THE SOFTGEL CAPSULE: *A superior Delivery System*

System with wide-ranging applications

The Softgel Capsule is a solid dosage form composed of **two gelatin films** that contain semisolid or liquid **APIs protected by an external, hermetically sealed cover.**

Softgels ensure **high precision dosage** by achieving homogeneity of ingredients.

An effective delivery system for oral drugs, especially those with low solubility and/or permeability (BCS class II, III and IV(1))

SOFTGEL CAPSULE:

Technical Overview



Key Benefits

-  **Enhanced bioavailability** of active ingredients
-  **Attractive** physical appearance
-  **Greater** Stability
-  **Extended** Shelf Life
-  **Masks** unpleasant odors and flavors
-  **Solves** a broad range of challenges
-  **Variety** of Shapes, Colors and Sizes
-  **Impossible to** Counterfeit

Main applications

-  **Pharmaceutical:** Products for any type of indication (OTC and Rx)
-  **Nutritional:** Supplements, vitamins, concentrates and other natural products
-  **Cosmeceuticals:** Cosmetic products that have medicinal properties

¹ BCS Class II – low solubility / high permeability.

BCS Class III – high solubility / low permeability.

BCS Class IV – low solubility / low permeability. Mattson Jack



SOFTGELS, Addressing the Challenges of Treatment Adherence

● Treatment compliance improves when the number of doses is reduced. Softgel technology combines multiple active ingredients in a **fixed-dose capsule**, simplifying routines and enhancing patient compliance.

● Swallowing difficulties are a common reason for non-adherence to treatments. Softgel capsules address this challenge by **offering easy-to-swallow and chewable options**, making them a more accessible and convenient choice for consumers.

● Softgels deliver the benefits of the formulation without unpleasant experience due to the **enteric coats reducing lingering aftertaste and reflux** caused by some active ingredients.



SOFTGEL

Manufacturing Safety



Product Security

Tamper-evident design ensures integrity; any breach makes the capsule visibly damaged.



Customized Coloring and Shape

Capsules can be tailored with specific colors, sizes, or logos that are challenging for counterfeiters to replicate.



Indivisibility

Unlike tablets, softgels cannot be easily split, preventing the consumption of incomplete or incorrect doses.



Precise Dosage

Each capsule contains an exact amount of the active ingredient, reducing the risk of dosing errors or overdoses.

CONSUMER

Perceptions & Market Impact

RELATIVE TO OTHER ORAL DOSAGE FORMS





CONSUMER Preferences



Improved Palatability
SGCs were developed to mask unpleasant tastes and odors of medications.



Enhanced Swallowing Comfort
SGCs are easier to swallow than other oral solids due to their self-lubricating nature.^{1, 2}



Enhanced Aesthetic
SGCs offer greater visual appeal with a wide range of shapes, sizes, and colors.



Variety of Delivery Systems
SGCs offer diverse delivery options, including chewable formulations³, catering to different consumer preferences.

¹ Augsburger, L.L. Hard and Soft Shell Capsules. In *Modern Pharmaceutics*; Banker, G.S., Rhodes, C.T., Eds.; Marcel Dekker, Inc.: New York, NY, USA, 2002; pp. 512–575. ² Reich, G. Formulation and physical properties of soft capsules. In *Pharmaceutical Capsules*; Podczec, F., Jones, B.E., Eds.; Pharmaceutical Press: London, UK, 2004; pp. 201–212 Cited by: Damian F, Harati M, Schwartzenhauer J, Van Cauwenberghes O, Wettig SD. Challenges of Dissolution Methods Development for Soft Gelatin Capsules. *Pharmaceutics*. 2021 Feb 4;13(2):214. doi: 10.3390/pharmaceutics13020214. PMID: 33557167; PMCID: PMC7913951.

SOFTGELS

Sensory Elements



Is **Size** a determining factor when choosing a medicine?

The FDA issued recommendations for generic manufacturers establishing **guidelines for improving the intake of oral solids.**



Of those who have difficulty swallowing: **-15% speak to to their doctors;** 8% admits skipping a dose; **4% quits therapy.**



Those who have difficulty swallowing blame the **overall size of the tablet.**



The use of **outer gelatin layers** help when swallowing the tablet.



Light softgels / tablets transit faster than those of the same size but heavier.

SOFTGEL

Advanced Technologies



UNIGEL™: SIMPLIFYING TREATMENTS THROUGH INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS



Unigel™ a **first-to-market Technology** Is Ideal for those who want to have **simplicity and effectiveness** backed by **technology and expertise when taking their meds and supplements**, providing **different configurations for fixed-dose combinations**.

UNIGEL™: The sustainable Softgel

By consuming Unigel™ products, **patients avoided the production and disposition of 27.5 million Million blister packs in 2022**, according to our estimations. Besides plastic demand reduction, Unigel™ also deploys different environmental benefits across the supply chain.

Other **ADVANTAGES INCLUDE:**



Clear look inside the capsule/
Physically Appealing



Improves Patient/consumers
convenience and Compliance



Different Release Profiles available



Impossible to
counterfeit



Combines Multiple Purpose Ingredients in one form



Exact Dosage
Form



Different Gelatin formulations/Suitable for Vegetarians and/or vegan diets



Diversifies Portfolio/Enables Brand Differentiation

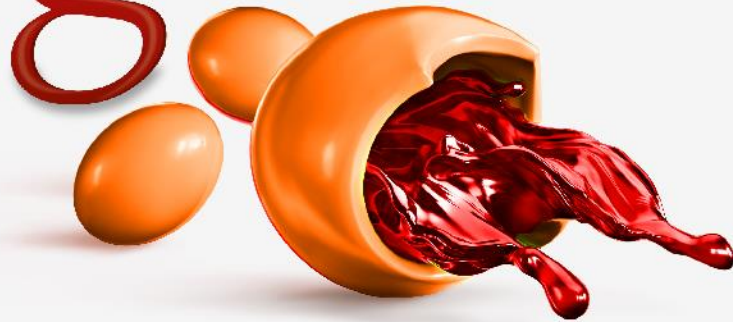
unigel™
by Procaps



Chew gels



Expand your portfolio with new dosage forms that are **convenient and filled with great flavor.**



Discover our Chewable Softgel Platform Chewgels™, **chewable soft capsules** as a solution and line extension to existing or new products. With new ingredients, special shapes and flavors, we can offer our customers a range of formulations for different therapeutic lines.

Key CHEWGELS™ ADVANTAGES



Soft and easy chewable flavored gelatin shell, that does not leave residues or sticks to the teeth, rapidly dissolved, leaving a good mouth feel.



No sugar added



Shell solubility and stability assurance



Portable exact dose form: within our chewable burstells the fill content may contain solutions, suspensions, pastes and emulsions.

Key CHEWGELS™ CONSUMER BENEFITS



No water needed: Taken easily on the run without water or food.



Easy to swallow: Suitable for children or senior adults who often reject traditional dosage forms.



Fast effect: Immediate release and absorption in the mouth and stomach.



Great taste & Experience: Our Chewgels™ Once a Chewgel enters the mouth, it is chewed, and a burst effect of the sweet, creamy and tasty liquid inside kicks in. This explosion of flavor is accompanied by the activation of the ingredients.








Meet our **vegetarian softgel technology, VersaGel™**, a versatile option for the encapsulation of high viscous, semisolid or high pH fill contents

VersaGel™



VersaGel™ is a platform that has been built at Procaps from different standpoints such as: **Formulation, R&D, Process, Product and Experience.**

Key VERSAGEL™ ADVANTAGES

-  They are **more stable than proteins at extreme pH values and moderate ionic strengths.**
-  Ability to **encapsulate high temperature fills.**
-  Ability to develop **Modify Release Options**
-  **No Crosslinking** over time
-  They **solve complex formulation challenges.**
-  **Non-GMO, Gluten Free, Vegetarian.**
-  **Vegan Certifiable**

Key VERSAGEL™ CONSUMER BENEFITS





-  Suited for **Consumers with dietary and religious or cultural restrictions.**
-  **Ideal for consumers seeking products to fit their healthy lifestyles**
-  Offers the same benefits as a Softgel Capsule:
 - a. Easy to Swallow**
 - b. Odor and Taste Free**
 - c. Consumers's Preferred Dosage Form**
-  **Options available in a variety of: Colors, Shapes and Sizes**





ReducedGels

With Reducedgels, receive full strength and **power in a smaller softgel size.**

Key REDUCEDGELS ADVANTAGES:

-  Enables **higher API concentrations in smaller softgel**
-  A solution for **complex API formulations**
-  Capable of delivering **single and combination API formulations**
-  **Tamper-evident**

Key REDUCEDGELS Consumer Benefits:





-  Ideal for **Seniors and Children**
-  Available in a variety of **Colors, Shapes and Sizes**
-  Suitable for **Vegetarians**

TwistGels







A soft gelatin capsule with **twist-o cap** allows access to a **measured dose for topical and/or oral applications.**

Key TWISTGELS **ADVANTAGES:**

-  **Better Dosage Accuracy**
-  **Eliminates Contamination** by repeat use
-  **Improves Compliance**
-  **Improved Stability**

Key TWISTGELS **CONSUMER BENEFITS:**

-  **Portable On-The-Go**
-  **Easy to twist- Ideal for geriatric, pediatric and veterinary use**
-  **Available in variety of Colors, Shapes and Sizes**
-  **No water needed**

Enteric Coated SoftGels



Enteric Coated softgels are the **best way to stabilize acid-sensitive drug products**. This is because the API is not delivered in the stomach and instead **targets drug delivery in the small intestine**, which is preferred for treating intestinal diseases, improving tolerance and reducing aftertaste.

Key ENTERIC COATED SOFTGELS CHARACTERISTICS:



Resists absorption in the stomach.



Improves Patient acceptance – Avoiding reflux in pregnant women.



Masks unpleasant odors and flavors.



Chemical Stability: Oxygen and moisture protection barrier that prevents Omega acid oxidation and Oxidation/Hydrolysis of the vitamins.



Double coated for Better appearance.

Enteric Clear Softgels



Enteric-Clear Softgels use the Enteric-Coated Softgel method of stabilizing acid-sensitive drugs, but it has a **patient-appealing aesthetic**.

Consumers **often prefer clear capsules** over opaque and this design also means fewer steps in the development process, as **no coating is necessary**.

Key ENTERIC CLEAR SOFTGELS CHARACTERISTICS:



Greater Bioavailability



Rapid Absorption



No fish aftertaste



Less irritation of digestive or gastric mucosa, due to its absorption at the intestinal level



Exact Dosing



Physically **Appealing**



Impossible to Counterfeit







Life-Cycle Management **Extension**

As a leading Manufacturer of Softgel-Related technologies, Sofgen offers unparalleled custom capsule services. **Design your very own Stripgels.**



StripeGels

KEY STRIPGELS **ADVANTAGES:**









-  Physically **Appealing**
-  Completely **Customizable**
-  Brand **Identification**
-  New Customer **Experience**

Vaogels



A The softgel vaginal ovule or insert, **Vaogels**, was designed **mucoadhesive properties** to facilitate retention of the product in the vagina and availability of the active ingredient in a site-specific manner.

KEY VAOGELS ADVANTAGES:

-  **Conical** shape for easy application
-  Softgel **hydrophilic** outer layer
-  **Improves** treatment efficiency
-  **Greater Dissolution/**
Faster disintegration
-  **Exact** Dosage
-  **Lipophilic** Exipients for better vaginal adherence and efficacy
-  **Gentle** and **Non-Irritating**
-  **Stable** until Inserted



About
SOFGEN
Pharmaceuticas





We are an integrated CDMO/CMO that offers end-to-end solutions, from development throughout delivery, in innovative **Softgel technologies for pharma and healthcare** companies interested in launching novel products within North America and other highly regulated markets.

Our extensive Softgel portfolio, backed by **cutting-edge expertise**, ensures we deliver **customized solutions that meet your unique needs and help you succeed in competitive markets**



For more information on our diverse
technology portfolio visit:

WWW.SOFGENPHARMA.COM

Or email us at: communications@sofgenpharma.com

