First, I express my supreme gratitude to the Almighty for His blessings throughout the study. I felt His unseen presence in the form of Guru, which gave me the strength and patience to complete my work successfully.

In my view, the word mentor is made for the Guru, who molds the clay to a definite shape. I am grateful to my guide and mentor, Dr. C. Mallikarjuna Rao, Principal, Professor & Head, Department of Pharmacology, Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Manipal, who was my source of inspiration. He provided his kind co-operation, valuable guidance, suggestions, and timely help. I am very happy to acknowledge his sincere concern and constant encouragement during every phase of my research work.

My sincere thanks to my co-guides Dr. N. Gopalan Kutty and Dr. N. Udupa for their kind words and aspiration, which gave me assurance and confidence throughout the study period.

I whole-heartedly thank Dr. P. Vasantha Raj for his invincible support throughout my study, right from the design of my research to the publication work.

I am immensely thankful to Ranjeet sir, Karthik sir for their inputs in the design of the study, Dr. Praful Deshpande, Mr. Om Prakash Ranjan, Dr. Aravind G., Dr. Gopal, Mr. Prateek Jain, Mr. Hitesh Jagani (Research scholars) for their helping hand in completion of formulation work involved. I thank Mr. Neetinkumar Reddy and Mrs. Geetha Mathew for their support in the in vitro cell experiments performed. I thank Mrs. Amita Rai, my better half for helping me in the bioanalytical work of my thesis. I thank Dr. Saleemulla Khan for his guidance in the use of the fully automated autoanalyser for evaluation of liver parameters.
My special thanks to the Heads of Pharmaceutics, Pharmacognosy and Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance and Pharmaceutical Biotechnology departments for permitting me to use their facility.

I sincerely thank Mr. Pawan G. Nayak, Dr. Punit Bansal, Dr. Piya Paul Mudgal with whom I spend the initial two years of my life as a research scholar, during which their immense help allowed me to complete the Ranbaxy funded project work.

I am extremely thankful to Dr. Rekha Shenoy who has taken lots of pain in going through my thesis and helping me to give it a final shape.

My sincere and hearty thanks to seniors, teachers, and colleagues of the department of Pharmacology, Dr. K. Sreedhara R. Pai, Dr. Nandakumar K., Dr. Yogendra Nayak, Mr. Jayesh Mudgal, Mr. Anoop Kishore and Mr. Madhavan Nampoothiri G., for their constant encouragement and support during the course of the PhD study.

I would like to thank Dr. Navin K. Sharma, who provided projects from Ranbaxy Pvt. Ltd. and Cholayil Pvt. Ltd. during the course of my study. The unutilized amount from the project work helped me financially to complete this work. I also thank AICTE-MODROBS scheme for financially supporting my thesis work.

I also thank Vipan sir, Manohara Reddy sir, Manjula madam, Rakesh sir (KMC-IC), Raghu sir (MMMC, Anatomy), Ms. Suhani (KMC, Anatomy), Dr. Arun T.S. (Manipal Acunova) for their support and guidance in the study.

I thank Bhagawati Sir, Vijay Sir, Sidharth Sir, Shoja, Ramalingayya, Keerthi sir, Chandrashekhhar Mishra Ji, Chetan and all other research scholars of MCOPS who helped directly or indirectly during this endeavor.

I thank the PG students from Pharmacology department who helped me directly and indirectly during experimental work. I would like to express my special thanks to Ramalingayya, Ravi, Shiva, Ramya, Anjali, Aravind, Anil, Amit, Hemlatha, Ganga Prasad who supported me a lot during the study.

I also thank all the non-teaching staff of MCOPS for their unconditional help and services, and my special thanks to Mr. Sripathi, Mrs. Soumya, Mrs. Asha, Mr. Bala, Mr. Sanjeeva, Mr. Shivanand, Mr. Krishna and Mr. Sudhakar.
My special thanks go Mr. Pundalik Bhatt and his team from accounts, Mr. Krishna Prabhu and Mrs. Sumalatha from stores for maintaining all the relevant documents of the company sponsored project work.

My Special thanks to Dr. BS Jayashree (Pharmaceutical Chemistry), Dr. Raghu Chandrashekhar (Dept. of Biotechnology), Mr. Swapnil Dengale (Dept. Of Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance) for their support.

I thank all the teaching and office staff of MCOPS, who directly or indirectly supported and encouraged me throughout my research work.

I also thank the administrative staff of Manipal University for their kind cooperation from the beginning till the end of this endeavor.

My sincere thanks go to Mr. Sreedhara Prabhu and his staff from Central Animal Research Facility, Manipal University, for his unconditional efforts and support.

Words cannot express my feelings for my Parents, Sister, brother and other family members whose tremendous encouragement, support, prayers and love has been a source of inspiration and will remain so for the life to come.

Finally, my own regret is because of the lapses of my memory, to mention by name each and every one, who directly or indirectly made contributions and is deserving of my gratitude. To those unknowingly unsung people whose name I could not write my apology and thanks.

Nitesh Kumar