of water, stirred and heated. Then, gelatin 100 parts by weight was added thereto to give gelatin solution. Compound 1 was dissolved in medium chain fatty acid triglyceride (USP/NF grade) to give a fill solution containing 240 μg/g of compound 1. The gelatin solution and the liquid mixture were loaded or capsule forming and filling machine to give capsule containing the fill solution therein, and the capsule was dried to give soft gelatin capsule.

The capsule was put in a sealed container and kept at 40° C. for 3 months. The concentration of compound 1 in the fill solution contained in the capsule was determined after 1, 2 and 3 months storage in the same manner as Reference Example 1.

TABLE 3

Stability of soft gelatin capsule of compound 1

soft gelatin capsule (parts by weight)				conc. (% of Initial) 40° C. 1 mo	2 mo	3 mo
gelatin	100	sugar	35	99.9%	100.3%	99.2%
		alcohol	45	—	100.5%	100.0%
		solution[1)]	55	—	99.3%	100.0%

[1)]Polysorb 85/70/00 ™, ROQUETTE AMERICA, Inc., derived from corn starch

What is claimed is:

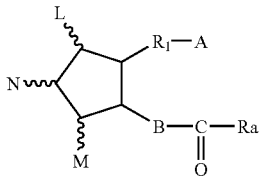
1. A soft gelatin capsule formulation of a 15-keto-prostaglandin compound, which comprises:

a soft gelatin capsule shell comprising gelatin and a sugar alcohol as a plasticizer, and

a mixture comprising a 15-keto-prostaglandin compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, which is filled in the shell.

2. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the 15-keto-prostaglandin compound is a compound of the formula (I):

(I)



wherein L, M and N are hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy(lower)alkyl, lower alkanoyloxy or oxo, wherein at least one of L and M is a group other than hydrogen, and the five-membered ring may have at least one double bond;

A is $—CH_3$, or $—CH_2OH$, $—COCH_2OH$, —COOH or a functional derivative thereof;

B is $—CH_2—CH_2—$, —CH═CH— or —C═C—;

R_1 is a saturated or unsaturated bivalent lower or medium aliphatic hydrocarbon residue, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy, oxo, aryl or heterocyclic group, and at least one of carbon atom in the aliphatic hydrocarbon is optionally substituted by oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur; and

Ra is a saturated or unsaturated lower or medium aliphatic hydrocarbon residue, which is unsubstituted or substituted with halogen, oxo, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkanoyloxy, cyclo(lower)alkyl, cyclo(lower)alkyloxy, aryl, aryloxy, heterocyclic group or heterocyclicoxy group; lower alkoxy; lower alkanoyloxy; cyclo(lower)alkyl; cyclo(lower)alkyloxy; aryl; aryloxy; heterocyclic group; heterocyclicoxy group.

3. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the 15-keto-prostaglandin compound is a 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-prostaglandin compound.

4. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the 15-keto-prostaglandin compound is a 15-keto-16-mono or 16,16-di-halogen-prostaglandin compound.

5. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the 15-keto-prostaglandin compound is a 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16-mono- or 16,16-di-halogen-prostaglandin compound.

6. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the 15-keto-prostaglandin compound is a 15-keto-16-mono- or 16,16-di-fluoro-prostaglandin compound.

7. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the 15-keto-prostaglandin compound is a 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16-mono- or 16,16-di-fluoro-prostaglandin compound.

8. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the 15-keto-prostaglandin compound is a 15-keto-prostaglandin E compound.

9. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the 15-keto-prostaglandin compound is a 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro-prostaglandin E_1.

10. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the 15-keto-prostaglandin compound is a 13,14-dihydro-15-keto-16,16-difluoro-18S-methyl-prostaglandin E_1.

11. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the sugar alcohol is selected from the group consisting of sorbitol, maltitol, sugar alcohol solution derived from corn starch, hydrogenated maltose syrup and a mixture thereof.

12. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the sugar alcohol comprises sorbitol and sorbitan as its major component.

13. A method for stabilizing a 15-keto-prostaglandin compound, which comprises: dissolving, dispersing or mixing the 15-keto-prostaglandin in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle to give a liquid mixture, and incorporating the liquid mixture in a soft gelatin capsule which comprises gelatin and a sugar alcohol as a plasticizer such that a soft gelatin capsule formulation of claim **1** is prepared.

14. A method for stabilizing a 15-keto-prostaglandin compound, which comprises encapsulating the compound together with a glyceride in a soft gelatin capsule shell comprising gelatin and a sugar alcohol as a plasticizer such that a soft gelatin capsule formulation of claim **1** is prepared.

15. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle is a medium chain fatty acid triglyceride.

16. The method of claim **14**, wherein the glyceride is a medium chain fatty acid triglyceride.

17. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle is a fatty acid ester or a polyol.

18. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle is glycerin or propylene glycol.

19. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle is a fatty acid ester or glycerin.

20. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle is a glyceride.

21. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle is a fatty acid ester.

22. The formulation of claim **1**, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle is glycerin.

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