

## **Thin Film Drugs - Market Share Analysis, Industry Trends & Statistics, Growth Forecasts (2025 - 2030)**

Market Report | 2025-07-01 | 130 pages | Mordor Intelligence

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### **Report description:**

Thin Film Drugs Market Analysis

The thin film drug market size reached USD 11.71 billion in 2025 and is forecast to touch USD 18.29 billion by 2030, advancing at a 9.32% CAGR. Demand growth stems from an aging global population, mounting dysphagia prevalence, and regulatory encouragement for patient-centric formulations. Manufacturers are capitalizing on superior adherence profiles, rapid onset of action, and the ability to tailor dose strengths for vulnerable groups. Investments in hot-melt extrusion and solvent-casting lines are lowering production costs, while microneedle innovations position the technology to address chronic disease management needs in outpatient settings. Competitive strategies emphasize partnerships between formulation specialists and large pharmaceutical companies to shorten development timelines and widen therapeutic scope.

Global Thin Film Drugs Market Trends and Insights

Rising Prevalence Of Dysphagia & Geriatric Population

Dysphagia affects 36.9% of nursing-home residents and 27% of older adults, creating a large cohort unable to swallow conventional tablets. Beyond age-related issues, neurological disorders and post-surgical complications amplify demand for alternate dosage forms. Health systems incur significant costs from aspiration pneumonia and non-adherence, prompting reimbursement support for film formulations. Pediatric use cases reinforce universal applicability, while community pharmacists using EAT-10 screening tools now flag swallowing issues earlier, broadening product access points.

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## Increasing Approvals & Investments In Thin-Film Therapeutics

RizaFilm's 2024 FDA clearance for migraine relief underlined the agency's confidence in thin film platforms. Aquestive's NDA for Anaphylm demonstrates how sublingual epinephrine could disrupt autoinjectors through needle-free delivery. Large companies channel new spending into U.S. manufacturing: Johnson & Johnson alone announced USD 55 billion for advanced dosage capabilities, signaling sustained capital flow toward film technologies. Clearer bioequivalence guidelines now reduce regulatory uncertainty, encouraging venture capital to back specialized developers.

## Availability Of Substitute Dosage Forms (ODTs, Injectables)

Orally disintegrating tablets enjoy mature production lines and lower costs, curbing thin film uptake in price-sensitive categories. European Pharmacopoeia recognition of ODTs ensures streamlined approvals, while injectables remain dominant where precise pharmacokinetics matter, such as oncology. Established infrastructure and falling generic prices limit thin film pricing power when convenience alone is the differentiator.

Other drivers and restraints analyzed in the detailed report include:

Superior Patient Compliance Versus Conventional Dosage Forms / Opioid-Harm-Reduction Policies Accelerating Buccal Film Uptake / Moisture-Sensitivity Driving High-Cost Barrier Packaging /

For complete list of drivers and restraints, kindly check the Table Of Contents.

## Segment Analysis

Oral films captured 70.51% of thin film drug market share in 2024 thanks to straightforward regulatory paths and cost-effective solvent-casting lines. Transdermal formats post a 13.65% CAGR to 2030 as microneedle-integrated patches broaden drug classes deliverable through skin.

Manufacturers can scale oral films rapidly, leveraging hot-melt extrusion to incorporate poorly soluble APIs. Transdermal films require precise micro-fabrication and adhesive engineering, limiting large-scale output today. Nonetheless, vaccine delivery and hormone therapy trials are yielding positive acceptance data, indicating transdermal systems will narrow the gap during the forecast horizon.

Opioid use disorder dominated with 36.53% of thin film drug market size in 2024 because buprenorphine films align with government harm-reduction goals. Chronic pain films exhibit the fastest 11.85% CAGR as prescribers pivot to non-opioid molecules that benefit from rapid oromucosal absorption.

Migraine therapies gain traction after RizaFilm's clearance, enabling in-home treatment during nausea episodes. Sublingual immunotherapy films in allergy care and emergency systemic delivery for anaphylaxis show promise, diversifying the clinical portfolio. Collectively, these indications reinforce a broad therapeutic runway for the thin film drug market.

The Thin Film Drugs Market Report is Segmented by Product Type (Oral Thin Films [Orodispersible Films, and More], Transdermal Thin Films [Passive Patches, and More]), Indication (Schizophrenia, Migraine, and More), Distribution Channel (Hospital Pharmacies, and More), Drug Type (Prescription (Rx) and Over-The-Counter (OTC)), and Geography (North America, Europe, and More). The Market Forecasts are Provided in Terms of Value (USD).

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## Geography Analysis

North America led with 41.32% share in 2024, supported by FDA guidance that clarifies bioequivalence and stability expectations. Robust insurance coverage and specialty pharmacy networks expedite market entry, while sizable investments in continuous manufacturing ensure domestic capacity for rapid scale-up.

Europe maintains second position through centralized approvals that streamline multi-country launches. Emphasis on patient safety and high adherence among seniors underpins demand. Regional CDMOs specialize in solvent-casting and HME, serving global supply chains.

Asia-Pacific posts 10.61% CAGR to 2030, propelled by regulatory harmonization and expanded manufacturing grants in China, India, and South Korea. Lower labor costs and government incentives attract technology-transfer deals, positioning the region as a production hub for global thin film drug market exports. Rising healthcare spending and urbanization open large patient pools receptive to convenient dosage forms.

### List of Companies Covered in this Report:

Indivior / Aquestive Therapeutics / ZIM Laboratories / Kindeva / BioDelivery Sciences Intl. / Nualtis / Tesa SE (Tesa Labtec) / Pfizer / Novartis / Viatrix / GlaxoSmithKline / Cure Pharmaceutical / ARx LLC / Solvay SA / Sumitomo Dainippon Pharma / 3D Matrix Ltd / MonoSol Rx / Catalent / Adhex Pharma / Tapemark LLC / Lohmann Therapie-Systeme /

### Additional Benefits:

The market estimate (ME) sheet in Excel format /  
3 months of analyst support /

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