

**Table 12.1** EXAMPLES OF RECTAL SUPPOSITORIES

SUPPOSITORY	COMMERCIAL PRODUCT	ACTIVE CONSTITUENT	TYPE OF EFFECT	CATEGORY AND COMMENTS
Bisacodyl	Dulcolax (Boehringer-Ingelheim)	10 mg	Local	Cathartic. Base: hydrogenated vegetable oil
Hydrocortisone	Anusol-HC (Salix)	25 mg	Local	Pruritus ani, inflamed hemorrhoids, other inflammatory conditions of the anorectum. Base: hydrogenated glycerides
Hydromorphone	Dilaudid (Purdue Pharma)	3 mg	Systemic	Analgesic. Base: cocoa butter with silicon dioxide
Indomethacin	Indocin (Iroko)	50 mg	Systemic	Anti-inflammatory. Base: polyethylene glycols
Mesalamine	Canasa (Axcan Scandipharm)	500 mg	Local	Anti-inflammatory. Base: hard fat
Promethazine HCl	Phenergan (Wyeth)	12.5, 25 mg	Systemic	Antihistamine, antiemetic, sedative; used to manage allergic conditions; preoperative or postoperative sedation or nausea and vomiting; motion sickness. Base: cocoa butter, white wax

- Large dose drugs: Ability to administer somewhat larger doses of drugs than using oral administration.
- Irritating drugs: Ability to administer drugs that may have an irritating effect on the oral or gastrointestinal mucosa when administered orally.
- Unpleasant tasting or smelling drugs: Ability to administer unpleasant tasting or smelling drugs whose oral administration is limited.
- In children, the rectal route is especially useful. An ill child may refuse oral medication and may fear injections.
- In patients experiencing nausea and vomiting or when the patient is unconscious.
- The presence of disease of the upper gastrointestinal tract that may interfere with drug absorption.
- Objectionable taste or odor of a drug (especially important in children).
- Achievement of a rapid drug effect systemically (as an alternate to injection).

Rectal administration provides for a rapid, and in many cases, extensive absorption of the active ingredient. The rapidity, intensity, and duration of action are three parameters

**Table 12.2** EXAMPLES OF VAGINAL INSERTS AND TABLETS

PRODUCT (MANUFACTURER)	ACTIVE CONSTITUENTS	CATEGORY AND COMMENTS
Cleocin inserts (Pfizer)	Clindamycin phosphate 100 mg	Bacterial vaginosis
Monistat 7 inserts (Personal products)	Miconazole nitrate 100 mg	Antifungal for local vulvovaginal candidiasis (moniliasis)
Semicid vaginal contraceptive inserts (Whitehall-Robins)	Nonoxynol-9 100 mg	Nonsystemic reversible birth control
Encare contraceptive inserts (Thomson Medical)	Nonoxynol-9 100 mg	Nonsystemic reversible birth control