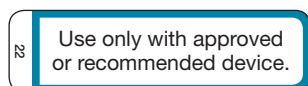


Label 22



Label 22 is to be used for capsules intended for inhalation rather than oral administration—e.g. tiotropium capsules. Instances of these being swallowed have occurred.

Additional instructions

Additional instructions are to be attached to the immediate container or incorporated in the main label. The decision on where to place the instructions should fall to the pharmacist, based on their professional judgment.

A



Add the words 'swallow whole' for preparations such as enteric-coated and modified-release products whose release characteristics depend on the product being swallowed whole, or where breaking or crushing products may cause an excessive dose to be released, with the possibility of toxicity. Some tablets can be broken into dosage sections but the portions should not be chewed or crushed. Some capsules may be opened if the pellets they contain are not broken (see '[Modification of oral formulations](#)', Section A).

B



Add the words 'take with or soon after food'. For some medicines, gastrointestinal adverse effects can be reduced by administration with food. For some oral hypoglycaemic agents, it is important that food is taken with the drug to minimise the risk of hypoglycaemic episodes. The extent of absorption of ketoconazole is enhanced when administered with food because of a reduced stomach-emptying rate and greater dissolution in the acidic environment of the stomach. The absorption of griseofulvin is enhanced when administered with food because of greater dissolution caused by the stimulated flow of bile.

C



Add the words 'take at least half an hour before food'.

D

Add the words 'until all used' or 'until all taken'. The completion of a recommended course of therapy with antibiotics or antibacterial agents can reduce the incidence of relapse and minimise the emergence of resistant strains. This label may not be appropriate with paediatric dosage forms where the total number of doses in the preparation is greater than needed to define an adequate course of therapy. For example, antibiotics are commonly given for a five to seven day course only. Patients should be advised that this instruction does not override the need to consult the prescriber if adverse effects occur.

E



Add the words 'continue for 14 days after symptoms cease'. This instruction is to be used for topical antifungal preparations. It cannot be inferred from the disappearance of symptoms of a dermal fungal infection that the causal organism has been eradicated.

F



Add the words 'take immediately before food'.

G



Add the words 'take in the morning. Drink plenty of water'. Cyclophosphamide can cause severe cystitis. Ample fluid intake and frequent voiding may reduce the incidence of this adverse effect. This can be achieved by administration of the drug in the morning and advising the patient to drink plenty of water during the day.