

General formulary

Applications

Applications are liquid or semi-solid preparations for external use.

Containers and storage: Store at less than 25 °C unless otherwise specified. Dispense in amber, fluted poison bottles.

Labelling: Label K: FOR EXTERNAL USE ONLY. Shake the bottle (if applicable).

Expiry: 28 days from the date of preparation unless otherwise specified.

benzyl benzoate application

Applc. Benzyl. Benz.; benzyl benzoate lotion

benzyl benzoate 25 g
emulsifying wax..... 2 g
purified water, freshly boiled and cooled to 100 mL

Strength: Contains 25% of benzyl benzoate (limits 22.5 to 27.5% w/v of C₁₄H₁₂O₂).

Method: Melt the emulsifying wax (see '[Emulsifying ointment](#)', Section A). Add the benzyl benzoate and mix. Add this mixture to 70 mL of purified water previously heated to about 70 °C. Stir until cold and adjust to volume with purified water.

Use: For the treatment of scabies. After a bath apply with a brush to the whole of the body except the face and head; leave on for 24 hours without bathing; application should be repeated in five to 10 days.

Capsules

Capsules prepared extemporaneously consist of powders enclosed in a hard gelatin or cellulose capsule for individual dosages. Capsules of medication are generally available commercially. However, on occasions a small quantity of medicine may be required that is not available in that form. The capacity of capsules depends on the actual powder density of the ingredients. Hard empty gelatin capsules are available in the following codes and the approximate amount that each will hold of lactose (most common diluent):

No. 00: 930 mg
No. 0: 650 mg
No. 1: 490 mg
No. 2: 360 mg
No. 3: 290 mg

Method: Appropriate attenuation (dry dilution) of the medicine in a diluent is carried out with a mortar and pestle. The final attenuation containing the correct amount of medicament is weighed into the empty capsule or the final powder is spread in a layer about 5 mm thick, and the empty capsule is punched into the powder until it is filled while continually checking for correct weight on a tared balance.

Containers and storage: If any of the constituents are deliquescent or volatile, the capsule should be stored and supplied in airtight containers.

boric acid vaginal capsule

boric acid 600 mg

Method: As for preparation of capsules (just described) using No. 0 or 00 capsules.

Use: For *Candida glabrata*.

Label: Label L: CAUTION: NOT TO BE TAKEN.

Creams

Creams are semi-solid preparations, usually emulsions, which are intended for application to the skin. They may be watermiscible (oil-in-water emulsions)—described in this formulary as aqueous creams—or oilmiscible (water-in-oil emulsions)—described as oily creams.

Containers and storage: Creams should be stored and supplied in well-closed containers which prevent evaporation and be kept below 25 °C. Collapsible tubes of metal or suitable plastics should be used whenever possible.

Expiry: The expiry date is 28 days from the date of preparation unless otherwise specified.

Labelling: If the product is for topical use, the container should be labelled FOR EXTERNAL USE ONLY. If the product is for nasal, otic, vaginal or rectal use, the container should be labelled CAUTION: NOT TO BE TAKEN.

Creams should be labelled to include the name and percentage of any preservative agent used.

When chlorocresol is used as the preservative, it should be dissolved using warm water in a closed container.