

NEEMMC GUIDELINES FOR TABLET CRUSHING AND ADMINISTRATION VIA ENTERAL FEEDING TUBES

KEY TO DRUG ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES

Please follow the guidelines in order, as shown in the chart (i.e. number 1 is the first choice of which form to administer the drug in).

- A** Tablet will disperse in 1-2 minutes.
- B** Tablet will disperse in greater than 2 minutes.
- C** Liquid preparation available.
- D** Dilute reconstituted injection with 30-60ml of water before administering.
- E** Oral solution/suspension can be prepared by local pharmacy or Non Sterile Preparative Services (PSU at Colchester General Hospital, Tel: 01206 745962).

Note: It is an unlicensed use to crush tablets, open capsules and make extemporaneous suspensions.

These guidelines should not be used as a means to covertly administer medication. All medication must only be given with full patient consent; if covert administration is considered to be in the best interests of the patient, due regard must be paid to all relevant legislation (Mental Capacity Act 2005, Mental Health Act 1983 as amended in 2007).

For more information on the administration via different tubes,
please contact Medicines Information on ext. 2161.

Drug	Key code	Information
ACETAZOLAMIDE	1. A 2. D	Diamox 250mg tablets disintegrate very quickly in 10ml of water. Diamox injection 500mg can be given via a feeding tube.
ACICLOVIR	1. C 2. A*	* Dispersible tablets available
ALENDRONIC ACID		Caution: Alendronic acid tablets should only be crushed and dispersed in water if administered via a feeding tube, NOT orally (very irritant). Once-weekly formulation should be used.
ALFACALCIDOL	1. C* 2. D	* Oral drops available (1 drop=100 nanograms). One-Alpha injection can be administered orally or via a feeding tube.
ALFUZOSIN	A	Beware of sudden hypotensive effect if giving crushed tablets. Monitor BP and ensure patient is lying down prior to administering the dose. Do not crush slow release preparations.

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ALLOPURINOL	1. B 2. E	
ALVERINE		Content of capsules is very bitter, and might numb the tongue and throat.
AMANTADINE	1. C 2. A*	* Capsules may be opened and contents dispersed in water.
AMILORIDE	1. B 2. C*	* Oral solution available.
AMINOPHYLLINE		Convert to theophylline: Slo-Phyllin MR capsules can be opened and pellets can be taken orally or via a tube. Do not crush pellets.
AMIODARONE	1. B 2. E	
AMITRIPTYLINE	1. C 2. B 3. E	Tablets do not disperse readily but can be crushed and dispersed in water.
AMLODIPINE	B	
AMOXICILLIN	C	
ANASTROZOLE	B	
ARIPIPRAZOLE	B*	Orodispersible tablets available. * Normal tablets can be crushed, mixed with water and taken immediately. Some excipients are insoluble in water and may float to the surface. <i>(Bristol Myer Squibb information)</i>
ASCORBIC ACID	A	Effervescent tablets available.
ASPIRIN	A	Convert enteric coated tablets to dispersible aspirin.
ATENOLOL	1. C 2. B	Most tablets are film coated, which do not disperse readily in water. Film coat may clog tube.
ATORVASTATIN	B	
AZATHIOPRINE	1. A* 2. E	* Do not crush tablets. Cytotoxic, wear gloves.
BACLOFEN	1. C 2. B	
BALSALAZIDE	B	Capsules can be opened and sprinkled in water or on food. Capsule contents will stain.
BENDROFLUMETHIAZIDE	1. B 2. E	
BENZHEXOL	C	
BETAHISTINE	1. B 2. E	
BETAMETHASONE	A	Soluble tablets available.
BEZAFIBRATE	B	Do not crush MR forms (Bezalip Mono™), change to equivalent dose of normal release tablet and crush (bezafibrate MR 400mg OD equivalent to bezafibrate 200mg TDS).
BICALUTAMIDE		Tablets can be crushed, but are practically insoluble in water.

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BISACODYL		Tablets are enteric coated. Crushed tablets are very irritant. Use suppositories
BISOPROLOL	B	Some brands may need to be crushed.
BROMOCRIPTINE	A	Also, capsules can be opened.
BUMETANIDE	1. B 2. D	
BUPROPION		Tablets are slow release and should not be crushed (increased risk of adverse effects including seizures). (Ref. GlaxoSmithKline, Zyban SPCs, Jan 09)
BUSPIRONE	B	
CABERGOLINE	B	
CALCIUM RESONIUM		When mixed with water, the resulting paste is too thick to administer via a feeding tube. Rectal route should be used (dose 30g).
CALCIUM SALTS	A	Effervescent tablets available.
CALCIUM FOLINATE	1. B 2. D*	Tablets need to be crushed. * Pharmacia and Mayne brands of injections can be administered orally.
CANDESARTAN	B	
CAPTOPRIL	1. B 2. E	
CARBAMAZEPINE	1. C* 2. A	* Suspension may bind to PVC feeding tubes. Dilute in water to prevent this. Do not crush slow release preparations. Suppositories can be used for 7 days (when changing from oral to suppositories, the dose must be increased by 25%).
CARVEDILOL	B	Monitor blood pressure.
CELECOXIB		Contents of capsule can be mixed with water, pudding or apple sauce.
CETIRIZINE	C	
CHLORAL HYDRATE	C	
CHLORPHENAMINE	1. C 2. A	
CHLORPROMAZINE	1. C 2. B*	* Risk of sensitization. Wear gloves if crushing tablets.
CICLOSPORIN	C	Interact with PVC feeding tubes, so dilute the dose in equal amount of water. Monitor plasma levels. Can be mixed with orange or apple juice to improve taste.
CIMETIDINE	1. C* 2. A 3. D	* Stop enteral feed prior to administration. Flush tube before and after. Effervescent tablets available.
CINNARIZINE	B	
CIPROFLOXACIN	1. C* 2. B	* Do not dilute suspension further. Stop enteral feed prior to administration. Flush tube before and after.
CITALOPRAM	1. C 2. B	Drops available (4 drops=8mg liquid is equivalent to 10mg tablet).
CLARITHROMYCIN	C	Suspension and sachets are available.

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CLINDAMYCIN		Capsules can be opened and mixed with water or food.
CLOBAZAM	1. A 2. E	
CLOMIFENE	B	<i>Ref. Wockhardt Medical Information</i>
CLOMIPRAMINE	1. A 2. E	Capsules can be opened and contents mixed with water.
CLONAZEPAM	1. A 2. C* 3. E	* Unlicensed special.
CLONIDINE	1. A (Catapres) B (Dixarit) 2. D*	* Dilute and administer Catapres™ injections.
CLOPIDOGREL	B	Crush tablets and give with water or in food.
CLOZAPINE	E	
CO-AMILOFRUSE	1. B 2. E	Or change to amiloride liquid and furosemide liquid.
CO-AMILOZIDE	1. A 2. E	
CO-AMOXICLAV	1. C 2. A*	* Dispersible tablets available (not kept at CHUFT).
CO-CODAMOL	A	Dispersible and effervescent tablets available.
CODEINE	C	
CO-BENELDOPA	A	Dispersible tablets available.
CO-CARELDOPA	A	Do not disperse slow-release tablets.
CO-DYDRAMOL		No liquid/dispersible tablets available. Convert to dihydrocodeine liquid and paracetamol liquid.
CO-PHENOTROPE	B	
COLCHICINE	A	
CO-TRIMOXAZOLE	C	
CYCLIZINE	B	
CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE	1. E 2. D*	* Cytotoxic, wear gloves.
DEMECLOCYCLINE	B	Open capsule and disperse contents in water.
DEXAMETHASONE	1. C 2. B	
DIAZEPAM	1. C* 2. B	*Interact with PVC feeding tube, so dilute dose of suspension with equivalent amount of water. Suppositories and injections available.
DICLOFENAC	A	Dispersible tablets available. Do not crush enteric-coated or slow-release tablets. Suppositories also available.
DIGOXIN	1. C 2. B	
DIHYDROCODEINE	C	
DILTIAZEM	1. B*	* Open slow-release capsule and disperse

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	2. E	content in water. Do not crush the pellets. Do not crush slow-release tablets.
DIPYRIDAMOLE	1. C 2. B 3. D 4. E	Tablets may be crushed. Slow-release capsules may be opened and granules dispersed in water. Do not crush granules.
DOCUSATE SODIUM	C	
DOMPERIDONE	1. C 2. B	Suppositories are also available.
DONEPEZIL	B	Crush tablet before suspending in water
DOSULEPIN	B	Crush tablets and disperse in water. Risk of blocking tubes.
DOXAZOSIN	1. A 2. E	Do not crush modified release tablets. Change to normal release.
DOXEPIN		Capsules may be opened and the contents mixed with water.
DOXYCYCLINE	A*	* Dispersible tablets available. Do NOT open capsules as the contents are irritant.
DUTASTERIDE		Do NOT open capsules as the contents are irritant. Change to finasteride (see below).
ENALAPRIL	1. B 2. E	
ENTACAPONE	B	Caution: will stain surrounding objects orange. Wear gloves.
EPLERENONE		Tablets can be crushed and mixed in apple sauce. (Ref. Pfizer)
ERYTHROMYCIN	C	Erythromycin ethylsuccinate is the only liquid preparation available. When switching from erythromycin stearate tablets, the dose has to be doubled.
ESCITALOPRAM	B	Tablets can be crushed and dispersed in water, orange or apple juice. Bitter taste. To be taken immediately. (Ref. Lundbeck Medical Information)
ETHAMBUTOL	B	
ETIDRONATE DISODIUM	B	Stop enteral feed 2 hours before and after administration. Flush tube before and after.
EZETIMIBE	B	
FERROUS SULPHATE	B or:	Switch to sodium feredetate liquid – Sytron™ (10ml equivalent to 200mg ferrous sulphate tablet). Modified release iron tablets should be changed to the equivalent normal release strength and dose first.
FEXOFENADINE	B	
FINASTERIDE	B	Wear gloves- Not to be handled by women who are or might be pregnant.
FLAVOXATE	E B	Tablets are very hard to crush.
FLECAINIDE	1. A 2. E	
FLUCLOXACILLIN	C	Stop enteral feed 30min to 1h before and

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		after administration. Flush tube.
FLUCONAZOLE	C	Or capsules can be opened and contents mixed with water.
FLUDROCORTISONE	A	
FLUOXETINE	C	Or capsules can be opened and dispersed in water.
FLUPENTIXOL	B	
FLUVASTATIN		Open capsules and disperse in water. Do not open slow-release capsules
FOLIC ACID	1. C 2. B	
FUROSEMIDE	1. C 2. A	
FUSIDIC ACID/ SODIUM FUSIDATE	C	500mg sodium fusidate tablet is equivalent to 750mg oral suspension.
GABAPENTIN		Open capsule and disperse in water.
GALANTAMINE	1. C 2. A	Tablets dissolve in water. Slow-release capsules can be opened and contents mixed with water, orange juice or yogurt. Do not crush. <i>(Ref. Shire Pharmaceuticals Ltd Medical Information)</i>
GLIBENCLAMIDE	1. B 2. E	Monitor blood glucose levels.
GLICLAZIDE	1. B 2. E	Monitor blood glucose levels.
GLYCOPYRRONIUM	1. B 2. D	Tablets disperse in water. The injection can be given orally.
GRANISETRON	1. C 2. B	
GRISEOFULVIN	E	Tablets are not soluble in water.
HALOPERIDOL	1. C 2. B	Or open capsule and disperse contents in water.
HYDRALAZINE	1. B 2. D 3. E	
HYDROCORTISONE	1. A 2. E	
HYDROXYCARBAMIDE		Capsules can be opened and contents dissolved in water. Take immediately. Caution: Cytotoxic – wear gloves.
HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE	1. B 2. E	
HYDROXYZINE	1. C 2. B	
HYOSCINE BUTYLBROMIDE	1. B 2. D	Injection can be given orally, no dilution needed.
HYOSCINE HYDROBROMIDE	D	Transdermal patches also available.
IBUPROFEN	1. C 2. B*	Granules are available. * Do not crush enteric-coated preparations.
IMIPRAMINE	1. B 2. E	

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INDAPAMIDE	1. B 2. E	Do not crush slow release formulations, change normal release (1.5mg SR OD is equivalent to 2.5mg OD).
INDOMETACIN	C	Suppositories are available.
INDORAMIN	A	
IRBESARTAN	B	Practically insoluble in water. Crush tablets and give with water or in food.
ISONIAZID	1. B 2. C	
ISOSORBIDE MONONITRATE	1. B 2. E	Do not crush slow release formulations. Change to normal release preparations and increase frequency to BD. Monitor blood pressure. Patches are available.
ISOSORBIDE DINITRATE	E	Or change to isosorbide mononitrate and crush tablets.
ITRACONAZOLE	C	
LABETALOL	1. B 2. D	
LAMOTRIGINE	A	Dispersible tablets available.
LANSOPRAZOLE	A	Oro-dispersible tablets available. Capsules can be opened and granules mixed with 8.4% sodium bicarbonate.
LERCANIDIPINE		Tablets do not dissolve in water. They can be broken into pieces and taken with food. Consider an alternative (amlodipine).
LEVAMISOLE	B	Tablets can be crushed and mixed with water.
LEVETIRACETAM	1. C 2. B	Solution available is bitty and can clog tubes. Tablets can be crushed and dispersed in water or sprinkled on food. Taste bitter. Tablets can be given rectally. (Ref. UCB Pharma)
LEVOFLOXACIN	B	Stop enteral feed prior to administration. Flush tube before and after. Do not use low doses.
LEVOMEPRMAZINE	1. A 2. E	
LEVOTHYROXINE	1. B 2. E	Tablets can be given rectally.
LISINOPRIL	1. A 2. E	
LITHIUM	C	Tablets are slow release, so liquid preparation may have to be given more frequently. Monitor plasma lithium levels. Lithium carbonate 200mg= lithium citrate 509mg
LOFEPRAMINE	1. C 2. B	
LOPERAMIDE	1. C 2. B	Or open capsule and disperse contents in water.

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LORAZEPAM	1. A 2. D* 3. E	* Injection can be given sublingually.
LORATADINE	C	
LOSARTAN	A	
MAGNESIUM GLYCEROPHOSPHATE	E	
MEBEVERINE	1. C 2. B	
MEDROXYPROGESTERONE	1. B 2. E	
MEGESTROL	B	Crush tablets as they are not easily soluble in water.
MELATONIN		Do not crush Circadin™ tablets.
MELOXICAM	A	Suppositories are available and bioequivalent to tablets.
MESALAZINE	A*	* Pentasa™ tablets disperse in water to give MR granules. Do not crush Asacol™ tablets, they are enteric-coated. Rectal preparations available.
MESNA		For oral administration, the contents of an injection can be taken in a flavoured drink (orange juice or cola)
METFORMIN	1. C 2. B 3. E	Sachets available. Monitor blood glucose levels.
METHOTREXATE	C	Cytotoxic – wear gloves, handle with care.
METHYLDOPA	B	
METOCLOPRAMIDE	1. C 2. B	
METOLAZONE	1. B 2. E	
METOPROLOL	1. E 2. B	Do not crush slow release formulations.
METRONIDAZOLE	1. C 2. B	Suppositories also available.
METYRAPONE	B	The capsules can be pierced and the contents mixed with water or sprinkled onto food. (Ref. Alliance Pharmaceuticals)
MIDAZOLAM	1. C 2. D	Injection can also be given rectally.
MINOXIDIL	A	
MIRTAZAPINE	1. A 2. C	Soltabs melt on the tongue. They also disperse in water.
MISOPROSTOL	A	Poor stability. Consider changing to ranitidine or lansoprazole.
MONTELUKAST	A	Unstable in water, so give immediately.
MORPHINE	1. C 2. A*	* MST Continuous sachets available. Do not crush slow release formulations. Zomorph™ and MXL™ capsules can be opened. Do not crush the granules.
MOXONIDINE	A	

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MULTIVITAMINS	1. C* 2. B	* Abidec (contains arachis oil) and Dalivit drops available.
MYCOPHENOLATE MOFETIL NAFTIDROFURYL	C	Do not crush tablets - teratogenic. Capsule contents can be used but can cause severe irritation/anaesthetic effect on oesophagus. Can be given via PEG or NG tube with plenty of water.
NAPROXEN	1. B 2. E	Do not crush slow release or enteric-coated formulations. Suppositories are available.
NEFOPAM	B	
NEOSTIGMINE	E	
NICORANDIL	A	
NIFEDIPINE	B	Crush or disperse Adalat Retard™ tablets in water and use immediately as light-sensitive. Do not crush Adalat LA™ tablets- convert to equivalent dose of Adalat retard™.
NIMODIPINE	1. B* 2. E	* Use immediately as very light-sensitive.
NITRAZEPAM	1. C 2. B	
NITROFURANTOIN	1. B 2. C	Do not crush slow release formulations.
NIZATIDINE	B	Open capsule and disperse contents in liquid. Consider changing to ranitidine liquid/effervescent.
NORETHISTERONE	B	
OFLOXACIN	B	Consider switch to Ciprofloxacin (needs Micro approval).
OLANZAPINE	1. A* 2. B**	* Orodispersible tablets (Velotabs). ** Dissolve in water, apple and orange juice, milk, or coffee. Wear gloves as very irritant to skin. Protect eyes. (Ref. Lilly)
OLSALAZINE	B	Capsule contents can be dissolved in WARM water. Contents stain.
OMEPRAZOLE	1. B 2. E	Losec Mups™ disintegrate into small granules. Losec™ capsules can be opened and the granules flushed down the enteral tube.
ONDANSETRON	1. C 2. A	Melt tablets available.
ORPHENADRINE	1. C 2. B	
OSELTAMIVIR	1. C 2. E	Capsules can be opened and contents mixed with sweetened food product (chocolate syrup, honey, sugar dissolved in water, dessert toppings, sweetened condensed milk, apple sauce or yogurt) to mask the bitter taste. The mixture should be stirred and taken immediately. (Roche Ltd)
OXPRENOLOL	B	Do not crush slow release preparations.

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OXYBUTYNIN	1. C 2. B	Patches are also available.
OXYCODONE	C	Controlled drug.
OXYTETRACYCLINE	1. E 2. B	
PANCREATIC ENZYMES	B	Open capsule (Creon™, Nutrizyme™) and disperse contents in water. Granules must not be crushed.
PARACETAMOL	1. A 2. C	Dispersible tablets available. Suppositories also available.
PAROXETINE	1. C 2. B	
PENICILLAMINE	B	
PENICILLIN	C	Stop enteral feed prior to administration. Flush tube before and after. Avoid low doses.
PERGOLIDE	B	
PERINDOPRIL	A	
PHENELZINE	B	Consider an alternative.
PHENOBARBITAL	1. C 2. B	
PHENYTOIN	C	90mg phenytoin suspension is equivalent to 100mg tablet or capsule. Stop enteral feed 2 hours before and after administration. Flush tube with 60ml of water after phenytoin. Monitor plasma concentration.
PHYTOMENADIONE (Vitamin K)	1. B 2. D*	* Use Konakion™ MM Paediatric injection and give orally.
PIMOZIDE	B	
PIOGLITAZONE	B	Tablets are relatively insoluble. Crush.
PIROXICAM	A	Dispersible tablets available. Dissolve in at least 50ml of water as very irritant. Do not crush capsules.
PIZOTIFEN	C	
POTASSIUM	1. A 2. C	Sando K™ effervescent tablets available. Kay-Cee-L™ syrup available.
PRAMIPEXOLE	B	Light sensitive, give immediately. (Ref. Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd)
PRAVASTATIN	B	
PRAZOSIN	B	Very poorly soluble in water.
PREDNISOLONE	A	Dispersible tablets available.
PREGABALIN		Open capsule and dissolve contents in water. Bitter taste. (Ref. Pfizer)
PRIMIDONE	1. A 2. C 3. E	
PROCHLORPERAZINE	1. C 2. A	Buccal tablets and suppositories available.
PROCYCLIDINE	1. C 2. B	
PROMETHAZINE	1. C	

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PROPRANOLOL	1. C 2. B	Do not crush slow release preparations. If converting from SR, give the total daily dose in 2 to 3 divided doses.
PROPYLTHIOURACIL	A	
PYRAZINAMIDE	B	Stop enteral feed half an hour before and after administration.
PYRIDOSTIGMINE	1. B 2. E	Stop enteral feed prior to administration. Flush tube before and after.
PYRIDOXINE	1. B 2. E	
QUETIAPINE	B	Film-coated tablets are poorly soluble in water. Manufacturer recommends crushing and mixing in yogurt. (<i>Ref. AstraZeneca</i>)
QUININE SULPHATE	1. B 2. E	
RALTEGRAVIR	B	(<i>Ref. MSD Medical Information</i>)
RAMIPRIL	1. B 2. E	Tablets can be crushed. Capsules can be opened and contents dispersed in water. Monitor blood pressure.
RANITIDINE	1. C 2. B	Effervescent tablets available.
RIFABUTIN	B	Contents of capsule can be emptied in small amount of water and flavoured.
RIFAMPICIN	C	Do not open capsules. Risk of contact sensitization.
RIFATER / RIFANAH		Use liquid form of each component separately (rifampicin, isoniazid and pyrazinamide). Rifater™ and Rifanah™ sachets can be imported via BR Pharma.
RILUZOLE	B	Tablets can be crushed and given in a spoonful of sugar, food puree or yogurt. Crushed tablets can have an anaesthetic effect on the tongue.
RISPERIDONE	1. C 2. B	Orodispersible tablets available.
ROPINIROLE	B	
SALBUTAMOL	C	Do not crush slow release tablets.
SELEGILINE	1. C 2. B	Oral lyophilisates available for buccal administration.
SENNA	1. C 2. B	
SERTRALINE	1. B 2. E	Poorly soluble in water. Take immediately after crushing, maybe better in yogurt. Has an anaesthetic effect on the tongue.
SILDENAFIL	1. B 2. E	
SIMVASTATIN	B	
SODIUM BICARBONATE		Capsules can be opened and contents mixed with water. <i>Ref. Focus Pharmaceuticals Ltd</i>

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SODIUM VALPROATE	1. C 2. B	Do not crush slow release tablets. Monitor plasma levels.
SOLIFENACIN	A	<i>Ref. Astellas Pharma</i>
SOTALOL	1. B 2. E	
SPIRONOLACTONE	1. C 2. B 3. E	
STALEVO™	B	Tastes bitter and forms an orange dye which may stain. Can be mixed with orange, apple or tomato juice, honey, jam or yoghurt. (<i>Ref. Orion Pharma</i>)
SUCRALFATE	1. C 2. A	Stop enteral feed at least 1h prior to administration and for 1h after. Flush tube before and after.
SULFASALAZINE	1. C 2. B	Do not crush enteric-coated or slow release tablets
SULPIRIDE	1. C 2. B	
TAMOXIFEN	1. C 2. B	Wear a mask if crushing tablets.
TAMSULOSIN MR		Capsules can be opened and modified-release granules mixed with water (not crushed). The mixture should be given immediately.
TELMISARTAN	B	
TEMAZEPAM	1. C 2. B	Schedule 3 controlled drug.
TEMOZOLOMIDE		Capsules can be opened and contents mixed with 30g apple sauce or apple juice. Appropriate precautions against toxic dust are recommended: wearing gloves and mask. (<i>Ref. Schering Plough Ltd</i>)
TETRABENAZINE	B	Tablets can be crushed and mixed in water
THEOPHYLLINE	C	To convert to liquid, divide the total daily dose by 3 and administer TDS. Stop enteral feed at least 1h prior to administration and for 2h after. Flush tube before and after. Monitor levels.
THIAMINE	1. B 2. E	
TIZANIDINE	B	
TOLBUTAMIDE	B	Tablets do not mix well with water when crushed.
TOLTERODINE	A	
TOPIRAMATE	B	Tablets do not disperse readily in water as they are film-coated, but will disintegrate if shaken in 10ml of water for 5 minutes. "Sprinkle capsules" can be opened and contents mixed with soft food.
TRAMADOL	A	Sachets, soluble and orodispersible tablets available. Capsules can be opened.

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TRANDOLAPRIL		Open capsules and disperse contents in water. Consider changing to lisinopril liquid.
TRANEXAMIC ACID	1. B 2. E 3. D	
TRAZODONE	C	Capsules can be opened.
TRIFLUOPERAZINE	C	Capsules can be opened.
TRIMETHOPRIM	1. C 2. B	Avoid crushing – risk of 3 rd party exposure to the powder.
URSODEOXYCHOLIC ACID	1. B 2. C	
VALPROATE SEMISODIUM		Gastro-resistant tablets should not be crushed. If half tablet dose needed, take after food to minimise GI adverse effects.
VALSARTAN		Open capsules and disperse contents in water. Monitor blood pressure.
VANCOMYCIN	1. D 2. E	
VENLAFAXINE	B	Tablets are water-soluble. MR capsules can be opened and sprinkled onto soft food.
VERAPAMIL	1. C 2. B 3. D 4. E	Do not crush slow release preparations. If changing form a slow release preparation, divide the dose into 3 equal daily doses.
VIGABATRIN	A	Sachets available.
VITAMIN B COMPOUND	B	
VITAMIN E	C	
WARFARIN	1. B 2. E	Stop enteral feed at least 2h prior to administration and for 2h after. Flush tube before and after. Monitor INR closely.
ZINC	A	Effervescent tablets available.
ZOPICLONE	B	Crushed tablets have bitter taste. Tablets dissolve in acidic fruit juices (orange). <i>Ref. Generics</i>

KEY TO DRUG ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES

Please follow the guidelines in order, as shown in the chart (i.e. number 1 is the first choice of which form to administer the drug in).

- A** Tablet will disperse in 1-2 minutes.
- B** Tablet will disperse in greater than 2 minutes.
- C** Liquid preparation available.
- D** Dilute reconstituted injection with 30-60ml of water before administering.
- E** Oral solution/suspension can be prepared by local pharmacy or Non Sterile Preparative Services (PSU at Colchester General Hospital).

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References

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