



Specialty Medicine Compounding Pharmacy

Competent Compounding

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Common Compounds

Some compounds can be easily made with standard equipment and basic knowledge:

- *Magic Mouthwash* - typically a combination of equal parts viscous lidocaine, diphenhydramine, and antacid liquid - however, never assume this recipe - many variations
- *Cream A + Cream B* - physicians may prescribe 2 or more creams to be combined as 1
- *Cream A + Base* - physicians may prescribe a cream to be diluted such as triamcinolone into a larger amount of Eucerin

Did You Know?

- *Captopril suspension* must be prepared with ascorbic acid
- *Metronidazole HCL* is much less effective topically than the base form of the drug
- *Metronidazole* can be prepared in a flavorless suspension
- *PLO (pluronic-lechithin-organogel)* is best prepared with a shearing force
- *Prevacid suspension* is incompatible with many flavoring agents

Keys to Successful Compounding

A basic requirement for compounding is the right equipment - this generally includes mortar & pestle, glass plates, spatulas, balance with weights, and graduated cylinders. Advanced compounding can require syringes, electronic mixers, vertical flow hoods, capsule machines, and Class 100 clean rooms.

Another requirement for compounding is the right ingredients - aside from the active ingredients, this includes excipients such as suspending agents, emulsifying agents, sweeteners, flavors, and cream and ointment bases. Salt forms of drugs, found in most tablets or capsules,

are not always equally effective as using the base chemical form in compounded products.

Perhaps the most important key for successful compounding is a thorough understanding of the principles of compounding. This often includes calculations to determine the percent strength of products, compatibility and stability issues once a product is made, techniques such as geometric dilution, levigation, titration, and sterilization. Pharmacists looking for information on compounding have many resources available, including the Professional Compounding Center of



America (PCCA). This is considered to be a leading organization for compounding and members can access vital information from their website.

Modern compounding has come a long way from the traditional mortar and pestle, and can present challenges to the pharmacists of today. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your local compounding pharmacist.

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The demands of modern compounding have led to the creation of pharmacies devoted solely to this art. **Specialty Medicine Compounding Pharmacy** has been serving your community for over 5 years. Here we specialize in bio-identical

hormone replacement therapies and veterinary medicine, to name a few. We have all the facilities and equipment needed to make anything from topicals to capsules and sterile injectables. We do not accept insurance, but do provide claims

forms with prescriptions we fill. So, next time a patient wants a compound you're unsure of - we'd be happy to serve them!

