

Arachis oil 40% v/v emulsion**150 ml**

Take THREE 5 ml spoonfuls TWICE a day.

Shake the bottle

Do not use after (4 weeks)

Each 15 ml contains:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Arachis Oil BP | 6 ml |
| Acacia BP | 1.5 g |
| Concentrated Peppermint Emulsion BP | 0.25 ml |
| Double Strength Chloroform Water BP | 7.5 ml |
| Freshly boiled and cooled purified water | to 15ml |

Mr James Taylor

Date of dispensing

7. Advice to patient

The patient would be advised to take three 5 ml spoonfuls twice a day. In addition, the discard date and the need to shake the bottle would be highlighted to the patient.

Example 4.3**The preparation of a magistral formulation from a doctor's prescription**

You receive a prescription in your pharmacy with the following details:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Patient: | Ms Jayne Smith, 76 Oak Crescent, Astonbury |
| Age: | 45 |
| Prescription: | Liquid Paraffin 15% emulsion |
| Directions: | 15 ml tds |
| Mitte: | 200 ml |

1. Use of the product

Used as a laxative to treat constipation (*British National Formulary* 51st edn, p 61).

2. Is it safe and suitable for the intended purpose?

The product is similar to Liquid Paraffin Emulsion BPC, which contains 5 ml of Liquid Paraffin BP per 10 ml, with a dose of 10–30 ml (British Pharmaceutical Codex 1973, pp 678–679). This would equate to 5–15 ml of Liquid Paraffin BP per dose (three to four times a day by convention).

The prescription requests 15 ml of a 15% emulsion to be taken three times a day. This equates to $(15 \div 100) \times 15 = 2.25$ ml Liquid Paraffin BP three times a day. This dose is lower than the reference dose, but confirmation of the condition of the patient (for example, the patient may be elderly or infirm) and/or the condition being treated (for example, the product may be prescribed to treat mild constipation) will indicate whether the