Patient:	Master Roger Carlson, 21 Hazel Grove, Astonbury
Age:	6
Prescription:	Glycerol Suppositories BP
Directions:	Insert i prn
Mitte:	6

1. **Use of the product**
   Used to treat constipation (*British National Formulary* 51st edn, p 60).
2. **Is it safe and suitable for the intended purpose?**
   This is an official preparation, therefore the formula is safe and suitable for purpose.
3. **Calculation of formula for preparation**
   Prepare 6 child-size Glycerol Suppositories BP.

Product formula (from the *British Pharmacopoeia* 2004, p 2459)

	Master	100 g	10 g	5 g	25 g
Gelatin BP	14%	14 g	1.4 g	0.7 g	3.5 g
Glycerol BP	70%	70 g	7 g	3.5 g	17.5 g
Purified water	to 100%	16 g	1.6 g	0.8 g	4 g

Calculations

Six suppositories are required; however an overage will be needed to prepare this quantity successfully. Calculations are therefore based on the amounts required to prepare 10 suppositories.

The mass of base that would be needed to prepare 10 child-size (2 g suppositories) is:
$10 \times 2 \times 1.2 = 24$ g

For ease of calculation and weighing, sufficient quantities of ingredients to prepare 25 g of base are used.

4. **Method of preparation**

a. Solubility where applicable
Not applicable.

b. Vehicle/diluent
Not applicable.

c. Preservative
There is no preservative included as per the product formula.

d. Flavouring when appropriate
Suppositories are for rectal use and so no flavouring is required.

Tips

The choice of suppository mould for a child's glycerol suppository is traditionally 2 g (a 1 g mould is usually used for an infant's glycerol suppository, a 2 g mould for a child's glycerol suppository and a 4 g mould for an adult's glycerol suppository).

The mould will have been calibrated for use with Theobroma Oil BP or Hard Fat BP. The glycero-gelatin base has a greater density, therefore the nominal weight required to fill the moulds will be greater than with Theobroma Oil BP or Hard Fat BP. To calculate correctly the quantities required, the amount that would be required to fill the nominal weight will need to be multiplied by a factor of 1.2.