

Tips

An alternative way to prepare this paste would involve melting the base then combining the powders with the molten base and stirring until cooled.

9. Triturate until a smooth product is formed.
10. Weigh 20 g and pack into a collapsible tube or amber glass jar. Label and dispense.

5. Choice of container

A collapsible tube or plain amber jar would be most suitable.

6. Labelling considerations

a. Title

The product is official, therefore the following title would be suitable: 'Compound Zinc Paste BP'.

b. Quantitative particulars

Quantitative particulars are not required as the product is official.

c. Product-specific cautions (or additional labelling requirements)

'For external use only' will need to be added to the label as the product is a paste for external use.

d. Directions to patient – interpretation of Latin abbreviations where necessary

'Apply to the affected areas THREE times a day.'

e. Recommended *British National Formulary* cautions when suitable

Not applicable.

f. Discard date

The product is a paste and so will attract a 3-month discard date.

g. Sample label (You can assume that the name and address of the pharmacy and the words 'Keep out of the reach of children' are pre-printed on the label):

Compound Zinc Paste BP

20 g

Apply to the affected areas THREE times a day.

For external use only

Do not use after (3 months)

Mrs Sandra Jones

Date of dispensing

7. Advice to patient

The patient would be advised to apply the ointment to the affected areas three times a day. In addition, the discard date and the fact that the product is for external use only would be highlighted to the patient.