

measure and add to the Sodium Bicarbonate BP solution in the 250 ml measure. Rinse out the small conical measure with potable water and add the rinsings to the mixture.

10. Make up to volume (150 ml) accurately with potable water and stir.
11. Transfer the solution to a 150 ml amber flat medical bottle with a child-resistant closure and label.

5. Choice of container

A plain amber bottle with a child-resistant closure would be most suitable as the preparation is a solution for internal use.

6. Labelling considerations

a. Title

The product is official, therefore the following title would be suitable: 'Alkaline Gentian Mixture BP'.

b. Quantitative particulars

Quantitative particulars are not required as the product is official.

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

Not applicable.

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

'Take TWO 5 ml spoonfuls THREE times a day before food in water'.

e. Recommended *British National Formulary* cautions when suitable

Not applicable.

f. Discard date

The British Pharmacopoeia (2004, p 2453) states that this product should be recently prepared, therefore it will attract a 4-week discard date. Alternatively, a 2-week discard date could be assigned as the product also contains an infusion.

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):

Alkaline Gentian Mixture BP

150 ml

Take TWO 5 ml spoonfuls THREE times a day before food in water.

Do not use after (2 weeks)

Mr David Shaw

Date of dispensing

7. Advice to patient

The patient would be advised to mix two 5 ml spoonfuls with an equal volume of water to dilute the bitter taste three times a day before food. In addition, the discard date would be highlighted to the patient.