

Medical bottles

Plain amber medicine bottles

Plain amber medicine bottles can be used to package all internal liquid preparations. Traditional amber medicine bottles used in the UK have two different sides, one curved and one flat (Figure 1.2). The label or labels are usually placed on the curved side of the bottle as the patient's natural action will be to pick the bottle up with the curved side of the bottle facing the inside of the palm. By placing the label on the curved side, this will mean the label is on the upper side of the bottle when in use. This will prevent the label becoming damaged by any dribbles of liquid running down the side of the bottle during pouring of a dose.



Figure 1.2
A selection of plain amber medicine bottles.

Plain amber medicine bottles come in a variety of sizes. The capacity of each bottle is traditionally marked on the bottom of the container in millilitres. In the UK, plain amber medicine bottles come in the following sizes: 50 ml, 100 ml, 150 ml, 200 ml, 300 ml and 500 ml.

As with tablet bottles (see above), child-resistant closures should be employed whenever possible.

Fluted amber medicine bottles

Fluted (or ribbed) amber medicine bottles are similar to the plain amber medicine bottles but, instead of having a flat plain side, this side is curved and contains a number of ridges or grooves running from the top of the bottle down to the bottom (Figure 1.3). The ridges or grooves are intended to be both a visual and tactile warning to the patient or carer that the contents of the bottle are not to be administered via the oral route (the tactile nature of the warning is particularly useful for blind or partially