

2. Calculate the quantities of vehicle required to dissolve any soluble solids.
3. Prepare any Double Strength Chloroform Water BP required.
4. Weigh all solids on a Class II or electronic balance.
5. Dissolve all soluble solids in the vehicle in a small glass beaker.
6. Mix any insoluble indiffusible powders and the suspending agent in a porcelain mortar using the 'doubling-up' technique to ensure complete mixing.
7. Add a small quantity of the vehicle (which may or may not be a solution of the soluble ingredients) to the solids in the mortar and mix using a pestle to form a smooth paste.
8. Add further vehicle in small quantities, and continue mixing until the mixture in the mortar is a pourable consistency.
9. Transfer the contents of the mortar to a conical measure of suitable size.
10. Rinse out the mortar with more vehicle and add any rinsings to the conical measure.
11. Add remaining liquid ingredients to the mixture in the conical measure. (These are added now, as some may be volatile and therefore exposure whilst mixing needs to be reduced to prevent loss of the ingredient by evaporation.)
12. Make up to final volume with vehicle.
13. Stir gently, transfer to a suitable container, ensuring that all the solid is transferred from the conical measure to the bottle, and label ready to be dispensed to the patient.

## Worked examples

### Example 3.1

#### The preparation of Magnesium Trisilicate Mixture BP

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

<b>Patient:</b>	Mr Peter Burley, 74 Stone Lane, Astonbury
<b>Age:</b>	37
<b>Prescription:</b>	Mist Mag Trisil
<b>Directions:</b>	10 ml tds ex aqua
<b>Mitte:</b>	150 ml

#### 1. Use of the product

Used to treat indigestion/dyspepsia (*British National Formulary* 51st edn, p 39).