

Method of preparation

Noting that the melting point of Hard Fat BP is 30–45°C (*Martindale* 31st edn, p 1409).

1. Weigh 8 g of Hard Fat BP on a Class II or electronic balance.
2. Transfer to an evaporating basin and melt over a water bath.
3. Weigh 2 g of Bismuth Subgallate BP on a Class II or electronic balance.
4. Weigh 600 mg Resorcinol BP on a Class II or electronic balance.
5. Weigh 1.2 g Zinc Oxide BP on a Class II or electronic balance.
6. Weigh 600 mg Castor Oil BP on a Class II or electronic balance.
7. Mix the powders together in a mortar using the 'doubling-up' technique and transfer to a warmed tile.
8. Levigate the powders with the Castor Oil BP and a little molten base.
9. Return the resultant mix to the molten mass and stir.
10. Stir until almost set, then transfer to a clean, dry, matched suppository mould and allow to set.
11. Trim the tops and remove from the mould.
12. Wrap individually in foil and transfer to an amber glass jar and label.

5. Choice of container

Once manufactured, the suppositories should be individually wrapped in foil and placed in an ointment jar. Alternatively, the suppositories could be made in a disposable mould, which can be labelled and dispensed directly to the patient.

6. Labelling considerations**a. Title**

The product is official, therefore the following title would be suitable: 'Compound Bismuth Subgallate Suppositories BP'.

b. Quantitative particulars

Quantitative particulars are not required as the product is official.

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

'For rectal use only' will need to be added to the label as the products are suppositories for rectal use.

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

'Insert ONE into the rectum when required.'

e. Recommended *British National Formulary* cautions when suitable

Not applicable.

Tips

Any liquid ingredients to be added to suppositories must be weighed, *not* measured.