



**GOT QUESTIONS  
ABOUT COMPOUNDING?**

**WE HAVE ANSWERS!**



**Compounding** combines an ageless practice with the latest medical knowledge and state-of-the-art technology, allowing specially trained professionals to prepare customized medications to meet each patient's specific needs. Compounding is fundamental to the profession of pharmacy and was a standard means of providing prescription medications before drugs began to be produced in mass quantities by pharmaceutical manufacturers. The demand for professional compounding has increased as healthcare professionals and patients realize that commercially available medications do not meet the needs of many patients, and that these patients may have a better response to a customized dosage form that is "**just what the doctor ordered**".

**Our compounding professionals can prepare:**

- Unique dosage forms containing the best dose of medication for each individual.
- Medications free of problem causing excipients such as sugar, lactose, dyes, alcohol, gluten, or preservatives.
- Combinations of various compatible medications into a single dosage form for easier administration and improved compliance.
- Medications that are backordered or not commercially available.
- Novel medication delivery systems.

When deciding on a treatment protocol, prescribers do not need to be constrained by the limited selection of strengths and dosage forms that are commercially available. Numerous factors, such as stability and shelf life, can limit the practicality of manufactured drugs that require special storage. It would be virtually impossible for a pharmaceutical company to manufacture medications in the precise dose and dosage form that would be best for every patient.

The compounding pharmacist's armamentarium consists of every medication that is approved for use and meets governmental regulations, many novel administration devices, and any dosage form that can be imagined. Our compounding professionals can literally create the "best" medication for each patient, which can be administered by the most appropriate route to treat a specific problem.

***Bring us your medication problems!  
Your questions are always welcome.***



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## Countless therapeutic possibilities exist

when medications can be customized to meet the unique needs of a specific patient. Our compounding pharmacy solves patient medication problems by using the highest grade ingredients to formulate medications in the optimal strength and dosage form for each individual patient. Our compounding laboratory contains equipment that is not found in most pharmacies enabling us to precisely compound each medication to the prescriber's exact specifications. We consider the physical and chemical properties of active and inactive ingredients in order to prepare customized medications with the proper consistency, stability, texture, color, and taste, thereby optimizing the therapeutic benefit of each preparation.

When a patient has a resistant or unique problem and commercially manufactured dosage forms do not precisely meet his or her specific needs, or if a drug is unpalatable or side effects of commercially available medications are unacceptable, contact our compounding professionals. We can change the dosage form or route of administration to improve acceptance, simplify administration, or decrease side effects - all of which can enhance compliance to medication protocols and improve therapeutic outcomes.

### Here are some examples:

#### Transdermal or topical formulations

may offer significant advantages over traditional dosage forms. When a patient has difficulty swallowing, we can often formulate the needed drug as a transdermal gel or cream that will facilitate drug absorption through the skin. Transdermal administration is a very helpful option that can avoid the cost and inconvenience of intravenous therapy or injections, and is often used for patients who are nauseated or have chronic illness. Transdermal medications can be administered by massaging the

medication into the back or wrist or application to another appropriate area, eliminating the need to disturb a resting patient. Transdermal medications are often preferred by pets and their owners too.



*An ointment mill reduces particle size and therefore can be used to compound preparations containing higher concentrations of active ingredients that can be formulated using traditional methods. Ointment mills are ideal for compounding transdermal and topical medications and provide a homogenized mixture that is cosmetically appealing.*

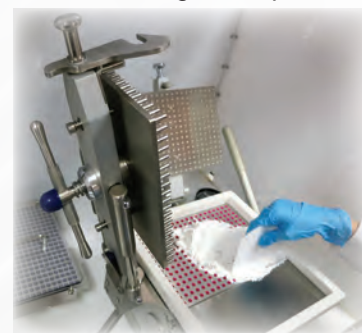
**Troches** are a type of lozenge that are placed between the cheek and gums to dissolve, allowing medication to be absorbed by the oral mucosa (lining of the cheek) versus orally through the gastrointestinal tract. This can provide more rapid drug absorption into systemic circulation, as the medication is not broken down by digestive enzymes or metabolized prior to absorption.



**Injectables** can be formulated for many medications where quick onset of action or where other dosage forms are not as effective. Patients also benefit from medications that are not commercially available as preservative free products or are on backorder. We can even create unique injectable formulations that are prepared for a specific practice that wants their own proprietary product to treat their patients.

#### Creams and ointments, lip balms, metered nasal or sublingual sprays, and non-aerosol topical sprays

can be used to apply medication directly to the affected site. Insufflators are ideal for applying medications in powder form to hard-to-reach areas such as the ear canal. Topical administration can reduce the amount of drug that a patient absorbs systemically, and



therefore may reduce the risk of side effects. We can compound cosmetically appealing creams, ointments, and gels containing the specific medications needed to treat each patient's unique problem.

**Capsules** can be compounded to obtain extended release properties, contain multiple compatible active ingredients, or in numerous colors or sizes to simplify dosing schedules.

**Suppositories** remain a popular dosage form. Unique designs such as the "rectal rocket" facilitate simultaneous internal and external administration of medications to treat hemorrhoids and other conditions.

These are just a few ideas of how compounded medications can be used to solve medication problems.

*How can we can help you?*