

Standardisation of the Most Common Liquid Medicines in Paediatrics

A project was undertaken in 2017 to improve the safety, regarding the prescribing of liquids, as children make the transition between secondary and primary care. As a result of this work, the five Trust Pharmacy Departments in Northern Ireland standardised the products that they stock and dispense/supply the products listed below.

The following list of liquid preparations should be prescribed exactly as they are described, ensuring that particular attention is paid to the formulation and strength specified. This is because often a suitable licensed preparation is available however a different form or strength may not be licensed and licensed products that are regulated by the MHRA and are the safest first line option.

Consideration should be given in primary care to changing patients to these “standardised” formulations in order to reduce the likelihood of errors across the interface and therefore enhance patient safety.

This document will be reviewed as licensed products become available.

Licensed Products		
Drug	Standardised form and strength and preferred Manufacturer	Comments
Captopril	25mg/5ml Oral Solution sugar free Noyada (Martindale)	Some patients may find this formulation unpalatable.
Colecalciferol	Fultium D3 2,740 units/ml Oral Drops	Note: 3 drops contains 200 units Colecalciferol (vitamin D ₃) Licensed colecalciferol preparations should be used in preference to unlicensed ergocalciferol.
Furosemide	20mg/5ml Oral Solution sugar free (Rosemont)	Some preparations contain alcohol and this may need to be reviewed as necessary.
Glycopyrronium bromide	1mg/5ml Oral Solution sugar free (Colonis Pharma)	Contains the excipients glycerol and sorbitol which may make this licensed product unsuitable for some patients. Consider individual patient need.
Unlicensed Products*		
Drug	Standardised form and strength and preferred Manufacturer	Comments
Melatonin	1mg/ml Oral Solution/liquid (Kidmel/Neomel)	EMIS –product is melatonin 5mg/5ml oral solution Please refer to Melatonin - Paediatric Shared Care Guideline for first line prescribing choice Circadin® tablets http://www.ipnsm.hscni.net/download/shared_care_guidelines/MelatoninSCG2017.pdf
Omeprazole	10mg/5ml Oral Suspension (Quzole powder and diluent for oral suspension)	Consider Lansoprazole Fas-Tabs or Omeprazole MUPs Tablets as first line choice as per Infant Feeding Guidelines. http://niformulary.hscni.net/Formulary/Adult/PDF/PrimaryCareInfant_Feeding_GuidelinesWeb.pdf
Sodium Chloride	5mmol/ml Oral Solution (292mg/ml); 1.46g/5ml (St Marys)	This product is detailed on Merlok as sodium chloride 5mmol/ml (292mg/ml) and on EMIS/VISION as sodium chloride 1.46g/5ml (5mmol/ml)
Spirolactone	25mg/5ml Oral Suspension (Martindale/Birchwood)	

* All 4 unlicensed preparations above are available from Movianto. Telephone: +44(0) 2890795799;

Email: orders.nireland@movianto.com.

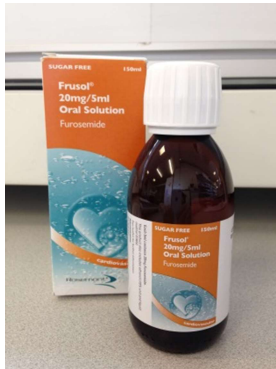
Captopril 25mg/5ml Oral Solution SF
Noyada (Martindale) Pack size 100mls



Fultium D3 2,740 units/ml Oral Drops
 Note: 3 drops contains 200 IU Colecalciferol (vitamin D₃)
Pack size 25mls



Furosemide 20mg/5ml Oral Solution SF
(Rosemont) Pack size 150mls



Glycopyrronium bromide 1mg/5ml Oral Solution SF (Colonis Pharma)



Melatonin 1mg/ml Oral Solution SF and Alcohol Free
(Kidmel/Neomel) Pack size 200mls



Omeprazole 10mg/5ml Oral Suspension
(Quzole powder and diluent for oral suspension) Pack size 100mls



Sodium Chloride 5mmol/ml Oral Solution
(St Marys) Pack size 100mls



Spirolactone 25mg/5ml Oral Suspension SF
(Martindale pack size 125ml / Birchwood Pack size 100mls)

