

Information on Dissolve-A-Dose®

Dissolve-A-Dose® is a device which:

- facilitates dissolving of an oral solid medication dosage form (e.g. a tablet) in a specific volume of diluent.
- allows the resulting solution to be measured /withdrawn to the desired dose/volume via the oral syringe adaptor.



Which medications are used with a Dissolve-A-Dose® device?

Not all medications are appropriate for use with the Dissolve-A-Dose® device. There are certain pharmaceutical considerations (e.g. solubility in water) that must be considered prior to use of this device. Only the brands specified in the chart are appropriate to use with the device as there could be differences in the pharmaceutical properties.

The following table provides information on 1) the medications which the IWK uses the Dissolve-A-Dose® device with and 2) specific IWK preparation instructions:

Medication	Brand	Strength	Dose Format	Diluent	Diluent Volume	Final Concentration
Captopril	Novo-captopril®	12.5 mg	tab	Sterile Water (for irrigation)	12.5 mL	1 mg/mL
Vigabatrin	Sabril®	500 mg	powder (sachet)	Sterile Water (for irrigation)	10 mL	50 mg/mL

How is the Dissolve-A-Dose device used?

Pharmacies provide patients/families with the:

- appropriate dose format of the medication
- Dissolve-A-Dose® device with the specific diluent volume to be added marked by a black line (using the Mark-A-Dose® label) *see info below on where to access*
- most appropriate oral syringe size

At the medication administration time, patients/families/nursing staff:

- 1) Twist off the blue cap on the Dissolve-A-Dose® device.
 - a) Place the dose format (e.g. tablet) in the Dissolve-A-Dose® device.
 - b) Add room temperature sterile water (IWK uses sterile water for irrigation) up to the volume marked by the black line on the Dissolve-A-Dose® device.
 - c) Replace the blue cap.
- 2) Allow the tablet/powder to dissolve over 5 minutes, shaking the container vigorously during this period.

Note for tablets only: ensure that there are no pieces of tablet remaining in the container. After 5 minutes, there may be some fine powder floating in the water that won't dissolve. This is normal.



- 3) Flip the top off of the oral syringe adaptor port and attach an oral syringe. Measure the appropriate volume to get the desired dose into an oral syringe.
- 4) Discard any liquid left in the container. Each dose of medication must be freshly prepared each time and cannot be saved.
- 5) Wash the Dissolve-A-Dose® device in warm soapy water and allow it to air dry.
- 6) Replace Dissolve-A-Dose® device periodically when necessary.



Note: A Dissolve-A-Dose® device should not be used for multiple medications. For example, if a patient was receiving both captopril and vigabatrin, a Dissolve-A-Dose® device would be provided for each medication. This is especially important because different drugs may require different volumes of water and Dissolve-A-Dose® devices are marked for a particular volume for a particular drug.

A printable quick reference sheet (in English and French) on how to use **Dissolve-A-Dose® device** is available here:

<http://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/En/HealthAZ/TestsAndTreatments/GivingMedication/Pages/Use-of-Dissolve-and-Dose-Containers.aspx>

How do pharmacies access/order the Dissolve-A-Dose® device and accessories?

- If not available from usual pharmacy wholesalers, both the **Dissolve-A-Dose® Devices** and **Mark-A-Dose® Labels** are available from Pharmasystems (www.pharmasystems.com).
 - Catalogue numbers: **Dissolve-A-Dose** #5294 **Mark-A-Dose® Labels** #42900

REFERENCES

[IWK Policy 20.09](#)

About Kids Health

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