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Compendium of Marketed Dosage Forms

Experiment 17 - Practical Notes

Name: _____ Roll no.: _____ Date: _____

Aim

To compile and compare examples of marketed dosage forms using observed package information.

Principle

A dosage form is the physical presentation of a medicine; it is different from its brand, strength or therapeutic use. A compendium links dosage-form design to route, packaging, measurement and patient instructions. This is a recommended activity alongside the listed preparation practicals.

Requirements

- Instructor-approved product packs, package inserts or clear pack photographs.
- Notebook or record sheet; use anonymised information without patient identifiers.

Procedure

1. Select examples

Choose a spread of dosage forms: tablet, capsule, oral solution, suspension, emulsion, powder or granules, ointment or cream, suppository and another relevant form.

2. Record package facts

Transcribe generic ingredient, strength basis, dosage form, route and package size. Record the manufacturer and labelled storage without inventing missing facts.

3. Identify design features

Note measuring devices, moisture or light protection, reconstitution instructions, shake-before-use wording and any modified-release or enteric-coated description.

4. Compare

Compare two products of different forms containing the same ingredient only if suitable examples are provided. Describe physical and use differences; do not assume therapeutic interchangeability.

5. Present findings

Group entries by dosage form. Attach authorised pack images if available and explain one packaging or counselling point for each form.

Observations and Record

Dosage form	Package facts to capture	Design / counselling point
Oral liquid	Ingredient; mg/mL; measuring device	Solution versus suspension; measurement
Powder / granules	Mass; reconstitution volume	Moisture protection and correct dilution
Semisolid / suppository	Strength; route; container	Application route and temperature storage

Worked Example

The numbers below are illustrative; enter your own observations in the record.

- A fictional oral-liquid label states 100 mg in 5 mL: concentration = $100 \div 5 = 20$ mg/mL. Record the strength; do not create a dose instruction.
- A fictional pack contains 10 units at 2 g each: total net unit mass = 20 g. Net mass is not the same as active-ingredient content.
- Count covered categories separately from the number of brands; ten brands of tablets do not demonstrate ten dosage forms.

Result

The compendium contains ____ products covering ____ dosage-form categories. For each category, one relevant packaging and communication point has been recorded.

Precautions

- Do not open sterile products or handle medicines unnecessarily for this activity.
- Use current pack information and distinguish a missing fact from an assumed fact.
- Do not publish identifiable patient information or infer that different formulations can be substituted.

Viva Questions and Answers

1. How is a solution different from a suspension?

A solution has dissolved solute; a suspension contains dispersed solid particles.

2. Why record the concentration basis?

Strength can be per unit, per volume or per mass, and the basis affects interpretation.

3. Why can packaging matter?

It can protect from light, moisture or contamination and support accurate administration.

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