



Guide for Crushing Oral Medication for Residents with Swallowing Difficulties in Residential Aged Care

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or	Comments/reasons
		101111	disperse tablet or open capsule	Gammanayaasans
ACICLOVIR	Lovir	Tablet	Yes	Soluble, dispersible tablet
ALENDRONATE, ALENDRONATE <i>with</i> CHOLECALCIFEROL	Fosamax Plus	Tablet	No	Mucous membrane irritant ¹ Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ^{3,4} Alternate bisphosphonate available as injection
ALLOPURINOL	Apo-Allopurinol	Tablet	Yes	
AMIODARONE	Cordarone-X Aratac	Tablet	Yes	Crush tablet ⁴
AMITRIPTYLINE	Arrow- Amitriptyline	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³
AMLODIPINE	Apo-Amlodipine	Tablet	Yes	Tablet may be crushed but use immediately, it is very light-sensitive ⁴
AMOXICILLIN	Apo-Amoxi	Capsule	No	Alternative route available ³ Oral liquid form available
AMOXICILLIN/ CLAVULANIC ACID	Curam Duo	Tablet	No	Film coated tablet ³ Alternative route available ³ Oral liquid form available
AMOXICILLIN/ CLAVULANIC ACID	Augmentin	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³ Can crush, but use immediately (clavulanic acid is sensitive to moisture) ⁴ Alternative route available Oral liquid form available
ARIPIPRAZOLE	Abilify	Tablet	No	Swallow tablets whole ³ Do not crush or chew ⁶
ASCORBIC ACID	Cvite	Tablet	Yes	
ASPIRIN (Enteric coated)	Ethics Aspirin EC	Tablet	No	Soluble or dispersible tablet available Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ⁴
ASPIRIN (Dispersible)	Ethics Aspirin	Tablet	Yes	Soluble, dispersible tablet

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or	Comments/reasons
			disperse tablet or open capsule	
ATENOLOL	Mylan Atenolol	Tablet	No	Film coated tablet. Do not
			information	halve; when tablet halved,
				dose equivalence has not established ³
ATORVASTATIN	Zarator	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³
				Tablets may be dispersed in water ⁴
AZATHIOPRINE	Azamun	Tablet	No	Film coated tablet ³
	Imuprine			Do not divide, crush, chew or
				disperse ⁴ Cytotoxic medicine, crushing
				causes occupational health
				and safety risk ³
BACLOFEN	Pacifen	Tablet	Yes	
BENDROFLUAZIDE	Arrow-	Tablet	Yes	Do not halve; when tablet
	Bendrofluazide			halved, dose equivalence has not established ³
BETAHISTINE	Vergo 16	Tablet	Yes	not established
BEZAFIBRATE	Bezalip	Tablet	No information	Film coated tablet, swallow whole ³
BEZAFIBRATE SR	Bezalip Retard	Tablet	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or
(Long acting) BISACODYL	Lax-Tab	Tablet	No	disperse tablet ⁴ Enteric coated with sugar,
DIO/100D TE	Lux Ius	Tablet	NO	swallow whole ³
				Do not divide, crush, chew or
				disperse tablet ⁴
				Alternative route available, suppositories available ³
BISOPROLOL	Bosvate	Tablet	No	Tablets can be halved, but
PROMOCRIPTIME	Ano Promocrintin	Tablet	Van	should not be chewed ³
BROMOCRIPTINE	Apo-Bromocriptine	Tablet	Yes	
BROMOCRIPTINE	Apo-Bromocriptine	Capsule	No	Do not crush, chew or disperse ⁴
BUMETANIDE	Burinex	Tablet	Yes	Tablet may be crushed ⁴
BUSPIRONE	Pacific Buspirone	Tablet	Yes	
CALCITRIOL	Calcitriol-AFT	Capsule	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or
	Airflow			disperse ⁴
CALCIUM CARBONATE	Arrow-Calcium	Tablet	Yes	
CALCIUM CARBONATE	Calsource	Tablet	Yes	Dissolve tablet in water ³
EFFERVESCENT 1g				

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open capsule	Comments/reasons
CANDESARTAN	Candestar	Tablet	Yes	
CARBAMAZEPINE	Tegretol	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available May disperse tablets in water ⁴
CARBAMAZEPINE CR (Long acting)	Tegretol CR	Tablet	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ⁴
CARBIMAZOLE	Neo-Mercazole	Tablet	Yes	Tablet may be crushed ⁴
CARVEDILOL	Dicarz	Tablet	Yes	Tablet may be crushed but it is film coated so will be slow to disperse ⁴
CEFACLOR	Ranbaxy-Cefactor	Capsule	No	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Do not crush, chew or disperse ⁴
CELIPROLOL	Celol	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³
CETIRIZINE	Zetop	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³ Tablets may be halved ³
CHLORPROMAZINE	Largactil	Tablet	No	Film coated tablet ⁴ Do not crush, handle with care due to risk of contact dermatitis ³ Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Do not divide or chew tablet Tablets are slow to disperse ⁴
CHOLECALCIFEROL	Cal-d-Forte	Tablet	No clear information	Sugar coated tablet ⁴
CICLOSPORIN	Neoral	Capsule	No	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Do not crush, chew or open capsules ⁴
CILAZAPRIL	Zapril	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³ Tablets may be halved ³
CILAZAPRIL/ HYDROCHLORO- THIAZIDE	Apo-Cilazapril/ Hydrochloro- thiazide	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³
CIPROFLOXACIN	Cipflox Ciprofloxacin Rex	Tablet	No	Film coated tablets ³ Swallow whole, do not halve tablet, dose equivalence when tablet halved has not be established ³ Alternative route available Oral liquid form available

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open capsule	Comments/reasons
CITALOPRAM	Arrow-Citalopram	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablets; tablets may be halved ³
	PSM Citalopram	Tablet	No information	Film coated tablets ³
CLINDAMYCIN	Clindamycin ABM	Capsule	No	Do not crush, chew or disperse Oesophageal irritant, capsules to be swallowed with a large glass of water ³
CLOBAZAM	Frisium	Tablet	Yes	Tablets may be dispersed in water ⁴
CLOMIPRAMINE	Apo-Clomipramine	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet. Do not halve tablet, dose equivalence when tablet halved has not been established ³
CLONAZEPAM	Paxam	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Tablet may be crushed ⁴
CLONIDINE	Clonidine BNM Catapres	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available Transdermal patch available Tablet may be dispersed in water ⁴
CLOPIDOGREL	Arrow - Clopid	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³
CLOZAPINE	Clozaril Clopine	Tablet	Yes	Oral liquid form available (Clopine only) ³ Tablets may be crushed, but are poorly soluble ⁴
CODEINE PHOSPHATE	Codeine phosphate PSM	Tablet	Yes	
COLCHICINE	Colgout	Tablet	Yes	Tablets may be dispersed in water ⁴
CO-TRIMOXAZOLE	Trisul	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available ³
CYCLIZINE	Nausicalm	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available
	Nauzene	Tablet	No information	
CYCLOPHOSPHAMIDE	Cycloblastin	Tablet	No	Cytotoxic medicine; occupational health and safety risk to staff ² Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ⁴

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open capsule	Comments/reasons
DABIGATRAN	Pradaxa	Capsule	No	Bioavailability increases by 75% when pellets are taken without the capsule shell ¹ Do not crush, chew or open capsules ⁴
DEXAMETHASONE	Douglas Dexamethasone	Tablet	Yes	
	Dexmethsone	Tablet	Yes	Disperse tablets, give within 1-5min, with or soon after food ⁴
DIAZEPAM	Arrow-Diazepam	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available suppositories available ³
DICLOFENAC EC	Diclofenac Sandoz	Tablet	No	Alternative route available, suppositories available ³ Dispersible tablet available Enteric coated; do not crush or chew tablets ⁴
DICLOFENAC SR (Long acting)	Apo-Diclo SR	Tablet	No	Alternative route available suppositories available ³ Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ⁱ swallow whole ³
DIGOXIN	Lanoxin Lanoxin PG	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Tablets may be crushed ⁴
DIHYDROCODEINE TARTRATE LA (Long acting)	DHC Continus	Tablet	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³
DILTIAZEM (Immediate release)	Dilzem	Tablet	Yes	Tablets may be crushed ⁴
DILTIAZEM CD (Long acting)	Cardizem CD Apo-Diltiazem CD	Capsule	No	Do not crush, chew or disperse ⁴
DIPYRIDAMOLE	Persantin	Tablet	Yes	Tablets may be crushed ⁴
DIPYRIDAMOLE SR (Long acting)	Pytazen SR	Tablet	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ⁴
DOCUSATE & SENNA TAB	Laxsol	Tablet	No	Film coated, sugar free tablet ³ Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet
DOCUSATE SODIUM	Coloxyl	Tablet	Yes	Tablets may be crushed. Do not disperse (takes longer than 5min) than 5min tha
DOMPERIDONE	Prokinex	Tablet	Yes	

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open capsule	Comments/reasons
DONEPEZIL	Donepezil-Rex	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³
DOTHIEPIN	Dopress	Tablet	Yes	
DOTHIEPIN	Dopress	Capsule	No	
DOXAZOSIN	Apo-Doxazosin	Tablet	Yes	
DOXEPIN	Anten	Capsule	No	
DOXYCYCLINE	Doxine	Tablet	No	Film coated tablets Crushing may cause oesophageal irritation ³
ENALAPRIL	Acetec Ethics Enalapril	Tablet	Yes	
ENTACAPONE	Entapone	Tablet	Yes	
ERYTHROMYCIN	E-Mycin	Tablet	No information available ⁴	Film coated tablets ³ Alternative route available Oral liquid form available
ESCITALOPRAM	Air Flow Products	Tablet	No information available	Film coated tablet ³
EZETIMIBE	Ezemibe	Tablet	No information available	Tablet cannot be halved ³
FELODIPINE ER (Long acting)	Plendil ER	Tablet	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ⁴
FERROUS FUMARATE	Ferro-tab	Tablet	No	Film coated tablets Swallow whole ³
FERROUS FUMARATE with FOLIC ACID	Ferro-F-tabs	Tablet	No	
FERROUS SULPHATE (Long acting)	Ferrograd	Tablet	No	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available
FERROUS SULPHATE with FOLIC ACID (Long acting)	Ferrograd F	Tablet	No	
FINASTERIDE	Finpro	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablets ³ Women of child-bearing potential should not crush or handle broken tablets ¹
FLECAINIDE ACETATE	Tambocor	Tablet	Yes	
FLECAINIDE ACETATE CR (Long acting)	Tambocor CR	Capsule	No	

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open capsule	Comments/reasons
FLUCLOXACILLIN	Staphlex	Capsule	No	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Do not crush, chew or open capsules, contents have a bitter taste ⁴
FLUCONAZOLE	Ozole	Capsule	Yes	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Open capsules and disperse contents in water ⁴
FLUDROCORTISONE ACETATE	Florinef	Tablet	Yes	Tablet may be dispersed in water ⁴
FLUOXETINE	Arrow-Fluoxetine	Capsule	No	Soluble or dispersible tablet available Swallow whole ³
FLUOXETINE dispersible	Arrow-Fluoxetine	Tablet	Yes	Soluble dispersible tablet
FOLIC ACID	Apo-Folic acid	Tablet	Yes	
FUROSEMIDE (FRUSEMIDE)	Diurin 40	Tablet	Yes	
GABAPENTIN	Nupentin Arrow-Gabapentin Neurontin	Capsule	Yes	Swallow whole ³ Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse Open capsule and mix contents with orange juice or apple sauce ⁴
GLIBENCLAMIDE	Daonil	Tablet	Yes	Disperse in water ⁴
GLICLAZIDE	Glizide	Tablet	No information	Uncoated tablet ³ Tablet may be halved ³
GLIPIZIDE	Minidiab	Tablet	Yes	Disperse in water ⁴
HALOPERIDOL	Serenace	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Tablets may be crushed ⁴
HYDROXYCHLORO- QUINE	Plaquenil	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablets ³ Tablets may be crushed ⁴
HYDROXYUREA	Hydrea	Capsule	Yes	Exposure to powder causes skin toxicities; wear gloves to administer ¹ May open capsules and empty contents into a glass of water and take immediately ⁴

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or	Comments/reasons
			disperse tablet or open capsule	
HYOSCINE N-BUTYL BROMIDE	Gastrosoothe	Tablet	No	Film coated tablets Swallow whole ³ Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet Alternative route available Injectable form available ³
IBUPROFEN	Ibugesic	Tablet	No information	Film coated tablets ³ Oral liquid form available
IBUPROFEN SUSTAINED RELEASE (Long acting)	Brufen SR	Tablet	No	
IMIPRAMINE	Tofranil	Tablet	Yes	Crush tablets ⁴
INDAPAMIDE	Dapa-Tabs	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablets, do not halve ³ May be crushed ⁴
ISOSORBIDE MONONITRATE	Ismo 20	Tablet	Yes	
ISOSORBIDE MONONITRATE (Long acting)	Duride Ismo 40 Retard	Tablet	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ⁴ Crushing will alter absorption of the medicine (Immediate release preparations available) ²
IVERMECTIN	Stromectol	Tablet	No clear information	
LABETALOL	Hybloc	Tablet	Yes	
LAMOTRIGINE (Dispersible)	Lamictal Arrow-Lamotrigine Mogine Logem	Tablet	Yes	Soluble dispersible tablet Tablets may be chewed or dispersed in a small amount of water ⁴
LANSOPRAZOLE	Solox	Capsule	No	
	Lanzol Relief	Capsule	No	Swallow whole, with a full glass of water, do not chew ³
LEFLUNOMIDE	Arava	Tablet	Yes	Gloves and mask should be worn. Women of child-bearing potential should not crush or handle broken tablets
LEVODOPA/ CARBIDOPA	Sinemet	Tablet	Yes	Disperse tablet in water and use immediately ⁴
LEVODOPA/ CARBIDOPA CR (Long acting)	Sinemet CR	Tablet	No	Immediate release preparations available ² Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open capsule	Comments/reasons
LEVODOPA/ BENSERAZIDE (Dispersible)	Madopar Rapid	Tablet	Yes	Soluble dispersible tablet Disperse in 10mL water ⁴
LEVODOPA/ BENSERAZIDE	Madopar	Capsule	No	Soluble or dispersible tablet available Do not crush, chew or disperse ⁴
LEVODOPA/ BESERAZIDE (Long acting)	Madopar HBS	Capsule	No	Immediate release and dispersible preparations available ² Do not crush, chew or disperse ⁴
LEVOMEPROMAZINE MALEATE	Nozinan	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablets ³
LISINOPRIL	Arrow-Lisinopril	Tablet	Yes	
	Ethics Lisinopril	Tablet	No information	Uncoated tablet ³
LITHIUM CARBONATE	Douglas LITHIUM CARBONATE	Capsule	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse
LITHIUM CARBONATE	Lithicarb FC	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet Scored, can be halved ³ May be dispersed in water ⁴
LITHIUM CARBONATE (Long acting)	Priadel	Tablet	No	Scored tablets, may be halved. ³ Do not, crush, chew or disperse tablet ⁴
LOPERAMIDE	Diamide Relief	Capsule	No	
LOPERAMIDE	Nodia	Tablet	No	Scored tablet, do not halve, swallow whole ³
LORATADINE	Lorafix	Tablet	Yes	
LORAZEPAM	Ativan	Tablet	Yes	Disperse in water ⁴
LOSARTAN	Losartan Actavis	Tablet	No information	
MEBEVERINE	Colofac	Tablet	Yes	Sugar coated tablet Tablets can be crushed but have a very bitter taste ³
MEDROXYPRO- GESTERONE	Provera	Tablet	Yes	Gloves and mask should be worn. Women of child-bearing potential should not crush or handle broken tablets

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or	Comments/reasons
medicine	Brana name	TOTAL	disperse tablet or open capsule	Gomments/reasons
MESALAZINE (Long acting)	Pentasa	Tablet	No	Alternative route available suppositories available ³ Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³ Tablets may be dispersed in 50mL of cold water; stir and drink immediately ³
MESALAZINE EC	Asacol	Tablet	No	Alternative route available
	Asamax			suppositories available ³ Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³
METFORMIN	Metcheck	Tablet	No information	Film coated tablet ³ Do not halve tablets. Dose equivalence when the tablets are divided has not been established ³
	Metformin Mylan	Tablet	No information	Film coated tablet ³
METHADONE	Methatabs	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available
METHOTREXATE	Methoblastin Trexate	Tablet	No	Cytotoxic; crushing causes occupational health and safety risk ³ Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³
METHYLPRED- NISOLONE	Medrol	Tablet	Yes	
METOCLOPRAMIDE	Metamide	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available
METOPROLOL SUCCINATE (Long acting)	Metoprolol - AFT CR	Tablet	Yes	Do not crush or chew Tablet may be halved or dispersed in water immediately before administration ⁶
METOPROLOL TARTRATE	Lopresor	Tablet	Yes	Tablets may be crushed ⁴
METOPROLOL TARTRATE (Long acting)	Slow-Lopresor	Tablet	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³
METRONIDAZOLE	Trichozole	Tablet	No	Swallow whole, do not chew ³ Crushing will cause unacceptable taste ² Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Do not divide or disperse tablet ³
MIDODRINE	Gutron	Tablet	Yes	

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open capsule	Comments/reasons
MIRTAZAPINE	Apo-Mirtazapine	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ¹ May be crushed ³
MOCLOBEMIDE	Apo-Moclobemide	Tablet	Yes	
MORPHINE SULPHATE (Immediate release)	Sevredol	Tablet	No	Crushing will cause unacceptable taste ² Film coated tablets, do not chew but may halve tablets ³ Alternative route available Oral liquid form available
MORPHINE SULPHATE (Long acting)	m-Eslon	Capsule	Yes	The capsules may be opened, and the microgranules given mixed with soft food or liquids. The microgranules should not be chewed or crushed due to a risk of rapid release of morphine leading to toxic concentrations ³
MORPHINE SULPHATE (Long acting)	Arrow-Morphine LA	Tablet	No	
MULTIVITAMINS	Mvite	Tablet	Yes	
NAPROXEN	Noflam	Tablet	Yes	
NAPROXEN (Long acting)	Naprosyn SR	Tablet	No	Immediate release formulation available ² Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³
NEFOPAM	Acupan	Tablet	Yes	
NIFEDIPINE (Long acting)	Adalat Nyefax Retard Adefin XL Arrow-Nifedipine XR	Tablet	No	Crushing will alter the stability of the medicine ² Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³
NITROFURANTOIN	Nifuran	Tablet	Yes	If crushed, combine with food ³
NORFLOXACIN	Arrow-Norfloxacin	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³
NORTRIPTYLINE	Norpress	Tablet	No information	Film coated tablet ³
OLANZAPINE	Olanzine Zypine Dr Reddy's Olanzapine	Tablet	No	Film coated tablets ³ swallow whole Dispersible tablets available ³

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open capsule	Comments/reasons
OLANZAPINE orodispersible	Olanzine-D Zypine ODT Dr Reddy's Olanzapine	Tablet	No	Do not halve tablets. Place in mouth whole to disperse in saliva, followed by a glass of water ³
OMEPRAZOLE	Omezol Relief	Capsule	Yes	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available May be dispersed in water (Crushing will alter stability of the medicine) ²
ONDANSETRON	Onrex	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablets Do not halve tablets ³
ONDANSETRON DISPERSIBLE	Dr Reddy's Ondansetron	Tablet	No	Do not halve tablets Place on top of tongue to disperse, then swallow ³
ORPHENADRINE CITRATE	Norflex	Tablet	Yes	Tablet may be crushed ⁴
OXAZEPAM	Ox-Pam	Tablet	Yes	
OXYBUTYNIN	Apo-Oxybutynin	Tablet	Yes	
OXYCODONE (Immediate release)	OxyNorm	Capsule	No	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available
OXYCODONE (Controlled release tablets) (Long acting)	OxyContin Oxycodone controlled release	Tablet	No	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available
PANTOPRAZOLE EC	Pantoprazole Actavis	Tablet	No	Enteric coated tablets swallow whole, do not chew ³ Consider alternative proton pump inhibitors ² Do not divide, crush, or disperse tablet ³
PARACETAMOL	Paracare Pharmacare	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route (suppositories) available Oral liquid form available
PAROXETINE	Loxamine	Tablet	Yes	
PERHEXILINE	Pexsig	Tablet	Yes	
PHENOBARBITONE	Phenobarbitone PSM	Tablet	Yes	
PHENYTOIN	Dilantin	Capsule	No	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available (Bioequivalence) ² Do not crush, chew or disperse ³

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open capsule	Comments/reasons
PHOSPHORUS EFFERVESCENT	Phosphate-Sandoz	Tablet	Yes	Soluble dispersible tablet
PIOGLITAZONE	Vexazone	Tablet	Yes	May crush tablet ⁴ Do not halve tablets; dose equivalence when tablet is divided has not been established ³
PIZOTIFEN	Sandomigran	Tablet	Yes	
POTASSIUM CHLORIDE (Long acting)	Span-K	Tablet	No	Soluble or dispersible tablet available Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³
POTASSIUM CHLORIDE EFFERVESCENT	Chlorvescent	Tablet	Yes	Soluble dispersible tablet
PREDNISONE	Apo-Prednisone	Tablet	Yes	
PROCHLORPERAZINE	Antinaus	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available - Buccal tabs and suppositories available
PROMETHAZINE	Allersoothe	Tablet	Yes	
PROPRANOLOL (Long acting)	Cardinol LA	Capsule	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse ³
PYRIDOSTIGMINE	Mestinon	Tablet	Yes	
PYRIDOXINE	Apo-Pyridoxine Vitamin B6 25	Tablet	Yes	May be crushed, or dispersed in water ⁴
QUETIAPINE	Seroquel Dr Reddy's Quetiapine	Tablet	Yes	Tablets may be crushed⁴
QUINAPRIL	Arrow-Quinapril	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablets ³
QUINAPRIL/ HYDROCHLORO- THIAZIDE	Accuretic	Tablet	Yes	
QUININE SULPHATE	Q 300	Tablet	No	Film coated tablets ³ Crushing will cause unacceptable taste and gastric irritation ³
RALOXIFENE	Evista	Tablet	No	Film coated tablets ³ Avoid contact with skin; teratogenic potential (and unpleasant taste) ¹

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or	Comments/reasons
oaioiiio			disperse	
			tablet or open capsule	
RANITIDINE	Ranitidine Relief	Tablet	No	Film coated tablets Crushing will cause bitter taste ³ Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Do not divide, chew or disperse tablet
RISPERIDONE	Risperidone (Activis)	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablets ³ Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Do not halve, dose equivalence has not been established ³
ROPINIROLE	Apo-Ropinirole	Tablet	Yes	
ROXITHROMYCIN	Arrow-Roxithromycin	Tablet	No	Film coated tablets Swallow whole ³
SERTRALINE	Arrow-Sertraline	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablets Do not halve, dose equivalence has not been established ³
SIMVASTATIN	Arrow-Simva	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablets ³
SODIUM VALPROATE	Epilim Crushable	Tablet	Yes	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Tablets may be crushed ⁴
SODIUM VALPROATE EC	Epilim	Tablet	No	Alternative route available Oral liquid form available Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ⁴
SOTALOL	Mylan	Tablet	Yes	
SOLIFENACIN	Vesicare	Tablet	No	Film coated tablet, swallow whole ³ Crushed tablets may be irritant to eyes ⁴
SPIRONOLACTONE	Spiractin	Tablet	Yes	Tablet may be dispersed in water ⁴
SULPHASALAZINE (NOT enteric coated)	Salazopyrin	Tablet	Yes	Tablets may be crushed ⁴
SULPHASALAZINE EC (Enteric coated)	Salazopyrin EN	Tablet	No	Immediate release tablets available ² Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ⁴

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open	Comments/reasons
			capsule	
SUMATRIPTAN	Arrow-Sumatriptan	Tablet	No	Film coated tablet, swallow whole with water ³ Alternative route available Injectable form available
TAMSULOSIN (Long acting)	Tamsulosin-Rex	Capsule	No	Swallow whole, do not crush or chew as this will interfere with the modified release ³
TAMOXIFEN	Genox	Tablet	Yes	Gloves and mask should be worn. Women of child-bearing potential should not crush or handle broken tablets
TEMAZEPAM	Normison	Tablet	No	Do not halve tablet, dose equivalence of halved tablet has not been established ³ Tablet difficult to disperse ⁴
TENOXICAM	Reutenox	Tablet	No information	Film coated, can be divided ³
TERAZOSIN	Arrow	Tablet	Yes	
TERBINAFINE	Dr Reddy's Terbinafine	Tablet	Yes	
THEOPHYLLINE (Long acting)	Nuelin-SR	Tablet	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³
THIAMINE	Apo-Thiamine	Tablet	Yes	
THYROXINE (Levothyroxine)	Eltroxin	Tablet	No	Swallow whole with a full glass of water, do not split ³
THYROXINE (Levothyroxine)	Synthroid	Tablet	Yes	Tablet may be crushed and suspended in 5-10mL water, or sprinkled on small amount of food (eg apple sauce), and given immediately ³
THYROXINE (Levothyroxine)	Mercury Pharma	Tablet	No	Must be swallowed whole ³
TOLCAPONE	Tasmar	Tablet	Yes	
TOLTERODINE	Arrow-Tolterodine	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³
TRAMADOL	Arrow-Tramadol	Capsule	No	
TRAMADOL SR sustained-release (Long acting)	Tramal SR	Tablet	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³

Medicine	Brand name	Form	Crush or disperse tablet or open capsule	Comments/reasons
TRANEXAMIC ACID	Cyklokapron	Tablet	Yes	Tablet may be dispersed in water ⁴
TRIAZOLAM	Hypam	Tablet	Yes	
TRIMETHOPRIM	ТМР	Tablet	Yes	
VENLAFAXINE (Long acting)	Arrow-Venlafaxine XR	Tablet	No	Do not divide, crush, chew or disperse tablet ³
VENLAFAXINE (Long acting)	Efexor XR	Capsule	No	Do not crush, chew or disperse ³
VERAPAMIL	Isoptin	Tablet	Yes	Film coated tablet ³ Tablet may be crushed ⁴
VERAPAMIL (Long acting)	Verpamil SR	Tablet	No	Immediate release tablets available ²
VITAMIN B COMPLEX	Bplex	Tablet	Yes	
WARFARIN	Marevan Coumadin	Tablet	Yes	Tablet may be crushed⁴
ZINC SULPHATE (equivalent to 50 mg elemental zinc)	Zincaps	Capsule	Yes	May open capsule and disperse contents in water ⁴
ZOPICLONE	Zopiclone Actavis	Tablet	No information	Film coated tablet ³ Tablet may be halved ³

References

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- 3. Medsafe Data Sheets and Consumer Medicines Information www.medsafe.govt.nz (Accessed August 2014)
- 4. Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Don't rush to crush handbook. First edition; December 2011; ISBN 978-0-987-1103-3-6
- 5. The Drugsite Trust. Docusate. www.drugs.com/mtm/docusate.html (Accessed 11-08-14)
- 6. Direct correspondence with manufacturer