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Drug dosage forms and routes of administration

Information about drugs

Drug legislation in CZ

Department of Pharmacology

What is a dosage form?



It is a final form, in which the drug is given to the patient.

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Dosage Form

- Mixture of substances with therapeutical effect and excipients
 - Excipients: antioxidants, fillers, pigments (dyes), fragrances, ointment bases, solvents etc.
 - No pharmacological effect
 - Allergies (parabens), intolerance (lactose)
- Shape and characteristics of a medical preparation
- Adjusted to the route of administration
- Influence **pharmacokinetics** of a medical substance

Generations of dosage forms:

1st = classic dosage forms2nd = controlled release3rd = controlled biodistribution

Excipients of AERIUS tablets: Core: calcium hydrogen phosphate dihydrate, microcrystalline cellulose, maize starch, talc. Coating: lactose monohydrate, hypromellose, titanium dioxide, macrogol 400, indigotin, carnauba wax, white wax.

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Classification of Dosage Forms



According to the consistency:

- solid
- semi-solid
- liquid
- gaseous

According to the usage:

- for internal use (Ad usum internum, e.g. Peroralia, Parenteralia)
- for other use (Ad usum alium, e.g. Ocularia, Nasalia, Unguenta).

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Liquid Dosage Forms

a) For internal use:

- 1. (Per)oral liquids
- solutions, suspension, emulsion for per os administration
- tinctures, drops, syrups
 - 2. Parenteral liquids
- injections
- infusions





b) For external use:

- eye drops, ocular waters, ear drops, nasal drops
- liquids for cutaneous use, for compresses
- liquids applied to the mucosa (douche irrigation, gargle)

Semi-solid Dosage Forms

- Applied on the **skin** or **mucosa**
 - Local effect (dermatology)







- Ointment (unguent)
- Creme
- Gel (jelly)
- Paste
- Transdermal patch (TTS, *Emplastra*)





Solid Dosage Forms

Specific in shape:

- Tablet
- Suppository
- Vaginal pessary (suppository)
- Capsule
- Lozenge (pastilles)







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Non-specific in shape:

- Dusting powder
- Herbal mixture
- Peroral powder:
 - Classic
 - Grained
 - Effervescent



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Tablets and Capsules

Tablets:

- Uncoated
- Coated
- Gastro-resistant
- Effervescent
- Tablets disperged in the mouth
- Chewable
- Sublingual
- etc.



- Hard
- Soft



- Gastro-resistant
- With modified release
- etc.

Supradyn



Gaseous Dosage Forms = Aerodispersions

Topical

• ear, nasal, oral, sublingual and cutaneous spray

Preparations for inhalation

- liquids (scattering of liquid drops)
- powders (particle size determines the place of absorption)

Foams

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• cutaneous, rectal, vaginal foams

Making of an aerodispersion:

- Mechanically by a nebulizer (spray,
- By liquefied/compressed gas (pressure container)



Ventolin[®]

Salbutamol BP 0.1mg per actuation

200 metered actuations

inhaler

How could a drug be administered?



Routes of administration

Systemic administration = drug is absorbed into the circulation \rightarrow it influences all the body Local (topical) administration = drug is NOT absorbed into the circulation \rightarrow it affects only the place of application

- enteral
- parenteral

- skin, mucosa, e.g. conjunctiva
- GIT, but the drug in not absorbed from GIT
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Systemic administration – enteral

(Per)oral (per os, p.o.) Enteron (ancient greek) = intestine

- Onset of effect depends on phys-chem. properties of the medical substance and excipients
- Possibility of lower bioavailability: first-pass effect (liver)

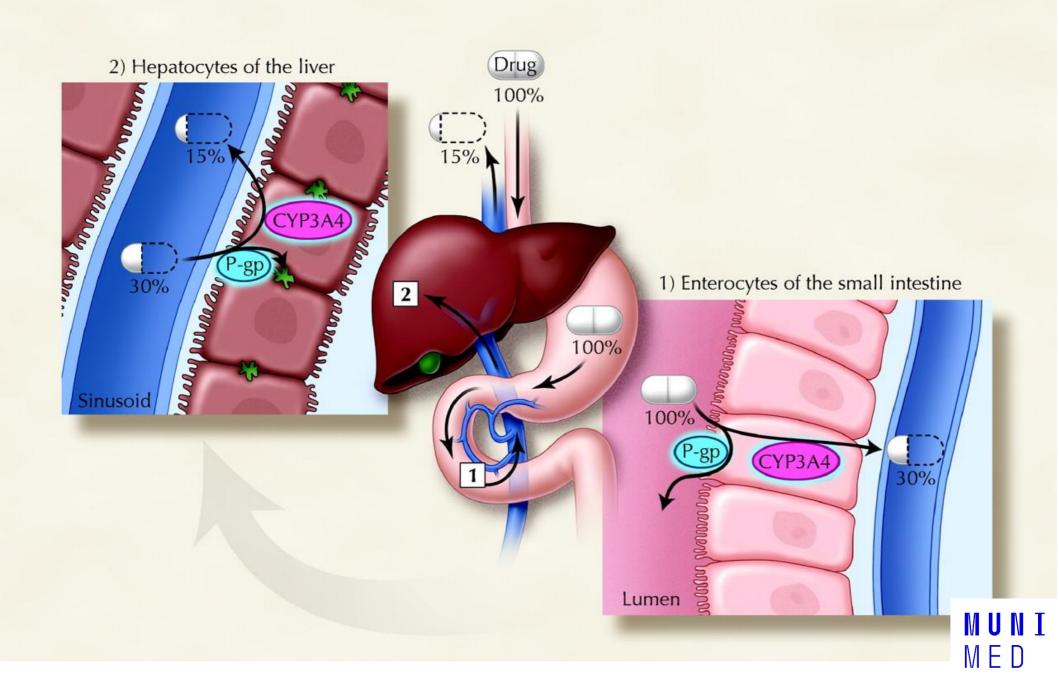




Rectal (per rectum)

- Do not irritate stomach, do not cause nausea
- Lower bioavailability lesser surface of rectum walls
- Sooner onset of effect plexus venosus rectalis flows into vena cava inferior ("bypass of the liver")

"First pass" effect



Systemic administration – parenteral

Para enteron (ancient greek) = out of the intestine

1. Non-injection (non-invasive)

a) oral

- Absorption by oral mucosa (e.g. subligual)
- Lipophilic substances quick absorption (2 mins), e.g. nitroglycerin

b) inhalation

- Gases, vapours nebo small particles
- Respiratory diseases (asthma, COPD...)

c) transdermal

- TTS = transdermal therapeutic system (controlled release)
- E.g. hormonal contraception patch, nicotine patch, analgesic patch
 d) transnasal
- Good perfusion of nasal mucosa
- Substances could irritate it, or impair cilia function
- E.g. calcitonin, antimigraine drugs

e) vaginal - e.g. hormonal contraception ring







Systemic administration – parenteral

2. Injection (invasive)

- non-physiological

a) injection

- small volume of liquid
- i.v. administration quick onset of effect
- i.m., s.c. gradual absorption into circulation

b) infusion

- larger volume of liquid
- parenteral nutrition, minerals, glucose, ATBs, cytostatics etc.





Could this drug influence the effect of other drugs?



What is this tablet?

How frequently should I use it?

What is this drug used for?



What are possible adverse effects?

What is an appropriate dose?



Does it influence vigility?

Who must not use it?

Information about Drugs

PIL & SPC

- PIL = patient information leaflet = package leaflet for patients
- SPC = summary of product characteristics = information for medical specialists (physicians, pharmacists, nurses etc.)
- EMA European Medicine Agency (ema.europa.eu)
- Database of RMPs granted central authorisation by EC/EMA
- Reports concerning drugs' safety alerts
- List of newly authorized drugs

SUKL – State Institute for Drug Control (sukl.eu)

- Database of RMP authorized in CZ
- Free access to all PILs and SPCs (in czech)

European Pharmacopoeia = european standard for the quality of drugs (**Czech Pharmacopoeia** = text from EP + czech specialities) **Computer databases of medical preparations**

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AISLP (czech↔english, in most pharmacies and doctor's offices)

Pharmacopoeia

- Purpose: to guarantee safe, effective and quality drugs
- Information about medical substances, excipients, dosage forms
- Instructions for production, preparation, control, storage of drugs
- Used mostly in pharma industry

What could we found there?

- Analytical and instrumental **examination methods**
- Materials for drug containers and cases
- Instructions to ensure **sterility** of medical preparations
- Instructions concerning radiopharmaceuticals, vaccines etc.
- Monographs of specific substances
- Tables with usual **dosage of drugs** in adults, children, animals
- etc.

NO: mechanism of actions, adverse effects, pharmacokinetics, contraindications, pregnancy safety etc.!

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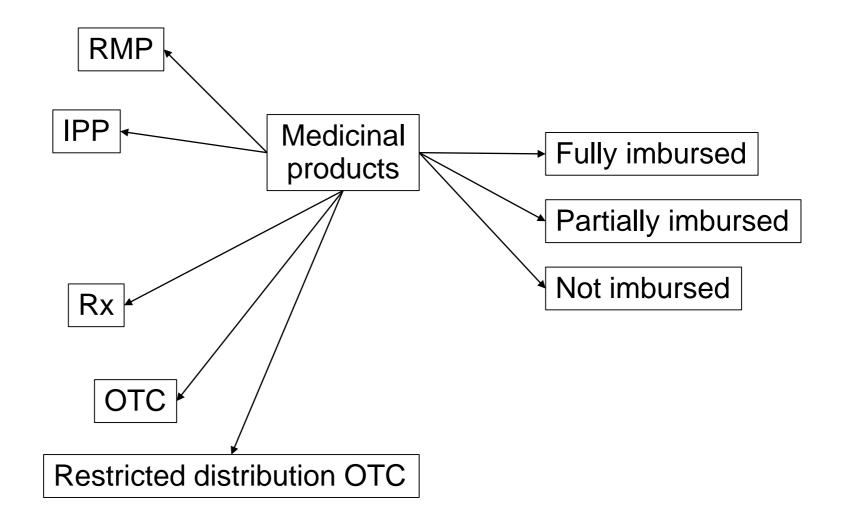
Basic Drug Legislation in CZ

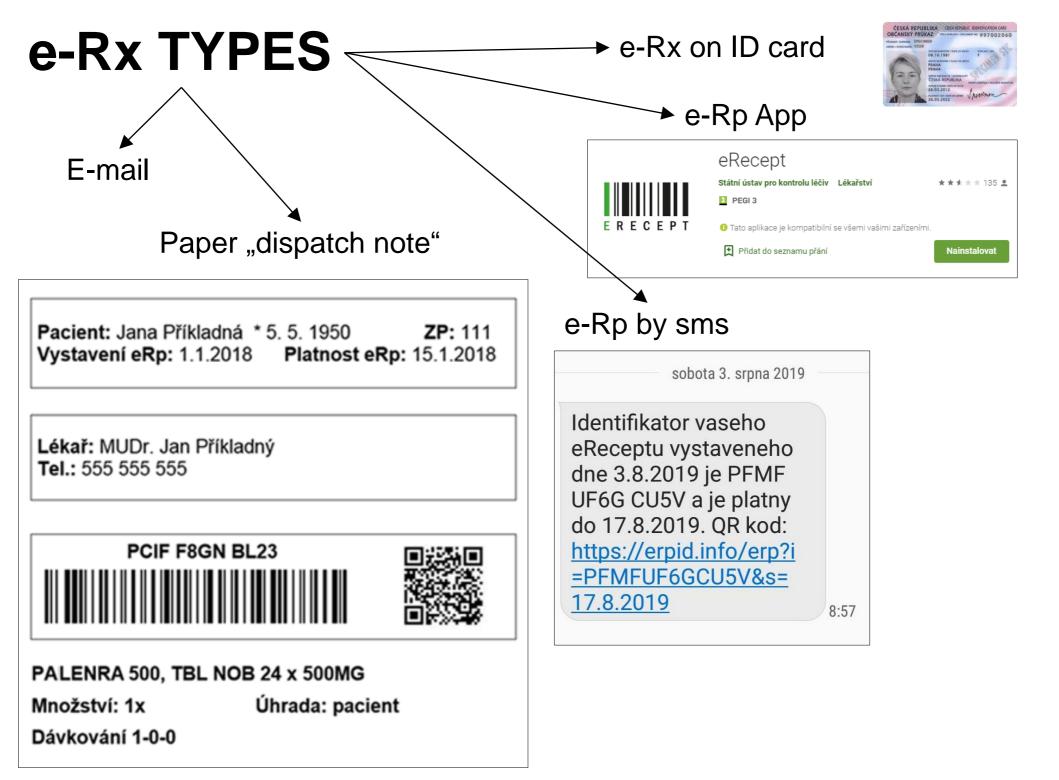
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Act No. 378/2007 Coll., on pharmaceuticals

- Research
- Authorization of new drugs ("registration")
- Production, preparation and distribution
- Prescribing and dispense of medical preparations
- Destroying of unusable drugs
- Pharmacy duties
- **Pharmacovigilance** = drug safety service
- Controls and sanctions

TYPES OF MEDICINAL PRODUCTS





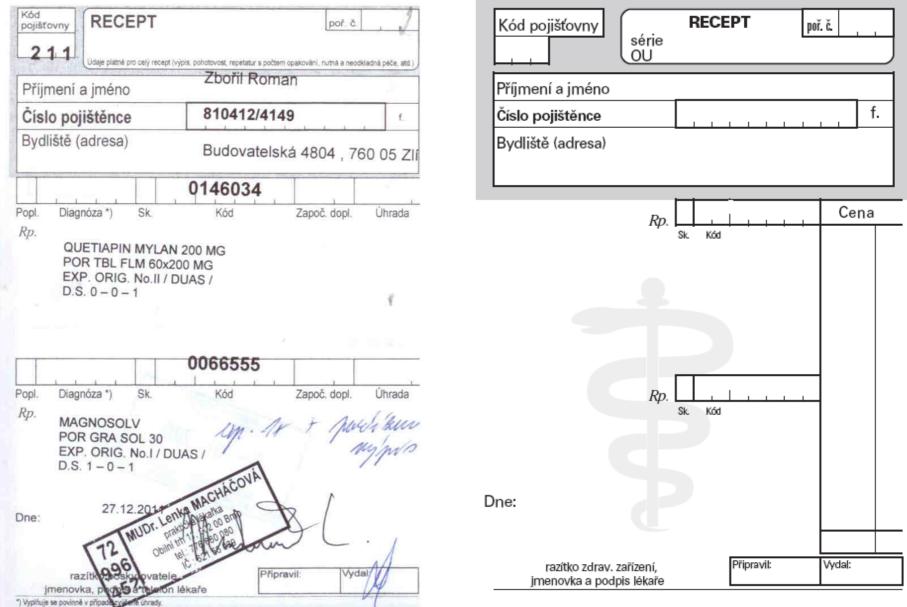
PAPER Rx

- Exceptional, only in justified cases
- Not for repeated use
- Pharmacist needs to **digitalize** it record into the e-Rx system
- Only 1 type of medicine
- Valid without doctor's stamp, but the identification of the doctor need to be present ("IČZ" – identification number of medical facility)
- Which situations can justify the use of paper Rx?
- Obligatory specified addictive substances (Rx "with blue strip")

OVERVIEW OF RX VALIDITY

- e-Rx
 - 14 days + day of issue
 - Doctor can extend validity up to 1 year, pharmacist can add another 14 days
- **Emergency** end of the day following the day of issue
- **Rx for repeated use** 6 months, max 1 year
- Paper Rx 14 days + day of issue
- Rx "with blue strip" 14 days + day of issue; extension up to 30 days

Medical Prescription (Rx) in CZ



ADDICTIVE SUBSTANCES

 Prescription according to the substance classification (Gov. Reg. No. 463/2013, on the List of addictive substances – Appendices 1-8)

Rx "with blue strip"

- Appendix 1 + 5 = narcotics (list I), psychotropics (list II) specified in Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961), and Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971)
- Rx is a **paper form**, 3 pages (1 original, 2 copies)
- 1 Rx = 1 type of medicine
- Specimen of the form is stated in legislation
- Validity 14 days + day of issue

Legislation – Drugs of Abuse

