

✓ Healthcare advice

Complete guide to using oral syringes



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Purchasing oral syringes



The NHS Commissioning Board Special Health Authority advises healthcare organisations on how the design of medical devices, and the methods used to measure and administer oral liquid medicines, can improve patient safety.

We've summarised the key considerations every pharmacy should keep in mind when purchasing syringes to ensure patients, particularly babies and young children, have the right syringe for administering oral medicines safely and correctly:

- ✓ Oral / enteral syringes, with purple coloured plungers or syringe barrels, helps to differentiate them from intravenous syringes
Check the design
- ✓ As a minimum, a 1ml, 5ml or 10ml syringe should be supplied depending on the dose prescribed **Ensure recommended sizes are offered**
- ✓ Oral liquid medicines are often administered to babies, young children and adults who have impaired ability to swallow tablets and capsules. Oral syringe graduations are vital to ensure accurate dosing **Graduations are a must**



Why choose Precision®?

At Valley Northern we only supply products that assist you in ensuring patient safety with complete confidence.

Our range of Precision® oral syringes are renowned for their exceptional accuracy and safe, easy use, with clearly marked graduations that don't rub off with re-use. We are proud that our Precision® oral syringes have become parents' number one choice for administering medicines to children.

Have a specific requirement? We custom print Precision® oral syringes in any design you need. Contact our friendly team to place your order or to discuss a bespoke design.



- ✓ Fully CE marked and latex free **High level of health, safety and environmental protection**
- ✓ Graduations start as low as 0.01ml and don't rub off **Accurate and reliable**
- ✓ 100% reusable and dishwasher safe **Hassle free to sterilise, perfect for busy parents**

- ✓ Tipped plunger design **Ensures full dosage is administered**
- ✓ 4 standard sizes or choose a bespoke size option **Practical and diverse to suit all your patient needs**
- ✓ Fully customisable to your design style, colour and graduation scale **Excellent choice**

How to use Precision[®] syringes

1 Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water

- ✓ Ensure a clean and hygienic environment before administering medicines



2 Shake the medicine bottle prior to opening

- ✓ Medicines should be gently shaken before use to ensure all particles are properly dispersed in the solution



3 Insert bottle adapter or bung to the medicine bottle (if required)

- ✓ To make dispensing easier and ensure accurate dosing, make sure you use the correct syringe adapter



4 Draw up the required dose of medicine from the bottle using the oral syringe

- ✓ The syringe tip should be securely inserted into the bung to avoid leaks when tilting bottle to fill syringe



5

Place the tip of the oral syringe into the side of your child's mouth

- ✓ Make sure that your child is sitting up or standing before inserting the syringe

6

Ask your child to close their lips around the tip of the oral syringe

- ✓ It's important that your child is prepared to take the medicine to ensure the full dosage is administered

7

Slowly push the plunger to squirt small amounts of the liquid into your child's mouth

- ✓ Always ensure to aim the tip of the syringe into the space between your child's gum and cheek

8

Allow your child to swallow before pushing the plunger again

- ✓ Do not push the plunger too quickly or squirt all the liquid at once as this may cause your child to choke

9

Give your child a drink to wash down the liquid medicine

- ✓ To hide the taste, offer your child a drink of milk or fruit juice straight after giving the medicine



After-care for Precision[®] syringes



Straight after using a syringe, you should wash it well with soapy water. Draw the plunger in and out in the soapy water several times, then rinse the syringe in clean water in the same way.

Rinse well

All Precision[®] syringes are 100% reusable and dishwasher-safe, so can be completely sterilised without compromising on quality. **Sterilise in dishwasher**

If the medicine bottle has a rubber bung you can usually keep it in the bottle all the time. Wipe the top of the bung with a damp paper towel after each dose and put the cap on between doses.

Some bungs need to be removed from the bottle, and washed before and after each use. Your pharmacist will advise you about this.

Remember, you should never use a syringe if the graduation markings have rubbed off. This could be very dangerous for your child. **Ensure graduations are clearly marked**

Return these to your pharmacy and request Precision[®] branded syringes as markings won't rub off.



This information was compiled and presented in this guide by Valley Northern Limited. This information does not constitute medical advice.

Please direct any questions to your Doctor or Pharmacist.

No liability can be taken as a result of using this information.



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