

SUPPOSITORIES

- Suppositories are solid or semisolid dosage form of medicament for insertion in to the body cavities like rectum, vagina, urethral tract or nasal cavity.
- They are designed to melt, disintegrate or dissolve at body temperature to release the medicament for local, systemic or mechanical action.
- suppositories intended for vagina - pessaries
urethra - urethral bougies
Nasal cavity - Nasal bougies
- pessaries are also made as compressed tablets - which disintegrate in to body fluids.

Advantages of Suppositories :-

- They can be easily administered to children, old patients and to unconscious patients who cannot swallow the drug easily.

- These are inserted in to the body Cavities to produce local Effect.
- These are inserted in to rectum to promote Evacuation of bowel
- Suitable for drugs which produce Irritation Effect in GIT
- Drugs in suppositories are slowly absorbed giving sustained action
- Suppositories are unit dosage form of drug.
- It avoids "first pass effect"

Disadvantages of Suppositories

- Irritant drugs cannot be administered
- Suppositories cause Embarrassment to patients
- Need special Storage Conditions (low temp²⁰)
- Cannot be prepared easily

Types of Suppositories:

① Rectal Suppositories:

- These are meant for introduction in to

return for their systemic effect

- Generally made from Theobroma oil.
- available in various sizes (about 1 to 2 g)
- These are cone or torpedo shaped

Vaginal Suppositories

- These are meant for introduction in vagina also known as pessaries.
- Vaginal suppositories may be conical, rod-shaped or wedge shaped (weigh about 4 to 8 gm)

Nasal Suppositories

- meant for introduction in to Nasal cavity also known as "Nasal bougies"
- These are thin and cylindrical in shape. always prepared with glymo-gelatin.
- These are about 9-10 cm long, weigh about 1 gm.

Urethral Suppositories

- These are meant for introduction in to urethra also known as urethral bougies.

- These are thin, long and cylindrical in shape weigh about 2 to 4 gms

Ear Cones :

- These are meant for introduction in to ear also known as "auricular"
- These are thin, long and cylindrical in shape weigh about 1 gm

Suppository Bases :

- Suppository bases are used to prepare suppositories that they can retain its shape and firmness during storage and use.
- They should melt or dissolve in body cavity fluids to release medicaments for local and systemic effect.

Properties of Ideal Suppository Base :

- It should melt at body temperature or dissolve or disintegrate in body fluids.
- It should be inert, non irritant and non-sensitizing
- should release the medicament readily