

Co-trimoxazole

Products on Saskatchewan Formulary:¹

Product Name	Dosage Form	DIN	Manufacturer
Novo-Trimel	40 mg/8 mg per ml	00726540	NOP

Further products listed on Drug Product Database:²

Apotex and Nu-Pharm products appear on the DPD, but according to Customer Service Representatives, neither continues to manufacture the suspension.

Trisulfa S by JaaPharm is listed on DPD but has not been marketed.

Potential Options:

1. If the dose is easily obtained from a tablet (full tablet or ½ tablet), crush the tablet immediately before administration and mix with soft food or water. Note a pediatric tablet is available, though it is not chewable (Apo Sulfatrim Pediatric tablet 100 mg/20 mg; DIN 00445266).¹
2. If the drug is being administered through an enteral tube, general recommendations are to crush the tablet into a fine powder, mix into a slurry with water making sure to flush the tube both prior to and after administration of the slurry.³

The Pharmacy Department at WRHA Drug Information Centre in Winnipeg plans to dissolve the tablet in water for immediate administration. "For Apo-Sulfatrim DS tablets you need at least 15 mL of water for the tablet to breakdown and suspend. Because of the large amount of powder in the tablet it settles quickly, so it has to be shaken well and administered immediately."⁴

3. Consider alternative antibiotic. If trimethoprim alone is appropriate, written formulations are available. (Call or email for such.)

NOTE: Previous versions of this document included information regarding extemporaneous compounding of oral suspensions from tablets or powder. These have been removed as the references are not available in full for critical analysis.

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References:

1. Saskatchewan Formulary, Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch [homepage on the Internet]. Government of Saskatchewan; [cited 2014 Jul 14]. Available from: <http://formulary.drugplan.health.gov.sk.ca/>
2. Health Canada. Drug Product Database Online Query. Ottawa, ON: Health Canada; [cited 2014 Jul 14]. Available from: <http://webprod.hc-sc.gc.ca/dpd-bdpp/dispatch-repartition.do?lang=eng>
3. Beckwith CM, Feddema SS, Barton RG, et al. A guide to drug therapy in patients with enteral feeding tubes: dosage form selection and administration methods. *Hosp Pharm*; 2004; 39(3): 225-237.
4. Written communication posted to CSHP ListServ by Brenda Rosenthal, B. Sc.Pharm. Winnipeg, MB. 2011 May 12.