

<b>MANUAL TITLE:</b>	MAC Rx Pharmacy Policies and Procedures Manual
<b>POLICY #/TITLE</b>	<b>IIB3</b> Sublingual, Buccal, and Transmucosal Medication Administration
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## **IIB3: SUBLINGUAL, BUCCAL, AND TRANSMUCOSAL MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION**

### **Purpose**

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To administer sublingual medications under the resident's tongue in a safe, accurate, and effective manner. To administer buccal medications in the resident's cheek in a safe, accurate, and effective manner. To administer transmucosal medication in the mouth, without swallowing it whole, in a safe, accurate, and effective manner.

### **Equipment Required**

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- A. Medication cart (if medications are stored in a central location) with medications.
- B. Refrigerated medications if applicable.
- C. Soufflé cup.
- D. Medication administration record (MAR).
- E. Facility-approved hand sanitizer.
- F. Examination gloves.
- G. Drinking cups, straws.
- H. Pitcher of water.
- I. Controlled substances records (if appropriate).
- J. Waste receptacle.
- K. Drug reference (available in facility).

### **Procedures**

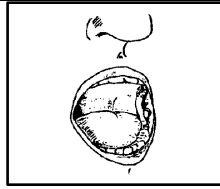
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For general guidelines on medication administration, refer to IIA1: EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS and IIA2 MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION-GENERAL GUIDELINES.

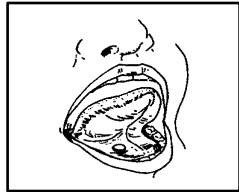
#### **Sublingual / Buccal Tablets**

- A. Put on examination gloves.
- B. Pour proper number of sublingual/buccal tablets/capsules into soufflé cup.
- C. Have resident take a sip of water to moisten his or her mouth, and instruct resident to swallow water.
- D. Place medication in the resident's mouth or help resident to do so if capable, following the directions shown below.
  - 1) Place buccal tablet in the pouch between cheek and upper or lower gum.

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- 2) Place sublingual tablet under the tongue.



- E. Instruct resident to close his/her mouth and to not swallow or chew until the tablet has completely dissolved. Eating, drinking, and smoking should be avoided while the tablet is dissolving.
- F. Instruct the resident to avoid rinsing the mouth for several minutes after the tablet has dissolved.
- G. Remove and dispose of examination gloves. Wash hands thoroughly with antimicrobial soap and water.

#### **Buccal Film (e.g., Onsolis®)**

- A. Put on examination gloves.
- B. Instruct resident to wet the inside of the cheek using the tongue or rinse the mouth with water to wet the area for placement of film.
- C. Open the medication package immediately prior to product use. Place the entire film near the tip of a gloved finger with the designated side facing up. Place the designated side of the film against the inside of the cheek.
- E. Press and hold the film in place for 5 seconds. The film should stay in place on its own after this period. Liquids may be consumed after 5 minutes.
- F. The film should not be cut or torn prior to use.
- D. The film will dissolve within 15 to 30 minutes after application. The film should not be manipulated with the tongue or finger(s) and eating food and smoking should be avoided until the film has dissolved.
- E. Remove and dispose of examination gloves. Wash hands thoroughly with antimicrobial soap and water or facility-approved hand sanitizer.

#### **Transmucosal Tablet/Lozenge (e.g. ACTIQ®)**

- A. If resident contact is expected, wear examination gloves.
- B. Place unit in mouth (or instruct resident to place in mouth) and allow it to dissolve. Tablet/lozenge may be moved from one side of the mouth to the other. Instruct

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resident to suck (do not chew) on the tablet/lozenge over time recommended in manufacturer recommendations (e.g., 15 minutes). Applicator/handle should be removed after tablet/lozenge is consumed or if resident has achieved an adequate response from medication or if excessive sedation or other effects occur.

- C. Remove and dispose of examination gloves. Wash hands thoroughly with antimicrobial soap and water or facility-approved hand sanitizer.