

# UTILIZING A COMPOUNDING PHARMACIST

## CHILDREN'S DENTISTRY, P.C. NEWSLETTER

PRACTICAL CLINICAL TIPS: KEEPING YOUR PEDIATRIC SKILLS CURRENT

### Introduction

We have been using a compounding pharmacist in our practice for four years. Since that time we have discovered the myriad of creative ways that drugs can be mixed and formulated to enhance their utilization, acceptability and application. In this issue we will define a compounding pharmacist and how we use his/her skills for the benefit of our patients. We will also present ways that compounding can be of value in your practice.

### General Uses of a Compounder uses of a compounder

A compounding pharmacist can reformulate almost anything that you or your patients need. Imagination is the only limitation. Mouth-washes can be made using any combination of agents. Other drugs can be made in a paste to be delivered transdermally by rubbing it in the skin on the back of the wrist. This is a handy way to administer antiemetic drugs to nauseated or uncooperative patients.

### What is a Compounding Pharmacist

Compounding pharmacists are unique among the pharmacy profession because they have developed a special expertise in formulating medications and changing routes of administration. They customize medications to meet specific patient needs in preparations that are different than pharmaceutical companies manufacture. If a drug is only available in tablet form and a patient cannot swallow pills, a compounding pharmacist could formulate that medication in an elixir, suspension, suppository, or possibly a topical gel.

### Disadvantages

A drawback in having therapeutic agents formulated is that different preparations and routes of administration do not have dose, efficacy, uptake, or onset information. The preparation and route of administration of the drug may never have been studied. For example, if you ask a compounding pharmacist to formulate medication that is normally in a tablet form to be prepared as a suppository, there will be no data on how rapidly the drug will be absorbed or the therapeutic dose.

#### Produced by

Betty Barr, D.M.D.  
Nelle Barr, D.M.D.

5150 West 80th Ave.  
Westminster, CO 80030

Phone: 303-427-1951  
Fax: 303-427-2379  
www.ddschild.com



### Which Compounder Do We Use?

We use the creative skills of Joe Wise at Wise Pharmacy in Littleton. Joe has a newly remodeled area in his store just for compounding drugs. We recently visited his store and were very impressed with his state of the art mixers, scales and every machine imaginable for making drugs.



Joe Wise and his wife Cathy

Joe is a member of the PCCA, Professional Compounding Centers of America. This organization provides support and information for pharmacists who have developed the knowledge to make drugs the old fashioned way.

We contacted Joe who visited our office with his briefcase full of creams, pastes, puffers, liquids, lollipops and sprays that he makes for general dentists and dental specialists. He is especially proud of a promethazine cream that can be rubbed on the wrist of a nauseated patient without resorting to a suppository; a local oral surgeon uses it routinely.

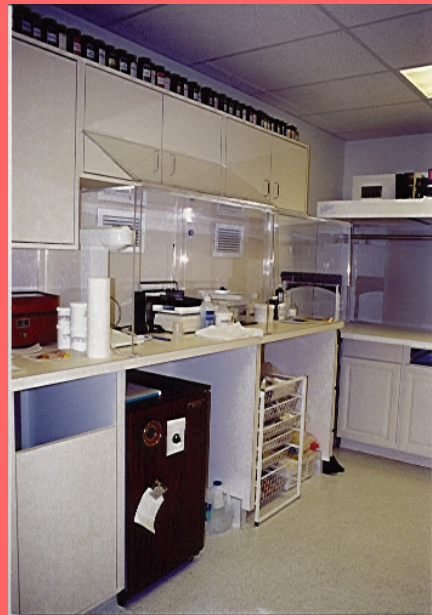
We call on Joe Wise often to help us create new delivery systems that children will more readily accept. Knowing and utilizing a compounding pharmacist has had a positive influence on our practice.

### How to Use a Compounder

Our original contact with Joe was to have him make polyphenol sulfonic acid (Negatan) for us. Negatan was used for years as a vaginal cautery agent. As its use waned in medicine it was no longer made by pharmaceutical companies. We had used it for recurrent aphthous ulcers, since direct application of the liquid rendered the ulcer non-painful (apply topical anesthetic first). Joe compounded a bottle and we were happily using it again.

Our next problem which Joe solved was a bitter tasting meperidine and chloral hydrate. Joe not only improved the taste of both over what is available from the pharmaceutical companies, but he doubled the concentration of chloral hydrate. Instead of 50mg/5ml, he makes chloral hydrate in 100mg/5mg; the children need only swallow one-half the original amount.

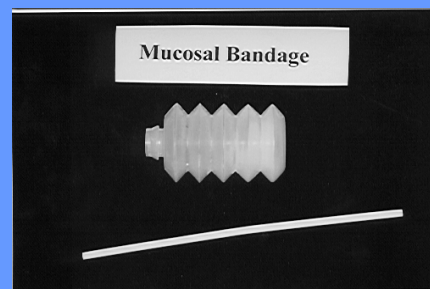
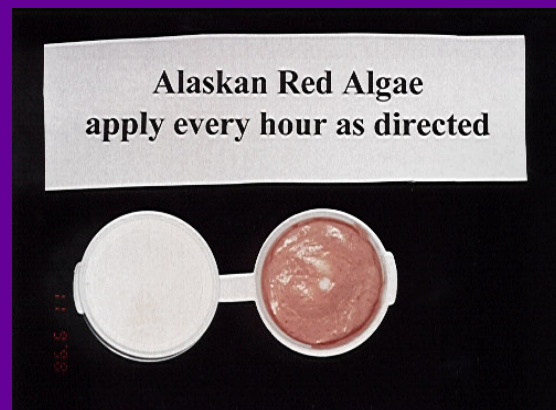
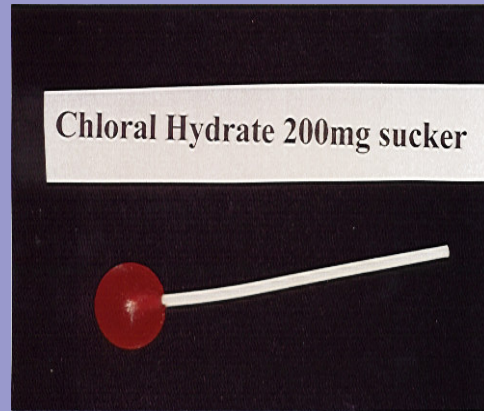
If you use diazepam, Joe makes a delicious liquid diazepam in a chocolate flavor.



Joe's compounding facility

**Drugs Available for Dentistry**

| DRUG  | USE   |
|---|---|
| <b>Chlorhexidine gel<br/>0.12%, 0.2%</b>                          | Direct application to a surgical site when a rinse is impractical |
| <b>Chlorhexidene in tooth-paste</b>                               | Convenience   |
| <b>Tetracaine lollipops</b>                                       | Gaggers (for impressions and x-rays)                              |
| <b>Clotrimazole suckers</b>                                       | Antifungal agent Enhances coating of oral tissue                  |
| <b>Promethazine gel</b>   | Transdermal application for nausea (apply on the wrist)           |
| <b>Carbamide peroxide<br/>10%, 20%</b>                            | For matrix bleaching, any flavor                                  |
| <b>Acyclovir lipsticks with sunscreen</b>                         | For herpes labials  |
| <b>Benzocaine/eugenol dressing</b>                                | Surgical sites  |
| <b>Benzocaine in different vehicles</b>                           | For topical application   |
| <b>Alaskan red algae sticks and cream</b>                         | For angular chelitis/ herpes labials                              |
| <b>Chlorobutanol</b>  | Dry sockets   |
| <b>Bipp's Paste (iodoform, bismuth subnitrate and benzocaine)</b> | Dry sockets   |
| <b>Cytotec (misoprostol) mouthrinse</b>                           | Oral lesions  |
| <b>Prednisolone</b>   | In different conc. per 5ml: 6.7mg, 13.5mg, 20.25mg,27mg.          |



**Drug Delivery Formulations Available**

| <b>ROUTE</b>                         | <b>USE</b>  |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Troches</b>                       | Tablets that taste good and dissolve easily                                   |
| <b>Mouthwashes</b>                   | Any drug can be made in this vehicle  |
| <b>Lipsticks</b>                     | For lip lesions   |
| <b>Mucosal bandages</b>              | Drugs delivered via a puffer in powder form                                   |
| <b>Lollipops</b>                     | For delivery of a sedative, for coating oral tissues, for tetracaine delivery |
| <b>Liquid</b>                        | Any medication, any flavor  |
| <b>Sugar free preparations</b>       | Any medication  |
| <b>Sprays</b>                        | For topical application   |
| <b>Preservative free preparation</b> | Any medication  |



**CHILDREN'S DENTISTRY,  
A PARTNERSHIP  
5150 WEST 80TH AVE.  
WESTMINSTER, CO  
80030**

**How to Contact a Compounder Near You:**

International Academy of Compounding Pharmacists  
P.O. Box 1363  
Sugarland, Texas 77487  
281-993-8400  
1-800-927-4227  
[Http://www.IACPrx.org](http://www.IACPrx.org)

**303-427-1951  
[www.ddschild.com](http://www.ddschild.com)**