Using "Don't Rush to Crush" in MIMS Online

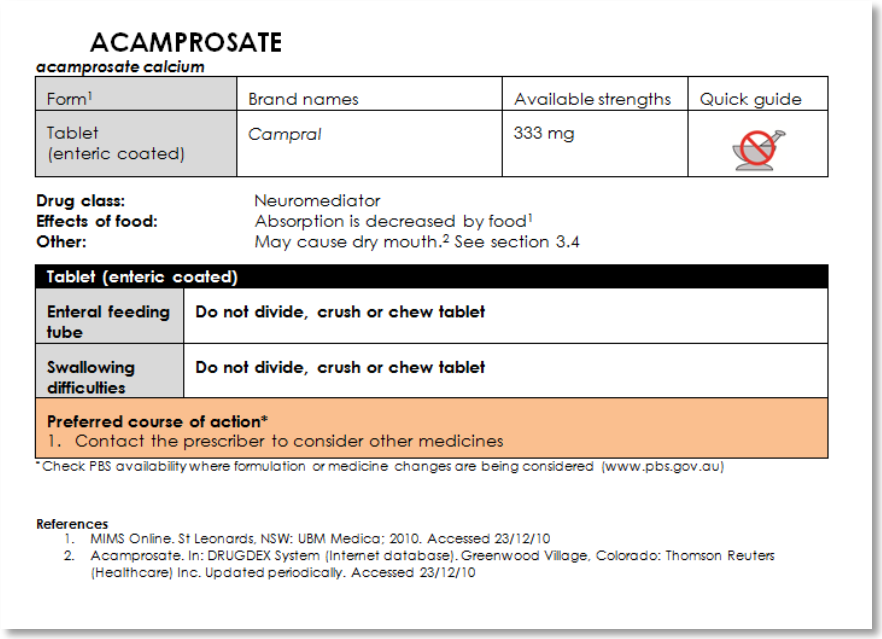
MIMS Online offers "Don't Rush to Crush" as an optional content module that provides Australia's most comprehensive guide to administering oral medicines to patients who are unable to swallow or have swallowing difficulties. The "Don't Rush to Crush" guidance is produced and maintained by The Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA), the professional body which represents around 3,000 pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and associates practicing in all parts of the Australian health system.

Quality information with a robust Editorial Process

A multidisciplinary approach is important to achieving positive medication outcomes for patients. To best meet this need, the team producing the "Don't Rush to Crush" content includes health professionals and clinicians from a variety of disciplines, including pharmacists, dieticians, nurses and allied health professionals. A rigorous content review ensures that the guidance is evidence-based and facilitates unbiased decision making according to current standards of care.

The content is managed by a team of two Pharmacist Editors. The Editors are assisted by a Monograph Editorial Committee who are responsible for the content of the monographs; Introduction Subcommittee responsible for the additional guidance and content beyond the monographs, and a team of pharmacist monograph reviewers. In all, over forty five clinicians and health professionals review and maintain the content. The contributors are primarily members of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists currently practicing in the public health sector in Australia.

Several pharmaceutical companies have also provided information included in individual drug monographs. This information has been provided on the understanding that these companies do not advocate the off-label use of products manufactured and produced by them. Information provided by these companies can be found in the monograph references as 'personal communication'.



ACAMPROSATE

acamprosate calcium

Form[1]	Brand names	Available strengths	Quick guide
Tablet (enteric coated)	*Campral*	333 mg	

Drug class: Neuromediator
Effects of food: Absorption is decreased by food[1]
Other: May cause dry mouth.[2] See section 3.4

Tablet (enteric coated)	
Enteral feeding tube	**Do not divide, crush or chew tablet**
Swallowing difficulties	**Do not divide, crush or chew tablet**
Preferred course of action* 1. Contact the prescriber to consider other medicines	

*Check PBS availability where formulation or medicine changes are being considered (www.pbs.gov.au)

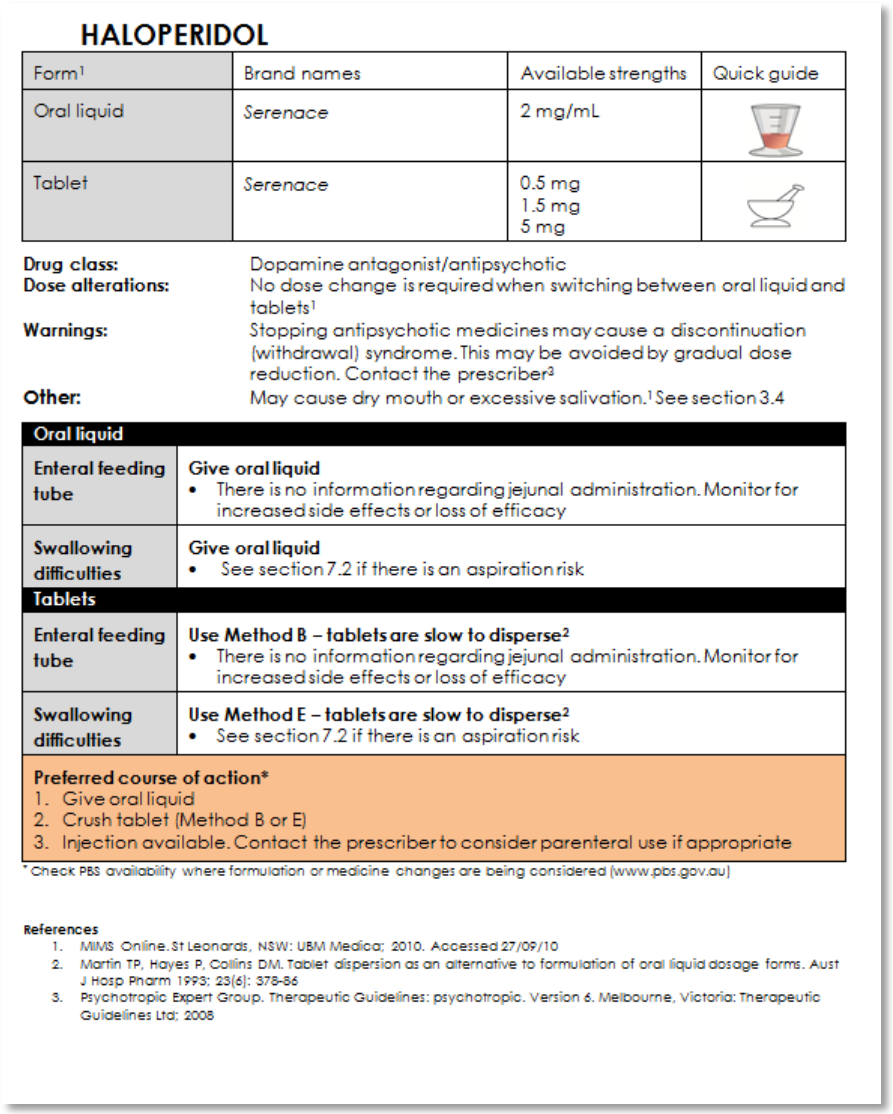
References

1. MIMS Online. St Leonards, NSW: UBM Medica; 2010. Accessed 23/12/10
2. Acamprosate. In: DRUGDEX System (Internet database). Greenwood Village, Colorado: Thomson Reuters (Healthcare) Inc. Updated periodically. Accessed 23/12/10

FIG 1 - Example DRTC monograph for a medication UNSUITABLE for crushing

Integration of Don't Rush to Crush Content into MIMS Online

"Don't Rush to Crush" content is seamlessly integrated into MIMS Online and can be retrieved via the standard search methods used for navigating to product or consumer information. Searching for a product by brand name, generic or ingredient name, therapeutic class or action/ indication will lead the user to a number of tabbed windows that display information about the medication. In MIMS Online the available tabs are typically Abbreviated Product Information, Full Product Information and Consumer Medicines Information. When "Don't Rush to Crush" content is available, an additional tab is displayed which contains the DRTC advice and guidance. This information is always only one mouse click away from the standard MIMS information, but remains clearly separated to avoid confusing the content with the official MIMS product information.



HALOPERIDOL

Form[1]	Brand names	Available strengths	Quick guide
Oral liquid	*Serenace*	2 mg/mL	
Tablet	*Serenace*	0.5 mg 1.5 mg 5 mg	

Drug class: Dopamine antagonist/antipsychotic
Dose alterations: No dose change is required when switching between oral liquid and tablets[1]
Warnings: Stopping antipsychotic medicines may cause a discontinuation (withdrawal) syndrome. This may be avoided by gradual dose reduction. Contact the prescriber[3]
Other: May cause dry mouth or excessive salivation.[1] See section 3.4

Oral liquid	
Enteral feeding tube	**Give oral liquid** • There is no information regarding jejunal administration. Monitor for increased side effects or loss of efficacy
Swallowing difficulties	**Give oral liquid** • See section 7.2 if there is an aspiration risk
Tablets	
Enteral feeding tube	**Use Method B – tablets are slow to disperse[2]** • There is no information regarding jejunal administration. Monitor for increased side effects or loss of efficacy
Swallowing difficulties	**Use Method E – tablets are slow to disperse[2]** • See section 7.2 if there is an aspiration risk

Preferred course of action*
1. Give oral liquid
2. Crush tablet (Method B or E)
3. Injection available. Contact the prescriber to consider parenteral use if appropriate

* Check PBS availability where formulation or medicine changes are being considered (www.pbs.gov.au)

References

1. MIMS Online. St Leonards, NSW: UBM Medica; 2010. Accessed 27/09/10
2. Martin TP, Hayes P, Collins DM. Tablet dispersion as an alternative to formulation of oral liquid dosage forms. Aust J Hosp Pharm 1993; 23(6): 378-86
3. Psychotropic Expert Group. Therapeutic Guidelines: psychotropic. Version 6. Melbourne, Victoria: Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd; 2008

FIG 2 - Example DRTC Monograph for a medication SUITABLE for crushing

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Typical Navigation of Don't Rush to Crush - Search

The "Don't Rush to Crush" information is fully accessible within MIMS Online by following standard MIMS Online searching and information navigation flows. Searching for either a generic or branded medication will display a "SHPA (Society of Hospital Pharmacists)" link if "Don't Rush to Crush" content is available. In the example below, "Diltiazem Hydrochloride" has been entered in the MIMS Online Simple Search. The resulting display indicates relevant branded medications and the ability to view "Don't Rush to Crush" information with one single click.

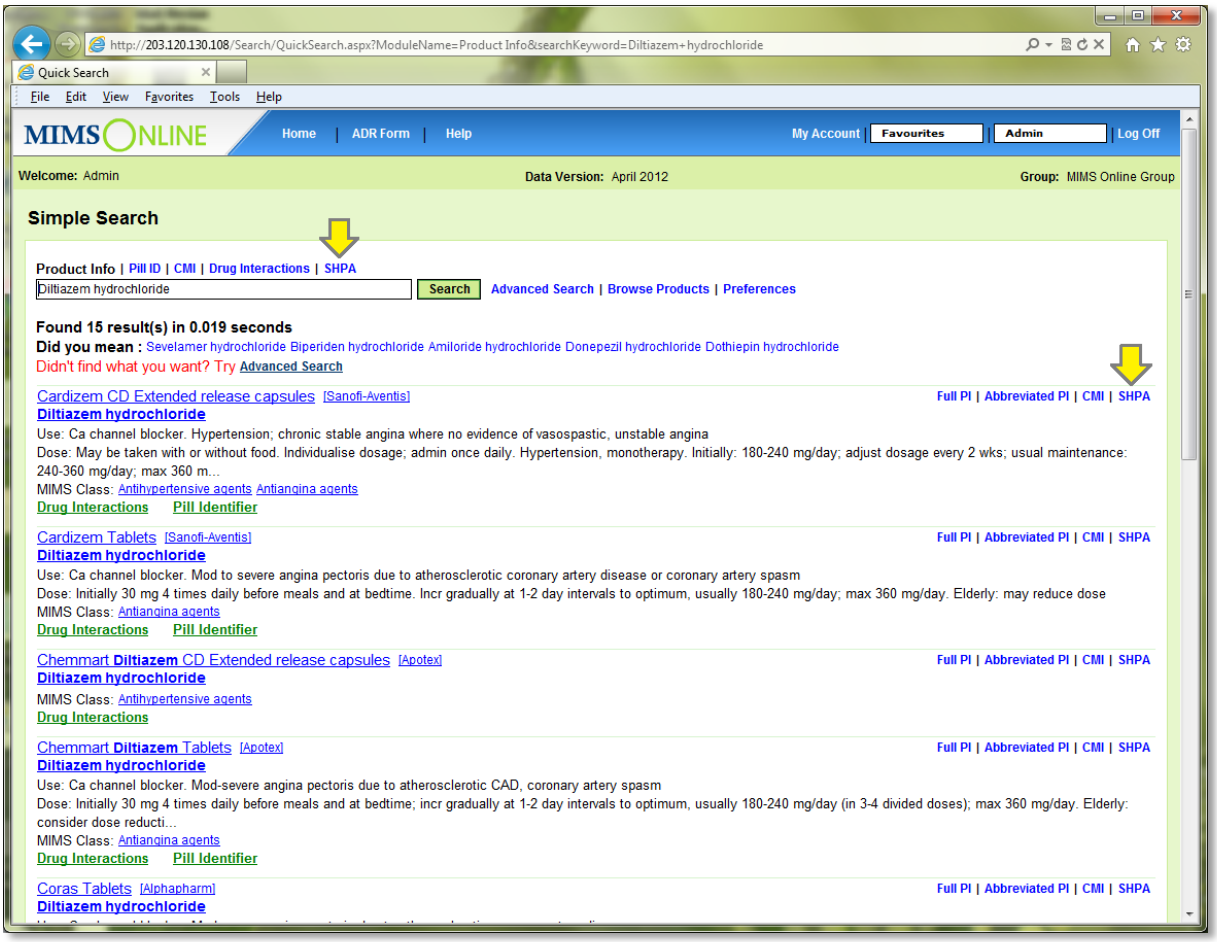

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FIG 3 - Example DRTC MIMS Online "Simple Search"

Don't Rush to Crush – Monograph Display

The "Don't Rush to Crush" monograph is displayed within a tabbed content pane when the SHPA link is selected from any MIMS Online search result. To ensure the end-user does not confuse the medication crushing advice, medication product information or the consumer medicines information sheet, the "Don't Rush to Crush" content is separated into a dedicated tab pane. The monograph is identical to the relevant page displayed in the printed "Don't Rush to Crush" publication provided by the SHPA. Conveniently, the associated product information and consumer information for the medication is only one mouse click away.

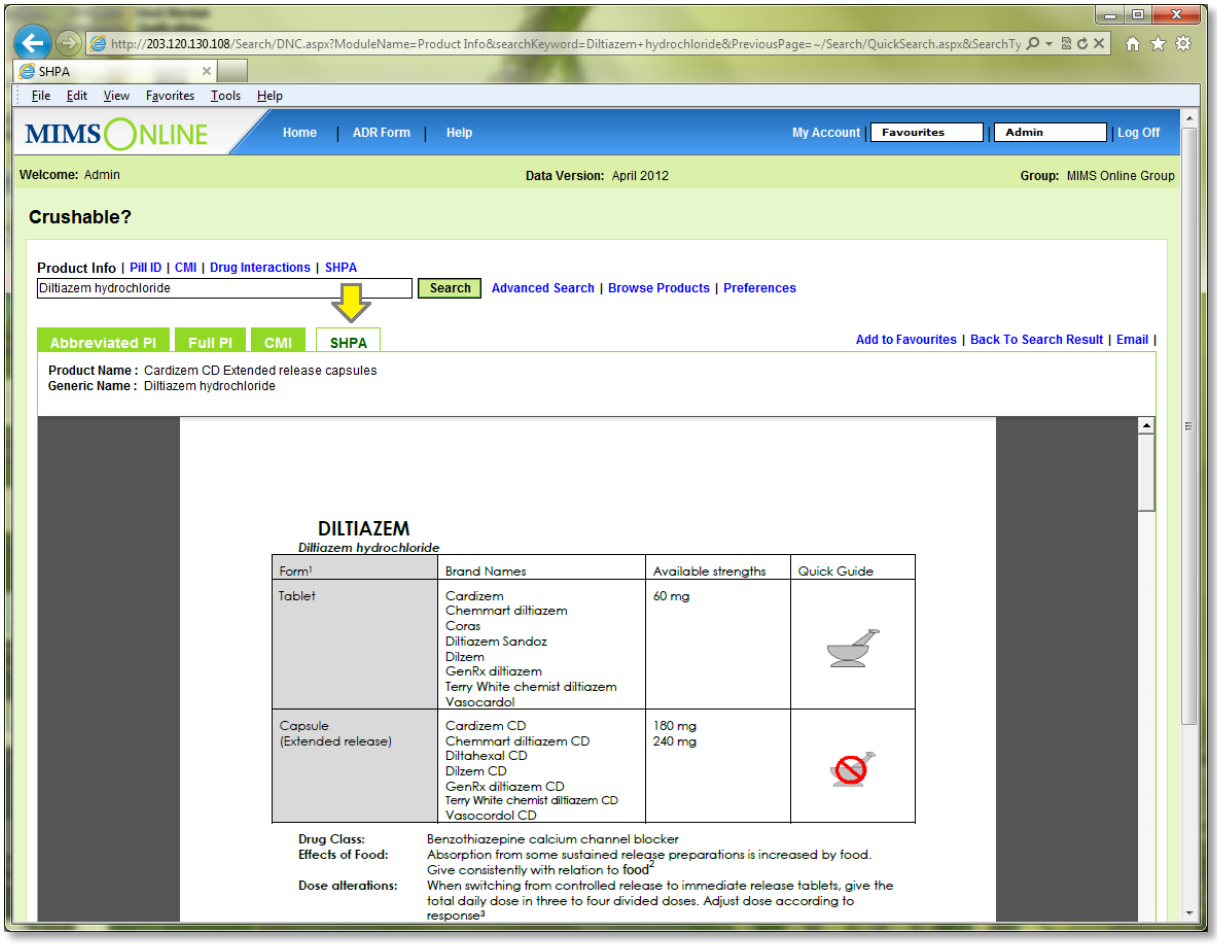

FIG 5 - Example DRTC MIMS Online Monograph Display

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