

Assessment of Compliance with instruction for Administering Medicinal Dry Syrups to Infants (1) Subjective Assessment of Palatability after Dilution with Various Agents

Minae Isawa¹⁾, Setsuko Sakurai²⁾, Jean Rigod³⁾, Masataka Mochizuki⁴⁾, Emi Nakashima^{1)*}

1) Department of Pharmaceutics, Kyoritsu College of Pharmacy, 1-5-30, Shibakoen, Minato-ku, Tokyo

2) Hospital Pharmacy, Aiiku Hospital, 5-6-8, Minamiazabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo

3) Comparative Culture Department, Otsuma Women's University, 2-7-1, Karakida, Tama-shi, Tokyo

4) Department of Organic and Bio Organic Chemistry, Kyoritsu College of Pharmacy, 1-5-30, Shibakoen, Minato-ku, Tokyo

(Received May 19, 2003)
(Accepted June 4, 2003)

Abstract :

Refusal of oral medicinal drugs by infants is a considerable problem. One possible solution is to mix the medicine with other agents to mask the taste and/or odor of the medicine. We chose 8 dry syrup formulas and 4 fluids (orange juice, electrolyte solution, yogurt and ice cream) as potential masking agents. Five adult volunteers were given each of the 8 medicines orally with or without a masking agent. Each volunteer evaluated the smell, bitterness or sweetness of each drug alone, and then the medicine/masking agent mixtures. A five-level subjective evaluation method was used. While one medicine was palatable without mixing, most formulations became more palatable after mixing. The most agreeable masking fluid was ice cream.

Keywords : medicinal dry syrup, infant, compliance, palatable mixture