

## How to Draw Up Oral Liquid Medications Using a Syringe

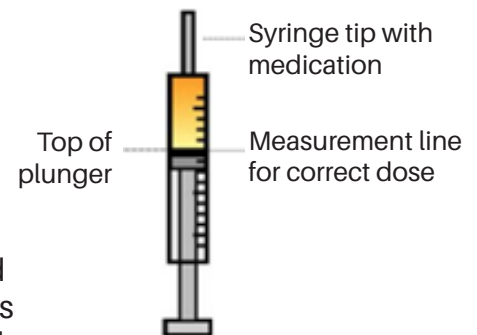
When administering oral liquid medications, it may be necessary to use a plastic oral syringe. An oral syringe can help provide an accurate measurement of the medication to ensure that the patient is getting the right dose when it is administered.

Do not substitute household items, such as household baking spoons, teaspoons, or measuring cups for dosing devices. Using household items could put the patient at risk of getting the wrong amount of medication.

Always review the medication instructions on the bottle and prescription bottle, and administer medications per the healthcare provider's instructions.

### Preparing The Syringe

- Wash your hands
- If stated on the medication packaging or label, shake medication bottle well.
- Remove the cap on the bottle. Insert the bottle syringe adapter if available.
- Insert the tip of the oral syringe into the syringe adapter.
- If using a syringe adapter, turn the bottle upside down and pull the plunger of the syringe until the medication reaches the volume required. The top of the plunger should be at the desired measurement line for the correct dose.



**Note:** *If there is no bottle syringe adapter available, place the bottle on a flat surface. Put the syringe into the opening of the bottle and make sure the tip of the syringe is in the liquid. Pull the plunger back until you have drawn the volume of medication required.*

### Removing Air From The Syringe

- Turn the syringe so the tip is pointing toward the ceiling.
- Tap the syringe to move the air bubbles to the top of the syringe.
- Slowly push the plunger until the air bubbles are gone.

### Cleaning The Syringe

Wash the syringe after each medication administration. Separate the syringe plunger and barrel and wash each section in warm, soapy water. Rinse the syringe. Allow the syringe sections to dry naturally away from heat and sunlight then re-assemble the syringe, so it is ready for the next dose.

Contact HopeWest at any time for assistance or if you have additional questions. A Registered Nurse is available 24/7 including after hours, weekends, and holidays.