

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

The following table contains available drugs that have characteristics that may make it inappropriate to crush or alter the dosage form to help facilitate drug delivery. There are a variety of reasons for crushing tablets or capsule contents prior to administering to the patient. Patients may have enteral feeding which do not permit the administration of tablets or capsules, an oral solution for a particular medication may not be available from the manufacturer or readily prepared by pharmacy, patients may have difficulty swallowing capsules or tablets, or mixing of powdered medication with food or drink may make the drug more palatable. **Generally, medications which should not be crushed fall into one of the following categories:**

Extended Release Products: The formulation of some tablets is specialized as to allow the medication within it to be slowly released into the body. This may be accomplished by centering the drug within the core of the tablet, with a subsequent shedding of multiple layers around the core. Wax melts in the GI tract, releasing drug contained within the wax matrix (e.g., OxyCONTIN). Capsules may contain beads which have multiple layers which are slowly dissolved with time.

Medications Which Are Irritating to the Stomach: Tablets which are irritating to the stomach may be enteric-coated which delays release of the drug until the time when it reaches the small intestine. Enteric-coated aspirin is an example of this.

Foul-Tasting Medication: Some drugs are quite unpleasant to taste so the manufacturer coats the tablet in a sugar coating to increase its palatability. By crushing the tablet, this sugar coating is lost and the patient tastes the unpleasant tasting medication.

Sublingual Medication: Medication intended for use under the tongue should not be crushed. While it appears to be obvious, it is not always easy to determine if a medication is to be used sublingually. Sublingual medications should indicate on the package that they are intended for sublingual use.

Effervescent Tablets: These are tablets which, when dropped into a liquid, quickly dissolve to yield a solution. Many effervescent tablets, when crushed, lose their ability to quickly dissolve.

Potentially Hazardous Substances: Certain drugs, including antineoplastic agents, hormonal agents, some antivirals, some bioengineered agents, and other miscellaneous drugs, are considered potentially hazardous when used in humans based on their characteristics. Examples of these characteristics include carcinogenicity, teratogenicity, reproductive toxicity, organ toxicity at low doses, genotoxicity, or new drugs with structural and toxicity profiles similar to existing hazardous drugs. Exposure to these substances can result in adverse effects and should be avoided. Crushing or breaking a tablet or opening a capsule of a potentially hazardous substance may increase the risk of exposure to the substance through skin contact, inhalation, or accidental ingestion. The extent of exposure, potency, and toxicity of the hazardous substance determines the health risk. Institutions have policies and procedures to follow when handling any potentially hazardous substance. **Note: All potentially hazardous substances may not be represented in this table. Refer to institution-specific guidelines for precautions to observe when handling hazardous substances.**

Common Abbreviations for Extended Release Products

CD	Controlled dose
CR	Controlled release
CRT	Controlled release tablet
LA	Long-acting
SR	Sustained release
TR	Timed release
TD	Time delay
SA	Sustained action
XL	Extended release
XR	Extended release

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Recommendations

1. It is not advisable to crush certain medications.
2. Consult individual monographs prior to crushing capsule or tablet.
3. If crushing a tablet or capsule is contraindicated, consult with your pharmacist to determine whether an oral solution exists or can be compounded.

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Abilify MyCite Kits (ARIPIprazole)	Tablet	Drug-device combination
Absorica, Absorica LD (ISOtretinoin)	Capsule	Mucous membrane irritant; teratogenic potential
Acetaminophen ER	Tablet	Extended release
Aciphex (RABEprazole)	Tablet	Extended release
Aciphex Sprinkle (RABEprazole)	Capsule	Slow release. Capsule may be opened and contents sprinkled on soft food (e.g., applesauce, fruit- or vegetable-based baby food, yogurt) or emptied into a small amount of liquid (e.g., infant formula, apple juice, pediatric electrolyte solution). Granules should not be chewed or crushed.
Acticlate (Doxycycline Hyclate)	Capsule, tablet	Film-coated. Tablet is scored and may be split; 150 mg tablets can be broken into two-thirds or one-third to provide a 100 mg and 50 mg strength, respectively.
Actiq (FentaNYL)	Lozenge	Slow release. This lollipop delivery system requires the patient to dissolve it slowly.
Actoplus Met XR (Pioglitazone and Metformin)	Tablet	Variable release
Actonel (Risedronate)	Tablet	Irritant. Chewed, crushed, or sucked tablets may cause oropharyngeal irritation.
Adalat CC (NIFEdipine)	Tablet	Extended release
Adderall XR (Dextroamphetamine and Amphetamine)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Adenovirus (Types 4, 7) Vaccine	Tablet	Teratogenic potential; enteric-coated; do not disrupt tablet to avoid releasing live adenovirus in upper respiratory tract
Adhansia XR (Methylphenidate)	Capsule	Extended release. Capsule may be opened, sprinkled onto a tablespoon of applesauce or yogurt, and consumed without chewing within 10 minutes
Advagraf (Tacrolimus)	Capsule	Extended release
Advicor (Niacin and Lovastatin)	Tablet	Variable release
Adzenys XR-ODT (Amphetamine)	Orally disintegrating tablet	Extended release; sublingual form _g
Aemcolo (Rifamycin)	Tablet	Delayed release; manufacturer recommendation
Afeditin CR (NIFEdipine)	Tablet	Extended release
Afinitor (Everolimus)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; mucous membrane irritant; hazardous substance _k ; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected.
Aggrenox (Aspirin and Dipyridamole)	Capsule	Extended release. Capsule may be opened; contents include an aspirin tablet that may be chewed and dipyridamole pellets that may be sprinkled on applesauce.

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Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Akeega (Niraparib and Abiraterone Acetate)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; caregivers who are or could be pregnant should wear gloves if handling tablets
Alavert Allergy and Sinus (Loratadine and Pseudoephedrine)	Tablet	Extended release
Alecensa (Alectinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Alkindi Sprinkle (Hydrocortisone)	Capsule	Oral granules contained within the capsule; do not crush or chew granules
Allegra-D (Fexofenadine and Pseudoephedrine)	Tablet	Extended release
ALPRAZolam XR	Tablet	Extended release
Altace (Ramipril)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; capsule may be opened and contents mixed with 120 mL of water, apple juice, or applesauce
Altoprev (Lovastatin)	Tablet	Extended release
Alunbrig (Brigatinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Alvaiz (Eltrombopag)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Alyftrek (Vanzacaftor, Tezacaftor, and Deutivacaftor)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Ambien CR (Zolpidem)	Tablet	Extended release
Amitiza (Lubiprostone)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Amnesteem (ISOtretinoin)	Capsule	Mucous membrane irritant; teratogenic potential
Ampyra (Dalfampridine)	Tablet	Extended release
Amrix (Cyclobenzaprine)	Capsule	Extended release
Aplenzin (BuPROPION)	Tablet	Extended release
Apriso (Mesalamine)	Capsule	Extended release
Aptensio XR (Methylphenidate)	Capsule	Slow release. Capsule may be opened, sprinkled onto a tablespoon of applesauce or yogurt, and consumed without chewing within 10 minutes.
Aptivus (Tipranavir)	Capsule	Taste. Oil emulsion within spheres
Arakoda (Tafenoquine)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Aricept 23 mg (Donepezil)	Tablet	Film-coated; chewing or crushing may increase rate of absorption
Arava (Leflunomide)	Tablet	Teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Arthrotec (Diclofenac and Misoprostol)	Tablet	Delayed release; enteric-coated
Arymo ER (Morphine)	Tablet	Slow release; tablet disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose.
Asacol HD (Mesalamine)	Tablet	Slow release
Aspirin enteric-coated	Capsule, tablet	Delayed release; enteric-coated
Astagraf XL (Tacrolimus)	Capsule	Extended release; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Atelvia (Risedronate)	Tablet	Extended release; tablet coating is an important part of the delayed release
Augmentin XR (Amoxicillin and Clavulanate)	Tablet	Extended release _{p,h}

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Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Augtyro (Repotrectinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Auryxia (Ferric Citrate)	Tablet	May cause discoloration of mouth and teeth
Austedo (Deutetetrabenazine)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Austedo XL (Deutetetrabenazine)	Tablet	Extended release
Auvelity (Dextromethorphan and Bupropion)	Tablet	Extended release
Ayvakyt (Avapritinib)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation (not in US labeling)
Avelox (Moxifloxacin)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation (not in US labeling)
Avodart (Dutasteride)	Capsule	Mucus membrane irritation; capsule should not be handled by pregnant women due to teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Avmapki (Avutometinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Azulfidine EN-tabs (SulfaSALAzine)	Tablet	Delayed release
Bafiertam (Monomethyl fumarate)	Capsule	Delayed release
Balcoltra (Ethynodiol-D and Levonorgestrel)	Tablet	Hazardous agent
Balversa (Erdafitinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Bayer Aspirin (Aspirin)	Tablet	Delayed release
Bayer Aspirin, EC Low Dose 81 mg (Aspirin)	Tablet	Delayed release
Bayer Aspirin, Regimen Adult Low Strength 81 mg (Aspirin)	Tablet	Enteric coated
Bayer Aspirin, Regimen Regular Strength 325 mg (Aspirin)	Caplet	Enteric-coated
Belbuca (Buprenorphine)	Buccal film	Sublingual form _g ; chewing or swallowing may result in lower bioavailability
Belsomra (Suvorexant)	Tablet	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Benzonataate	Capsule	Swallow whole; pharmacologic action may cause choking if chewed or opened and swallowed
Biaxin XL (Clarithromycin)	Tablet	Extended release
Biltricide (Praziquantel)	Tablet	Taste _h
Binosto (Alendronate)	Tablet	Effervescent tablet _f
Biphentin (Methylphenidate)	Capsule	Controlled release
Bisac-Evac (Bisacodyl)	Tablet	Enteric-coated _c
Bisacodyl	Tablet	Enteric-coated _c
Boniva (Ibandronate)	Tablet	Irritant. Chewed, crushed, or sucked tablets may cause oropharyngeal irritation
Bonjesta (Doxylamine and Pyridoxine)	Tablet	Controlled release
Bosulif (Bosutinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Brincidofovir	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k

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Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Brenzavvy (Bexagliflozin)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Briviact (Brivaracetam)	Tablet	Film-coated _b ; manufacturer recommendation
Brukinsa (Zanubrutinib)	Capsule, tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; tablet is scored and may be split in half
Bunavail (Buprenorphine and Naloxone)	Buccal film	Chewing or swallowing may result in lower peak concentrations and bioavailability
Buprenorphine and Naloxone Sublingual	Tablet	Sublingual form _g
Buproban (BuPROPion)	Tablet	Extended release
BuPROPion SR	Tablet	Extended release
BuPROPion XL	Tablet	Extended release
Bylvay (Odevixibat)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _a
Cabometyx (Cabozantinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; film-coated; hazardous substance _k
Calan SR (Verapamil)	Tablet	Extended release _h
Calquence (Acalabrutinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Campral (Acamprosate)	Tablet	Delayed release; enteric-coated
Caprelsa (Vandetanib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _n ; irritant; hazardous substance _k
Carbaglu (Carglumic Acid)	Tablet	Tablets should be dispersed completely in water
Carbatrol (CarBAMazepine)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Cardizem CD (DilTIAZem)	Capsule	Extended release
Cardizem LA (DilTIAZem)	Tablet	Extended release
Cardura XL (Doxazosin)	Tablet	Extended release
Cartia XT (DilTIAZem)	Capsule	Extended release
Casodex (Bicalutamide)	Tablet	Hazardous substance _k
Cefaclor ER	Tablet	Extended release
Ceftin (Cefuroxime)	Tablet	Taste _b . Use suspension for children
Cefuroxime	Tablet	Taste _b . Use suspension for children
CellCept (Mycophenolate)	Capsule, tablet	Teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _{i,k}
Cerdelga (Eliglustat)	Capsule	Preferably taken with water
Cesamet (Nabilone)	Capsule	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Chlor-Trimeton Allergy (Chlorpheniramine)	Tablet	Extended release _b
Chlorpheniramine ER	Tablet	Extended release _b
Cholbam (Cholic Acid)	Capsule	Capsules may be opened and the contents mixed with food/drink.
Cibinlo (Abrocitinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Ciprofloxacin XL	Tablet	Extended release _b
Claravis (ISOTretinoin)	Capsule	Mucous membrane irritant; teratogenic potential
Claritin-D 12-Hour (Loratadine and Pseudoephedrine)	Tablet	Extended release

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Claritin-D 24-Hour (Loratadine and Pseudoephedrine)	Tablet	Extended release
Codeine Contin (Codeine)	Tablet	Controlled release
Colace (Docusate)	Capsule	Taste _a
Colazal (Balsalazide)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; contents may be sprinkled on applesauce and mixture may be chewed
Colestid (Colestipol)	Tablet	Slow release
Cometriq (Cabozantinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Concerta (Methylphenidate)	Tablet	Extended release
Contrave (Naltrexone and Bupropion)	Tablet	Extended release
ConZip (TraMADol)	Capsule	Variable release; tablet disruption may cause overdose
Copiktra (Duvelisib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Coreg CR (Carvedilol)	Capsule	Extended release _a ; may add contents to chilled applesauce and consume immediately.
CoreMino (Minocycline)	Tablet	Extended release
Cotazym (Pancrelipase)	Capsule	Enteric-coated _a
Cotellic (Cobimetinib)	Tablet	In the clinical trial, tablets were administered whole; do not chew, cut, or crush
Cotempla XR-ODT (Methylphenidate)	Orally disintegrating tablet	Extended release; orally disintegrating tablet designed to disintegrate on the tongue
Creon (Pancrelipase)	Capsule	Extended release _a ; enteric-coated contents
Cresemba (Isavuconazolium)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Crixivan (Indinavir)	Capsule	Taste. Capsule may be opened and mixed with fruit puree (e.g., banana).
Cuvrior (Trentine Tetrahydrochloride)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; scored tablet may be split in half if needed.
CycloPHOSphamide	Capsule, tablet	Hazardous substance _k ; manufacturer recommendation
Cymbalta (DULoxetine)	Capsule	Delayed release _a ; may add contents to apple juice or applesauce but not chocolate
Danzitren (Nilotinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Dartista-ODT (Glycopyrrolate)	Orally disintegrating tablet	Orally disintegrating tablet designed to disintegrate on the tongue
Daurismo (Glasdegib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Delzicol (Mesalamine)	Capsule	Slow release _a
Depakene (Valproic Acid)	Capsule	Slow release; mucous membrane irritant _b ; hazardous substance _k
Depakote (Divalproex)	Tablet	Delayed release; hazardous substance _k
Depakote ER (Divalproex)	Tablet	Extended release; hazardous substance _k
Depakote Sprinkles (Divalproex)	Capsule	Delayed release _a ; hazardous substance _k
Detrol LA (Tolterodine)	Capsule	Extended release
Dexedrine (Dextroamphetamine)	Capsule	Extended release
Dexilant (Dexlansoprazole)	Capsule	Delayed release _a

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Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Diacomit (Stiripentol)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _j
Diamicron MR (Gliclazide)	Tablet	Modified release; may split 60 mg modified release tablets in half; 30 mg modified release tablets must be swallowed whole
Diamox Sequels (AcetaZOLAMIDE)	Capsule	Extended release
Dibenzyline (Phenoxybenzamine)	Capsule	Hazardous substance _k
Diclegis (Doxylamine and Pyridoxine)	Tablet	Delayed release; manufacturer recommendation
Diflunisal	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
DiltiaZEM	Capsule	Extended release
Dilt-XR (DiltiaZEM)	Capsule	Extended release
Ditropan XL (OxyBUTYNIN)	Tablet	Extended release
Divalproex ER	Tablet	Extended release
Doryx (Doxycycline)	Tablet	Delayed release; tablet may be crushed without damaging or crushing delayed-release pellets
Doryx MPC (Doxycycline)	Tablet	Delayed release
Drisdol (Ergocalciferol)	Capsule	Liquid filled _d
Drizalma Sprinkle (DULOXETINE)	Capsule	Delayed release _a
Droxia (Hydroxyurea)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _o ; hazardous substance _k
Duavee (Estrogens [Conjugated/Equine] and Bazedoxifene)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Duexis (Ibuprofen and Famotidine)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Dulcolax (Bisacodyl)	Capsule	Liquid-filled
Dulcolax (Bisacodyl)	Tablet	Enteric-coated _c
Durlaza (Aspirin)	Capsule	Extended release
EC-Naprosyn (Naproxen)	Tablet	Delayed release; enteric-coated
Ecotrin Arthritis Strength (Aspirin)	Tablet	Enteric-coated
Ecotrin (Aspirin)	Tablet	Enteric-coated
Ecotrin Low Strength (Aspirin)	Tablet	Enteric-coated
Edluar (Zolpidem)	Tablet	Sublingual form _g
E.E.S. (Erythromycin)	Tablet	Enteric-coated _b
Effer-K (Potassium Bicarbonate and Potassium Citrate)	Tablet	Effervescent tablet _f
Effervescent Potassium	Tablet	Effervescent tablet _f
Effexor XR (Venlafaxine)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Elepsia XR (LevETIRACETAM)	Tablet	Extended release
Emend (Aprepitant)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; pharmacokinetic NanoCrystal technology may be affected
Emrosi (Minocycline)	Capsule	Extended release
Enablex (Darifenacin)	Tablet	Slow release
Ensacove (Ensartinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Entocort EC (Budesonide)	Capsule	Extended release; enteric-coated _a

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Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Envarsus PA	Tablet	Extended release
Envarsus XR (Tacrolimus)	Tablet	Extended release
Epclusa (Sofosbuvir and Velpatasvir)	Tablet	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Equetro (CarBAMazepine)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Ergomar (Ergotamine)	Tablet	Sublingual form _g
Erivedge (Vismodegib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Erleada (Apalutamide)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Eryc (Erythromycin)	Capsule	Enteric-coated _a
Ery-Tab (Erythromycin)	Tablet	Delayed release; enteric-coated
Erythromycin Base	Tablet	Enteric-coated
Erythromycin Delayed Release	Capsule	Enteric-coated pellets _a
Erythromycin Ethylsuccinate	Tablet	Taste _b
Erythromycin Stearate	Tablet	Enteric-coated
Etoposide	Capsule	Hazardous substance _k
Etrasimod	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Evekeo ODT (Amphetamine)	Oral disintegrating tablet	Sublingual form _g
Evista (Raloxifene)	Tablet	Taste; teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Evrysdi (Risdiplam)	Tablet	Film-coated; tablet may be dispersed in nonchlorinated water
Exelon (Rivastigmine)	Capsule	Canadian manufacturer recommendation
Exjade (Deferasirox)	Tablet	Do not chew or swallow whole; do not give as tablets meant to be given as a liquid
Exkivity (Mobocertinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Exserval (Riluzole)	Film	Sublingual form _g
Ezallor Sprinkle (Rosuvastatin)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _a
Fabhalta (Iptacopan)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Fareston (Toremifene)	Tablet	Hazardous substance _k
Farydak (Panobinostat)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Feldene (Piroxicam)	Capsule	Mucous membrane irritant
Felodipine	Tablet	Extended release
FentaNYL	Lozenge	Slow release; lollipop delivery system requires the patient to slowly dissolve in mouth
Fentora (FentaNYL)	Tablet	Buccal tablet; swallowing whole or crushing may reduce effectiveness
Ferrous Sulfate	Tablet	Delayed release _b
Fetzima (Levomilnacipran)	Capsule	Extended release
Fexinidazole	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Fibrincor (Fenofibric Acid)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Fleet Laxative (Bisacodyl)	Tablet	Enteric-coated _c
Flomax (Tamsulosin)	Capsule	Slow release; manufacturer recommendation. Capsules may be opened and contents mixed with food.

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Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Fludara (Fludarabine)	Tablet	Manufacturer (Canadian) recommendation; hazardous substance _k
FLUoxetine Weekly	Capsule	Delayed release
Fluvoxamine ER	Capsule	Slow release
Focalin XR (Dexmethylphenidate)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Forfivo XL (BuPROPion)	Tablet	Extended release
Fortamet (MetFORMIN)	Tablet	Extended release
Fosamax (Alendronate)	Tablet	Mucous membrane irritant
Fosamax Plus D (Alendronate and Cholecalciferol)	Tablet	Mucous membrane irritant
Fotivda (Tivozanib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Fruqaqla (Fruquintinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Galafold (MigALstat)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Galzin (Zinc Acetate)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _j ; possible gastric irritation
Gengraf (CycloSPORINE)	Capsule	Teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Geodon (Ziprasidone)	Capsule	Hazardous substance _k
Gepirone (Exxua)	Tablet	Extended release
Gilotrif (Afatinib)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation (not in US labeling); hazardous substance _k
Gleevec (Imatinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _n ; mucous membrane irritant; hazardous substance _k
Gleostine (Lomustine)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
GlipiZIDE XL	Tablet	Extended release
Glucophage XR (MetFORMIN)	Tablet	Extended release
Glucotrol XL (GlipiZIDE)	Tablet	Extended release
Glumetza (MetFORMIN)	Tablet	Extended release
Gocovri (Amantadine)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Gomekli (Mirdametinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Gomekli (Mirdametinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; tablet may be swallowed whole or (for patients unable to swallow whole) an oral suspension may be prepared from tablet(s)
Gralise (Gabapentin)	Tablet	Extended release _b
GuaiFENesin and Pseudoephedrine	Tablet	Slow release
Halfprin (Aspirin)	Tablet	Enteric-coated
Harvoni (Ledipasvir and Sofosbuvir)	Tablet	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Hernexeos (Zongertinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Hetlioz (Tasimelteon)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Holkira Pak (Ombitasvir, Paritaprevir, Ritonavir, and Dasabuvir)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation
Horizant (Gabapentin)	Tablet	Extended release _b
Hycamtin (Topotecan)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k

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Hydrea (Hydroxyurea)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
HYDROcodone	Capsule	Extended release; capsule disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose
Hydromorpha Contin (HYDROmorphine)	Capsule	Extended release
Hydromorphone ER	Tablet	Extended release
Hysingla ER (HYDROcodone)	Tablet	Extended release; tablet disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose
Ibrance (Palbociclib)	Capsule, tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Ibsrela (Tenapanor)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation (not in US labeling)
Ibtrozi (Taletrectinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Iclusig (PONATinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Idhifa (Enasidenib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Imbruvica (Ibrutinib)	Capsule, tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _o
Imdur (Isosorbide Mononitrate)	Tablet	Extended release _h
Imitrex (SUMATriptan)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Impavido (Miltefosine)	Capsule	Hazardous substance _k
Inderal LA (Propranolol)	Capsule	Extended release
Indomethacin ER	Capsule	Extended release _{b,c}
Ingrezza Sprinkle (Valbenazine)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; capsule may be opened and the contents sprinkled on soft food (e.g., applesauce, pudding, yogurt); granules should not be chewed or crushed. Do not administer via gastrostomy, nasogastric, or other enteral tubes.
Inlyta (Axitinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _o ; hazardous substance _k
Inluriyo (Imlunestrant)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
InnoPran XL (Propranolol)	Capsule	Extended release
Inpefa (Sotagliflozin)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Inqovi (Decitabine and Cedazuridine)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Intelence (Etravirine)	Tablet	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected. Tablet should be swallowed whole and not crushed; tablet may be dispersed in water.
Intuniv (GuanFACINE)	Tablet	Extended release
Invega (Paliperidone)	Tablet	Extended release
Invokamet XR (Canagliflozin and Metformin)	Tablet	Extended release
Invokana (Canagliflozin)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation
Iressa (Gefitinib)	Tablet	Note: Tablet may be dissolved in 120 to 240 mL of water
Isoptin SR (Verapamil)	Tablet	Extended release _h ; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Isosorbide Mononitrate ER	Tablet	Extended release
ISOtretinoin	Capsule	Mucous membrane irritant; teratogenic potential
Isradipine	Capsule	Slow release
Itovobe (Inavolisib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation

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Jakavi (Ruxolitinib)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation (not in US labeling.)
Jalyn (Dutasteride and Tamsulosin)	Capsule	Mucous membrane irritant; capsule should not be handled by pregnant women due to teratogenic potential; ^j hazardous substance _{i,k}
Janumet XR (Sitagliptin and Metformin)	Tablet	Extended release
Jaypirca (Pirtobrutinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Jentadueto XR (Linagliptin and Metformin)	Tablet	Extended release
Jesduvroq (Daprodustat)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Jornay PM (Methylphenidate)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Juxtapid (Lomitapide)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Kadian (Morphine)	Capsule	Extended release _a . Do not give via NG tubes; may add contents to applesauce without crushing. Capsule disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose.
Kaletra (Lopinavir and Ritonavir)	Tablet	Film-coated; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected; pregnant women or women who may become pregnant should not handle crushed or broken tablets; active ingredients surrounded by wax matrix to prevent health care exposure.
Kalydeco (Ivacaftor)	Tablet	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Kapspargo Sprinkle (Metoprolol)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Kapvay (CloNIDine)	Tablet	Extended release
Kazano (Alogliptin and Metformin)	Tablet	Not scored; manufacturer recommendation _i
K-Dur (Potassium Chloride)	Tablet	Slow release _b
Keppra (LevETIRAcetam)	Tablet	Taste _{b,e}
Keppra XR (LevETIRAcetam)	Tablet	Extended release _b
Ketoprofen ER	Capsule	Extended release
Khedeza (Desvenlafaxine)	Tablet	Extended release
Kisqali (Ribociclib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Kisqali Femara Co-Pack (Ribociclib and Letrozole)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation (ribociclib); hazardous substance (letrozole) _k
Klor-Con (Potassium Chloride)	Tablet	Extended release _b
Klor-Con M (Potassium Chloride)	Tablet	Slow release _b ; some strengths are scored; to make liquid, place tablet in 120 mL of water; disperse 2 minutes; stir
Klor-Con Sprinkle	Capsule	Extended release
Kombiglyze XR (Saxagliptin and Metformin)	Tablet	Extended release; tablet matrix may remain in stool
Korlym (Mifepristone)	Tablet	Reproductive toxicity; hazardous substance _k
Koselugo (Selumetinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Krazati (Adagrasib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Krintafel (Tafenoquine)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
K-Tab (Potassium Chloride)	Tablet	Extended release _b

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
LaMICtal XR (Lamotrigine)	Tablet	Extended release
Latuda (Lurasidone)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _l
Lazcluze (Lazertinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Lenvima (Lenvatinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; may dissolve in a small glass of liquid
Lescol XL (Fluvastatin)	Tablet	Extended release
Letairis (Ambrisentan)	Tablet	Film-coated; hazardous substance _k
Leukeran (Chlorambucil)	Tablet	Hazardous substance _{k,o}
Levbid (Hyoscyamine)	Tablet	Extended release _h
Lialda (Mesalamine)	Tablet	Delayed release, enteric-coated
Linzess (Linaclotide)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _a
Lipidil EZ (Fenofibrate)	Tablet	Film-coated; manufacturer recommendation
Lipidil Supra (Fenofibrate)	Tablet	Film-coated; manufacturer recommendation
Lithium Carbonate ER	Tablet	Extended release
Lithobid (Lithium)	Tablet	Extended release
Lonsurf (Trifluridine and Tipiracil)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Lorbrena (Iorlatinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Lovaza (Omega-3 Fatty Acids)	Capsule	Contents of capsule may erode walls of styrofoam or plastic materials
Lumakras (Sotorasib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _n
Lupkynis (Voclosporin)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Lybalvi (Olanzapine and Samidorphan)	Tablet	Do not divide tablets
Lynparza (Olaparib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Lyrica CR (Pregabalin)	Tablet	Extended release
Lysodren (Mitotane)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Lytgobi (Futibatinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Macrobid (Nitrofurantoin)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Mag-Tab SR (Magnesium L-Lactate)	Tablet	Extended release
Matulane (Procarbazine)	Capsule	Hazardous substance _{k,n}
Mavenclad (Cladribine)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Mavyret (Glecaprevir and Pibrentasvir)	Tablet	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Mayzent (Siponimod)	Tablet	Film-coated; manufacturer recommendation
Mekinist (Trametinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Mestinon ER (PyRIDostigmine)	Tablet	Extended release _b
Metadate CD (Methylphenidate)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Methylphenidate (AB rated generics to Methylin ER)	Tablet	Slow release
Metoprolol Succinate ER	Tablet	Extended release
Mezavant	Tablet	Delayed release

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Mezera (Mesalamine)	Tablet	Delayed release
Micro-K (Potassium Chloride)	Capsule	Extended release _{a,b}
Minolira (Minocycline)	Tablet	Extended release _h
Mirapex ER (Pramipexole)	Tablet	Extended release
Morphine Sulfate Extended Release	Capsules (once-daily formulation [pellets])	Extended release _a . Do not give via gastric/NG tubes; may add contents to applesauce without crushing. Capsule disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose.
Morphine Sulfate Extended Release	Capsules (once- or twice-daily formulation [polymer coated pellets])	Extended release _a . Do not give via NG tubes; may add contents to applesauce without crushing. Capsule disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose.
Morphine Sulfate Extended Release	Tablet	Extended release _b ; tablet disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose
Motpoly XR (Lacosamide)	Capsule	Extended release _b
Motrin (Ibuprofen)	Tablet	Taste _{b,e}
MS Contin (Morphine)	Tablet	Extended release _b ; tablet disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose
Mucinex (GuaiFENesin)	Tablet	Slow release
Mucinex DM (GuaiFENesin)	Tablet	Slow release _b
Multaq (Dronedarone)	Tablet	Hazardous substance _k
Mycapssa (Octreotide)	Capsule	Delayed release
Mydayis (Dextroamphetamine and Amphetamine)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Myfortic (Mycophenolate)	Tablet	Delayed release; enteric-coated; teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Myorisan (ISOtretinoin)	Capsule	Mucous membrane irritant; teratogenic potential
Myrbetriq (Mirabegron)	Tablet	Extended release
Mytesi (Crofelemer)	Tablet	Delayed release
Namenda XR (Memantine)	Capsule	Extended release _{a,b}
Namzaric (Memantine and Donepezil)	Capsule	Slow release _a
Naprelan (Naproxen)	Tablet	Extended release
Neoral (CycloSPORINE)	Capsule	Teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Nerlynx (Neratinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Nesina (Alogliptin)	Tablet	Film-coated; manufacturer recommendation
Neurontin (Gabapentin)	Capsule	ISMP recommendation _b
Neurontin (Gabapentin)	Tablet	ISMP recommendation _h
NexIUM (Esomeprazole)	Capsule	Delayed release _a
Niacin	Capsule, tablet	Extended release
Niaspan (Niacin)	Tablet	Extended release
Nifedical XL (NIFEdipine)	Tablet	Extended release
NIFEdipine ER	Tablet	Extended release
Nimotop (Nimodipine)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Ninlaro (Ixazomib)	Capsule	Hazardous substance _k ; manufacturer recommendation
Nitrostat (Nitroglycerin)	Tablet	Sublingual route _g
Nocdurna (Desmopressin)	Tablet	Sublingual route _g
Norpace CR (Disopyramide)	Capsule	Extended release; form within a special capsule
Northera (Droxidopa)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Norvir (Ritonavir)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; crushing tablets has resulted in decreased bioavailability of drug _b ; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Noxafil (Posaconazole)	Tablet	Delayed release _b ; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Nubeqa (Darolutamide)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Nucynta ER (Tapentadol)	Tablet	Extended release; tablet disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose
Nurtec ODT (Rimegepant)	Orally disintegrating tablet	Orally disintegrating _g
Octasa (Mesalamine)	Tablet	Delayed release
Ofev (Nintedanib)	Capsule	Taste
Ogsiveo (Nirogacestat)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Ojemda (Tovorafenib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Ojjaara (Momelotinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Omtryg (Omega-3 Fatty Acids)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; contents of capsule may be erosive
Onglyza (SAXagliptin)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Onureg (AzaCITIDine)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Opsumit (Macitentan)	Tablet	Teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Opsynvi (Macitentan and Tadalafil)	Tablet	Film coated; teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Oracea (Doxycycline)	Capsule	Delayed release
Orapred ODT (PrednisoLONE)	Orally disintegrating tablet	Orally disintegrating. Do not break, cut, split, or use partial tablet; may swallow whole or allow tablet to dissolve on tongue.
Oravig (Miconazole)	Buccal tablet	Buccal form
Orenitram (Treprostinil)	Tablet	Slow release
Orgovyx (Relugolix)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Orkambi (Lumacaftor and Ivacaftor)	Tablet	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Orphenadrine Citrate ER	Tablet	Extended release
Ortikos (Budesonide)	Capsule	Extended release
Oseni (Alogliptin and Pioglitazone)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _l
Oserdu (Elacestrant)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Osmolex ER (Amantadine)	Tablet	Extended release _b
Otezla (Apremilast)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; film-coated
Oxaydo (OxyCODONE)	Tablet	Not amenable to crushing; may obstruct feeding tubes _b
Oxtellar XR (OXcarbazepine)	Tablet	Extended release

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
OxyCONTIN (OxyCODONE)	Tablet	Extended release; surrounded by wax matrix; tablet disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose
Oxy-IR (OxyCODONE)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation
OxyMORphone ER	Tablet	Extended release
OxyNeo (OxyCODONE)	Tablet	Extended release
Pancreaze (Pancrelipase)	Capsule	Slow-release _a ; enteric-coated contents
Pancrelipase	Capsule	Slow-release _a ; enteric-coated contents
Paxil CR (PARoxetine)	Tablet	Extended release
Paxil (PARoxetine)	Tablet	Film-coated _b
Pemazyre (Pemigatinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Pentasa (Mesalamine)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Pertzye (Pancrelipase)	Capsule	Slow-release _a ; enteric-coated contents
Pexeva (PARoxetine)	Tablet	Film-coated _b
Phenytek (Phenytoin)	Capsule	Extended release; manufacturer recommendation _l
Piqray (Alpelisib)	Tablet	Film-coated; manufacturer recommendation
Plaquenil (Hydroxychloroquine)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation (for film-coated tablets)
Plendil (Felodipine)	Tablet	Extended release
Pomalyst (Pomalidomide)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Ponvory (Ponesimod)	Tablet	Film-coated; manufacturer recommendation
Pradaxa (Dabigatran)	Capsule	Bioavailability increases by 75% when the pellets are taken without the capsule shell
Prevacid (Lansoprazole)	Capsule	Delayed release _a
Prevacid (Lansoprazole)	Suspension	Slow release. Contains enteric-coated granules. Not for use in NG tubes; mix with water only
Prevacid SoluTab (Lansoprazole)	Tablet	Orally disintegrating. Do not swallow; dissolve in water only and dispense via dosing syringe or NG tube
Prevpac (Lansoprazole, Amoxicillin, and Clarithromycin)	Capsule, tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Prevymis (Letermovir)	Oral pellets, tablets	Manufacturer recommendation
PriLOSEC (Omeprazole)	Capsule	Delayed release _{a,b}
PriLOSEC OTC (Omeprazole)	Tablet	Delayed release
Pristiq (Desvenlafaxine)	Tablet	Extended release
Procardia (NIFEdipine)	Capsule	Pharmacokinetics may be altered if not taken whole
Procardia XL (NIFEdipine)	Tablet	Extended release
Procysbi (Cysteamine)	Capsule	Delayed release _a
Prograf (Tacrolimus)	Capsule	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Prolopa (Benserazide and Levodopa)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Promacta (eltrombopag)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Propecia (Finasteride)	Tablet	Women who are, or may become, pregnant should not handle crushed or broken tablets due to teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Proscar (Finasteride)	Tablet	Women who are, or may become, pregnant should not handle crushed or broken tablets due to teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Protonix (Pantoprazole)	Tablet	Slow release _b
Purinethol (Mercaptopurine)	Tablet	Teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Pylera (Bismuth Subcitrate, Metronidazole, and Tetracycline)	Capsule	Mucous membrane irritant
Pyrukynd (Mitapivat)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Pytest (Carbon 14 Urea)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Qelbree (Viloxazine)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Qinlock (Ripretinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Qtern (Dapagliflozin and Saxagliptin)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Qternmet XR (Dapagliflozin, Saxagliptin, and Metformin)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Qudexy XR (Topiramate)	Capsule	Extended release _a
QuiNIDine ER	Tablet	Extended release _b ; enteric-coated
Ranexa (Ranolazine)	Tablet	Slow release
Rapamune (Sirolimus)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k ; pharmacokinetic NanoCrystal technology may be affected _b
Rayaldee (Calcifediol)	Capsule	Extended release
Rayos (PredniSONE)	Tablet	Delayed release _b ; release is dependent upon intact coating
Razadyne ER (Galantamine)	Capsule	Extended release
Rebetol (Ribavirin)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Remeron SolTab (Mirtazapine)	Tablet	Orally disintegrating form _g
Renagel (Sevelamer)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _b ; expands in liquid if broken/ crushed.
Renvela (Sevelamer)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _b ; expands in liquid if broken or crushed
Retevmo (Selpercatinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Revlimid (Lenalidomide)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Revuforj (Revumenib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; tablets may be crushed and dispersed in water
Reyataz (Atazanavir)	Capsule	Oral powder is available; see prescribing information for administration instructions
Reyvow (Lasmiditan)	Tablet	Film-coated; manufacturer recommendation
Rezlidhia (Olutasidenib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Rezurock (Belumosudil)	Tablet	Film-coated; manufacturer recommendation
Ribasphere (Ribavirin)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Rinvoq (Upadacitinib)	Tablet	Extended release
RisperiDONE M-Tab	Orally disintegrating tablet	Orally disintegrating. Do not chew or break tablet; after dissolving under tongue, tablet may be swallowed
Ritalin LA (Methylphenidate)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Ritalin-SR (Methylphenidate)	Tablet	Extended release
Romvimza (Vimsetinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
ROPINIRole ER	Tablet	Extended release
Roszet (Ezetimibe and Rosuvastatin)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Roweepra (LevETIRAcetam)	Tablet	Taste _b
Roweepra ER (LevETIRAcetam)	Tablet	Extended release _b
Rozlytrek (Entrectinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Rukobia (Fostemsavir)	Tablet	Extended release
Rybelsus (Semaglutide)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Rydapt (Midostaurin)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Rytary (Carbidopa and Levodopa)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Rythmol SR (Propafenone)	Capsule	Extended release
Salofalk (Mesalamine)	Tablet	Delayed release
SandIMMUNE (CycloSPORINE)	Capsule	Teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Saphris (Asenapine)	Tablet	Sublingual form _g
Scemblix (Asciminib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Sensipar (Cinacalcet)	Tablet	Tablets are not scored and cutting may cause inaccurate dosage
Seroquel XR (QUEtiapine)	Tablet	Extended release
Siklos (Hydroxyurea)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _n ; hazardous substance _k
Simcor (Niacin and Simvastatin)	Tablet	Tablet contains extended release niacin
Sinemet CR (Carbidopa and Levodopa)	Tablet	Extended release _h
Sirturo (Bedaquiline)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _l
Sitavig (Acyclovir)	Tablet	Buccal tablet; swallowing whole or crushing eliminates or reduces effectiveness
Skyclarys (Omaveloxolone)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; contents may be sprinkled onto two tablespoonsful of applesauce and consumed immediately.
Slo-Niacin (Niacin)	Tablet	Slow release _h
Slow Fe (Ferrous Sulfate)	Tablet	Extended release, manufacturer recommendation _b
Slow Iron (Ferrous Sulfate)	Tablet	Extended release, manufacturer recommendation _b
Slow-Mag (Magnesium Chloride)	Tablet	Delayed release
Slynd (Drospirenone)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance
Solodyn (Minocycline)	Tablet	Extended release
Soriatane (Acitretin)	Capsule	Teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Sotyktu (Deucravacitinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Sovuna (Hydroxychloroquine)	Tablet	Film coated; 300 mg tablet is scored and may be divided but not crushed

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Sporanox (Itraconazole)	Capsule	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Sprycel (Dasatinib)	Tablet	Film-coated. Manufacturer recommendation _n ; active ingredients are surrounded by a wax matrix to prevent health care exposure. Caregivers who are or could become pregnant should not handle crushed or broken tablets; hazardous substance _k
Stalevo (Levodopa, Carbidopa, and Entacapone)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; combining multiple tablets or portions of tablets may lead to an overdose of entacapone
Staxyn (Verdenafil)	Orally disintegrating tablet	Sublingual form _g
Stivarga (Regorafenib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _{k'} ; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Strattera (AtreMOXetine)	Capsule	Capsule contents can cause ocular irritation
Suboxone (Buprenorphine and Naloxone)	Buccal film	Sublingual form _g
Sudafed 12-Hour (Pseudoephedrine)	Capsule	Extended release _b
Sudafed 24-Hour (Pseudoephedrine)	Capsule	Extended release _b
Sular (Nisoldipine)	Tablet	Extended release
Supeudol (OxyCODONE)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation
Sustiva (Efavirenz)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; tablets should not be broken (capsules should be used if dosage adjustment needed)
Symax Duotab (Hyoscyamine)	Tablet	Controlled release
Symax SR (Hyoscyamine)	Tablet	Extended release
Symbravo (Meloxicam and Rizatriptan)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Symdeko (Tezacaftor and Ivacaftor)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Synjardy XR (Empagliflozin and Metformin)	Tablet	Extended release
Syprine (Trentine)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; potential risk of contact dermatitis
Tabloid (Thioguanine)	Tablet	Hazardous substance _{k,o}
Tabrecta (Capmatinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Tafinlar (Dabrafenib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Tafinlar (Dabrafenib)	Table for oral suspension	Do not chew, crush, or swallow whole; tablets for oral suspension are meant to be administered as a liquid
Tagrisso (Osimertinib)	Tablet	Note: May be dissolved in 60 mL of water
Talicia (Omeprazole, Amoxicillin, and Rifabutin)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; delayed release
Talzenna (Talazoparib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Tamoxifen	Tablet	Hazardous substance _{k,o}
Targin (Oxycodone and Naloxone)	Tablet	Extended release; tablet disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose
Tarpeyo (Budesonide)	Capsule	Delayed release

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Tasigna (Nilotinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _j ; hazardous substance _k ; altering capsule may lead to high blood levels, increasing the risk of toxicity
Tavenos (Avacopan)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Taztia XT (DiltiaZEM)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Tazverik (Tazemetostat)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Tecfidera (Dimethyl Fumarate)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; delayed release; irritant
Tegretol-XR (CarBAMazepine)	Tablet	Extended release _b
Temodar (Temozolomide)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _j ; hazardous substance _k . Note: If capsules are accidentally opened or damaged, rigorous precautions should be taken to avoid inhalation or contact of contents with the skin or mucous membranes.
Tepmetko (Tepotinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; tablets may be dispersed in noncarbonated water without crushing
Tessalon Perles (Benzonatate)	Capsule	Swallow whole; pharmacologic action may cause choking if chewed or opened and swallowed.
Teva-Oxycodan (Oxycodone and Aspirin)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Thalomid (Thalidomide)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _j ; teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Theo-24 (Theophylline)	Capsule	Extended release _a ; contains beads that dissolve through GI tract
Theochron (Theophylline)	Tablet	Extended release
Theophylline ER	Tablet	Extended release
Tiazac (DILTIAZem)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Tibsovo (Ivosidenib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Tirosint (Levothyroxine)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; liquid-filled
Tolsura (Itraconazole)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _b
Topamax Sprinkle (Topiramate)	Capsule	Taste _a
Topamax (Topiramate)	Capsule	Taste _a
Topamax (Topiramate)	Tablet	Taste
Toprol XL (Metoprolol Succinate)	Tablet	Extended release _h
Toviaz (Fesoterodine)	Tablet	Extended release
Tracleer (Bosentan)	Tablet	Teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _{j,k} ; women who are or may be pregnant should not handle crushed or broken tablets
TraMADol ER	Tablet	Extended release
Tranexamic Acid	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Trental (Pentoxifylline)	Tablet	Extended release
Tretinoin	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _j
Treximet (Sumatriptan and Naproxen)	Tablet	Unique formulation enhances rapid drug absorption
TriCor (fenofibrate and derivatives)	Tablet	Pharmacokinetic NanoCrystal technology may be affected
Triglide (fenofibrate and derivatives)	Tablet	Pharmacokinetic NanoCrystal technology may be affected

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Trijardy XR (Empagliflozin, Linagliptin, and Metformin)	Tablet	Extended release
Trikafta (Exeacaftor, Tezacaftor, and Ivacaftor)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
TriLipix (Fenofibrate)	Capsule	Extended release
Trokendi XR (Topiramate)	Capsule	Extended release
Trospium and Xanomeline (Cobenify)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; do not open
Trulance (Plecanatide)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; see package insert for instructions on crushing administration
Truqap (Capivasertib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Tukysa (Tucatinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Turalio (Pexidartinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Tylenol 8 Hour (Acetaminophen)	Caplet	Extended release
Uceris (Budesonide)	Tablet	Extended release; coating on tablet designed to break down at pH of ≥ 7
Ultram ER (Tramadol)	Tablet	Extended release. Tablet disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose.
Uniphyll (Theophylline)	Tablet	Slow release
Uptravi (Selexipag)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; film-coated
Urocit-K (Potassium Citrate)	Tablet	Wax-coated; prevents upper GI release
Uroxatral (Alfuzosin)	Tablet	Extended release
Urso Forte (Ursodiol)	Tablet	Tablet is scored and may be split
Vadadustat (Vafseo)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; film-coated
Valcyte (ValGANCiclovir)	Tablet	Irritant potential _b ; teratogenic potential; hazardous substance _k
Vanflyta (Quizartinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Vanrafia (Atrasentan)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Vascepa (Omega-3 Fatty Acids)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Venclexta (Venetoclax)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; film-coated; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Venlafaxine ER	Tablet	Extended release
Veozah (Fezolinetant)	Tablet	Film coated
Verapamil SR	Tablet	Extended release _h
Verelan (Verapamil)	Capsule	Sustained release _a
Verelan PM (Verapamil)	Capsule	Extended release _a
Verzenio (Abemaciclib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
VESIcare (Solifenacin)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; taste
Videx EC (Didanosine)	Capsule	Delayed release; enteric-coated
Viekira XR (Ombitasvir, Paritaprevir, Ritonavir, and Dasabuvir)	Tablet	Extended release; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Viojice (Alpelisib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _n
Vimovo (Naproxen and Esomeprazole)	Tablet	Delayed release

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Vimpat (Lacosamide)	Tablet	Film-coated _{a,b} ; manufacturer recommendation
Viokace (Pancrelipase)	Tablet	Mucous membrane irritant _a
Viramune XR (Nevirapine)	Tablet	Extended release _b
Vitrakvi (Larotrectinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _b
Vivjoa (Oteseconazole)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Vivotif (Typhoid Vaccine)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; enteric-coated
Voltaren-XR (Diclofenac)	Tablet	Extended release
Vonjo (Pacritinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Voranigo (Vorasidenib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Votrient (PAZOPanib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; crushing significantly increases AUC and Tmax; hazardous substance _k
Vumerity (Diroximel Fumarate)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; delayed release
Vykat XR (Diazoxide Choline)	Tablet	Extended release
Vyndamax (Tafamidis)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Vyndaqel (Tafamidis)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Wakix (Pitolisant)	Tablet	Canadian manufacturer recommendation (not in US labeling)
Wayriz (Rilzabrutinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Welireg (Belzutifan)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Wellbutrin (BuPROPion)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Wellbutrin SR (BuPROPion)	Tablet	Extended release
Wellbutrin XL (BuPROPion)	Tablet	Extended release
Widaplik (Amlodipine, Indapamide, and Telmisartan)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Xalkori (Crizotinib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _a ; hazardous substance _k
Xalkori (Crizotinib)	Capsule, coated pellets	Oral pellets contained within the capsule; do not crush or chew pellets; manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k
Xanax XR (ALPRAZolam)	Tablet	Extended release _b
Xartemis XR (Oxycodone and Acetaminophen)	Tablet	Extended release; tablet disruption may cause a potentially fatal overdose
Xeljanz XR (Tofacitinib)	Tablet	Extended release; manufacturer recommendation
Xeloda (Capecitabine)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation _a ; hazardous substance _k
Xenleta (Lefamulin)	Tablet	Film-coated; manufacturer recommendation
Xigduo XR (Dapagliflozin and Metformin)	Tablet	Extended release
Ximino (Minocycline)	Capsule	Extended release
Xolremdi (Mavorixafor)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Xospata (Gilteritinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Xpovio (Selinexor)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Xtampza ER (OxyCODONE)	Capsule	Extended release _{a,b}
Xtandi (Enzalutamide)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

Drug Product	Dosage Form	Reasons/Comments
Xtandi (Enzalutamide)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; film-coated; hazardous substance _k
Yonsa (Abiraterone)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k ; caregivers who are or could be pregnant should wear gloves if handling tablets
Yosprala (Aspirin and Omeprazole)	Tablet	Delayed release
Zegerid OTC (Omeprazole and Sodium Bicarbonate)	Capsule	Delayed release _b
Zegfrovy (Sunvozertinib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Zejula (Niraparib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Zelboraf (Vemurafenib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation (based on tablet properties); hazardous substance _k ; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Zenatane (ISOTretinoin)	Capsule	Mucous membrane irritant; teratogenic potential
Zenpep (Pancrelipase)	Capsule	Delayed release _a ; enteric-coated contents
Zepatier (Elbasvir and Grazoprevir)	Tablet	Pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Zeposia (Ozanimod)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Zituvimet XR (Sitagliptin and Metformin)	Tablet	Extended release
Zokinvy (Lonafarnib)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _a
Zolinza (Vorinostat)	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation _a ; irritant; avoid contact with skin or mucous membranes; use gloves to handle; hazardous substance _k
Zolpidem	Capsule	Manufacturer recommendation
Zolpidem sublingual	Tablet	Sublingual form _a
Zomig-ZMT (ZOLMitriptan)	Tablet	Orally disintegrating form _a
Zonatuss (Benzonatate)	Capsule	Swallow whole; pharmacologic action may cause choking if chewed or opened and swallowed
Zortress (Everolimus)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; mucous membrane irritant; hazardous substance _k ; pharmacokinetic amorphous solid dispersion technology may be affected
Zubsolv (Buprenorphine and Naloxone)	Sublingual tablet	Sublingual form _a
Zunveyl (Benzgalantamine)	Tablet	Delayed release; manufacturer recommendation
Zuplenz (Ondansetron)	Film	Sublingual form _a
Zyban (BuPROPION)	Tablet	Slow release
Zydelig (Idelalisib)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation
Zyflo CR (Zileuton)	Tablet	Extended release
ZyrTEC-D Allergy & Congestion (Cetirizine and Pseudoephedrine)	Tablet	Extended release
Zytiga (Abiraterone)	Tablet	Manufacturer recommendation; hazardous substance _k ; caregivers who are or could be pregnant should wear gloves if handling uncoated or broken, damaged, or crushed tablets

DID YOU KNOW?

Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered

- a. Capsule may be opened and the contents taken without crushing or chewing; soft food, such as applesauce or pudding, may facilitate administration (refer to manufacturer's labeling for specific recommendations); contents may generally be administered via nasogastric tube using an appropriate fluid, provided entire contents are washed down the tube.
- b. Liquid dosage forms of the product are available; however, dose, frequency of administration, and manufacturers may differ from that of the solid dosage form.
- c. Antacids and/or milk may prematurely dissolve the coating of the tablet.
- d. Capsule may be opened and the liquid contents removed for administration.
- e. The taste of this product in a liquid form would likely be unacceptable to the patient; administration via nasogastric tube should be acceptable.
- f. Effervescent tablets must be dissolved in the amount of diluent recommended by the manufacturer.
- g. Tablets/film are made to disintegrate under (or on) the tongue.
- h. Tablet is scored and may be broken in half without affecting release characteristics.
- i. Skin contact may enhance tumor production; avoid direct contact.
- j. Prescribing information recommends that women who are, or may become, pregnant should not handle medication, especially if crushed or broken; avoid direct contact.
- k. Potentially hazardous or hazardous substance; refer to institution-specific guidelines for precautions to observe when handling this substance.
- l. Altering (e.g., chewing, crushing, splitting, opening) the dosage form has not been studied, according to the manufacturer.
- m. The manufacturer's labeling states tablets should not be broken; however, available data do not indicate any safety or efficacy concerns with this practice.
- n. For patients unable to swallow whole, capsules may be opened or tablet may be dispersed in liquid; follow manufacturer instructions for preparation and administration. Use appropriate handling precautions if indicated.
- o. There are published reports of compounded extemporaneous preparation (refer to drug monograph). Use appropriate handling precautions if indicated.
- p. In some cases, dosage form may be opened and/or crushed for enteral feeding tube administration; refer to drug monograph for detailed recommendations.

References

Lexidrug Online, Oral Medications That Should Not Be Crushed or Altered. Waltham, MA: UpToDate, Inc.; September 15, 2025. https://online.lexi.com/lco/action/doc/retrieve/docid/patch_f/4227#monograph-tab-content. Accessed September 19, 2025.