MEDCOAT® *Tablet coating*

A new innovation that makes tablets easier to swallow ...and masks bitter taste!









MEDCOAT®

- Studies show that as many as 25 % of the population have difficulty swallowing tablets.
- MEDCOAT® tablet coating offers an easy and effective solution for people with difficulty swallowing tablets.
- MEDCOAT® can be used for tablets and capsules of different size and shape. Also for divided tablets.



Many patients have difficulty swallowing tablets

Difficulties in swallowing tablets and capsules is a widespread problem among patients. Two large groups that often have difficulty swallowing tablets are children (e.g. when taking bad tasting medicine such as antibiotics) and elderly with swallowing disorders (e.g. due to dysphagia or xerostomia).

Many adults also have difficulty taking tablets. In a Norwegian study of 6158 persons, 30 % of the women and 15 % of the men stated that they had difficulty swallowing tablets [1].

The high frequency of difficulties swallowing tablets is also reflected by the common practice of crushing tablets. However, many tablets shall not be crushed (e.g. entero, sustained release, etc) and crushed tablets often taste very bad.

Difficulties taking tablets not only cause inconvenience for a large proportion of the population, it can also have a negative impact on patient compliance, which in turn decreases the effect of the medication [2].

MEDCOAT®

MEDCOAT® is a new innovative and award winning product with which the user himself can apply a coating to tablets, capsules or pills, just before taking them.

MEDCOAT® makes tablets:

- **Easier to swallow**
  The coating is slippery and saliva stimulating which make tablets easier to swallow.
- **Taste good**
  The coating masks the taste of tablets and replaces it with a pleasant and refreshing taste of citrus.

MEDCOAT® is sold in pharmacies as a consumer health care product without any connection to a specific drug. MEDCOAT® can be used to coat tablets and capsules of different size and shape. MEDCOAT® can also be used for divided tablets and the coating then also effectively camouflages the sharp edges and the bad taste at the surface of fracture.



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1 Andersen Ø, Zweidorf O-K, Hjelde T, Rødland EA: Problemer med å svelge tabletter [Problems when swallowing tablets. A questionnaire study from general practice]. Tidsskr Nor Laegeforen 1995;115:947-9.

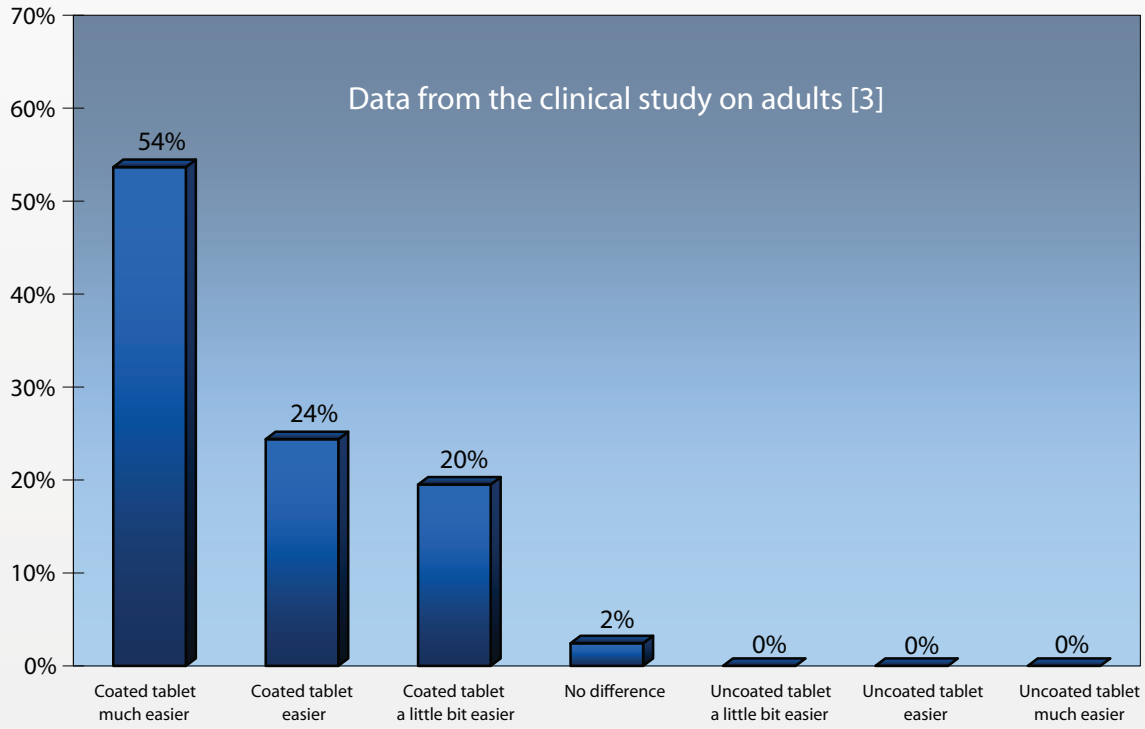
2 Overgard A, Højsted J, Hansen R, Møller – Sonnergaard J, Christrup: Patients' evaluation of shape, size and colour of solid dosage forms. Pharm World Sci 2001; 5:185-8.

Clinical studies

Two clinical studies have been performed on MEDCOAT®.

In a study on adults with difficulty swallowing tablets 98 % of the subjects stated that it was easier to swallow tablets coated with MEDCOAT® compared to identical uncoated tablets. The study also showed that MEDCOAT® could completely camouflage the taste of a bitter flavoured tablet for 100 % of the subjects. The study has been published in Pharmacy World & Science (International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy) [3]

Another study at Karolinska University Hospital on sick children aged 2-17 years with difficulties taking their medication found that MEDCOAT® made it easier to swallow tablets for 87% of the children and improved palatability for 85%. The study has been published in the journal Acta Pædiatrica. [4]



MEDCOAT® is safe to use

MEDCOAT® contains only common food ingredients (approx. 0.2g/coating) and is classified and sold as a food product. A study has been performed at the Drug Research and Information Centre (DRIC) at the Karolinska University Hospital in Stockholm to verify that none of the ingredients in MEDCOAT® are known to interact with medicines [5]. The study found no risk for interaction.

Further more, disintegration tests have been performed that show that the coating dissolves quickly off the tablet after swallowing and the coating will therefore not hinder the release of the drug [6]. Since the product was launched millions of tablets have been coated with MEDCOAT® without any adverse events.

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3 Uloza V, Ulozienė I, Gradauskienė E: A randomized cross-over study to evaluate the swallow-enhancing and taste-masking properties of a novel coating for oral tablets. Pharm World Sci: 2010;32, 420-3.

4 El Edelbi R, Eksborg S, Lindemalm S. In situ coating makes it easier for children to swallow and tolerate tablets and capsules. Acta Pædiatrica 2015;104, 956–961

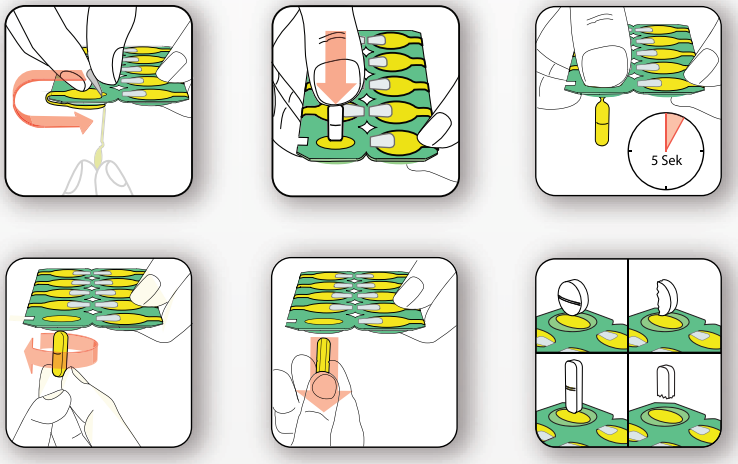
5 Sjöqvist F, et al. Regarding possible risks for interactions between drugs and substances in the tablet coating developed by Med Coat. Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Karolinska Institutet. March 2005.

6 Alderborn G, Olsson C. An investigation of the effect of a coating applied by the MedCoat coating device on the disintegration time of some preparations. Dept of Pharmacy, Uppsala University. Dec 2009.

How to use MEDCOAT®

Each applicator (10, 20 or 30 per package) can be used to coat two small or one big tablet.

Before taking a tablet, a peel-off foil should be removed from one of the applicators. The coating is then applied by pushing the tablet through the applicator and out through the opening in the elastic membrane in the bottom, which widens and applies a thin, even coating over the entire tablet. Wait for five seconds and then twist the tablet two turns and remove it by pulling quickly. The coated tablet should then be swallowed with recommended amount of water.



MEDCOAT® can be used when patients:

- Have difficulty swallowing (dysphagia) or feel discomfort swallowing tablets
- Should take big and/or hard to swallow tablets, especially when they should not be crushed
- Should take bad tasting medicine (e.g. cortisone, antibiotics, metformin, etc.)
- Suffer from dry mouth (xerostomia) causing difficulties swallowing tablets

MEDCOAT® can help health care professionals:

- Fewer tablets must be crushed and mixed with food (can save time during administration)
- Reduced need for alternative often expensive dosage forms
- Eliminates the risks associated with crushing tablets
- Can improve compliance

Ingredients in MEDCOAT®

Sweetening agent (maltitol syrup), vegetable fat, citric acid, emulsifier (sugar esters of fatty acids), gelatine, natural colour (curcumin), natural flavours.

Patents

MEDCOAT® is patented in EU, USA, China, Japan and South Africa.

Supplied

MEDCOAT® is supplied in resealable pouches. Each pouch contains 10, 20 or 30 applicators and a leaflet.

Manufacturer

MEDCOAT® is a product developed and manufactured by Med Coat AB, a Swedish company based in Tyresö (Stockholm area), with a production facility in Karlshamn, Sweden.

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