|  |
| --- |
| Citalopram |
| Preparations listed in the Drug tariff**Hover the mouse over the £ for DT prices** | [**Part VIIIA (hover the mouse here for more info):**](#PartVIIIa) | **DT price** |
| Citalopram 10mg, 20mg, 40mg tablet | [**£**](#_Citalopram) |
| Citalopram 40mg/ml oral drops sugar free | £13.75 for 15ml |
| [**Part VIIIB (hover the mouse here for more info):**](#PartVIIIb) | **DT price** |
| None |  |
| Administration in swallowing difficulties |
| Oral drops: Four drops (8mg) is equivalent in therapeutic effect to a 10mg tablet1,2,3.The oral drops can be mixed with water, orange juice or apple juice before taking1,2,3.The tablets may be crushed and dispersed in water (unlicensed use) but they may taste unpleasant4. |
| Administration in enteral feeding tube |
| Four drops (8mg) is equivalent in therapeutic effect to a 10mg tablet1,2,3.Oral drops (unlicensed use)5: Stop the feed and flush. Add the correct number of drops to 10ml water in a suitable container. Draw up the solution with a syringe and administer. Rinse the container with a further 10ml water and flush. Flush the tube.Advanz Pharma and Thame Laboratories do not have any information on administering their oral solution via a feeding tube6,7.Tablets- Mylan brand (unlicensed use)5: Stop the feed and flush. Place the tablet in the barrel of the syringe with 10ml water and shake gently for 5 minutes, flush. Rinse the syringe with 10ml water and flush. Flush the tube.Cipramil tablets: Lundbeck cannot recommend as this is unlicensed use, however, there is no pharmacological reason why this cannot be crushed, mixed with water then given immediately via a feeding tube. Because the tablets are not very soluble, it would be prudent to ensure the tube is flushed through afterwards to prevent clogging.A number of generic manufacturers were contacted and had no information on administering their brand of citalopram tablets via a feeding tube. The contact information and responses are kept on file.  |
| Comments |
| None |
| References1. Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC). Cipramil drops 40mg/ml (Lundbeck) last updated December 2017 [www.medicine.org.uk](http://www.medicine.org.uk) date accessed 6/1/2020
2. SPC Citalopram drops 40mg/ml (Advanz Pharma) last updated 2/9/2019 [www.medicine.org.uk](http://www.medicine.org.uk) date accessed 6/1/2020
3. SPC Citalopram drops 40mg/ml (Thame Laboratories) last updated 6/9/2019 [www.medicine.org.uk](http://www.medicine.org.uk) date accessed 6/1/2020
4. The NEWT guidelines for administration of medication to patients with enteral feeding tubes or swallowing difficulties. 2nd updated edition 2015
5. White R and Bradnam V. Handbook of Drug Administration via enteral feeding tubes. 3rd edition, 2015. Pharmaceutical Press
6. Email on file: Citalopram. Thame Laboratories, Medical Affairs. Received 20 December 2019
7. Email on file: Citalopram. Advanz Pharma, Medical Information. Received 5 December 2019
8. Email on file: Cipramil. Lundbeck, Medical Information. Received 10 January 2020
9. Drug Tariff January 2020 <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliance-contractors/drug-tariff>
 |
| **Please note: full instructions should be provided to the person administering the medicine. This is guidance only and should not determine individualised care.** |
| **Author: Vicki Kong, QIPP Programme Pharmacist, BHR CCGs****Approved by BHR CCGs Area Prescribing sub-Committees via Chairs action: June 2020** |
| Review date: June 2022 | Version: 1.1 |