

SENIOR INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

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Don't Crush These Drugs!

Many drug forms are made to release their active ingredients over a certain period of time or at preset points after administration. The disruptions caused by crushing or chewing these drug forms can dramatically affect the absorption rate and increase the risk of adverse reactions.

Other reasons not to crush or chew these drug forms include such considerations as taste, tissue irritation, and unusual formulation—for example, a capsule within a capsule, a liquid within a capsule, or a multiple-compressed tablet. Avoid crushing the following drugs, listed by brand name, for the reasons noted beside them (see key below).

Accutane (IR)	Colestid (PC)	E-Mycin (EC)
Aciphex (DR)	Compazine Spansules (SR)	Entex LA (SR)
Adalat CC (SSR)	Concerta (ER)	Entex PSE (SR)
Advicor (ER)	Congess SR (SSR)	Eryc (EC)
Aggrenox (ER)	Contact 12 Hour, Maximum Strength 12 Hour (SR)	Ery-Tab (EC)
Allegra-D (ER)	Cotazym-S (EC)	Erythrocin Stearate (EC)
Altacor (ER)	Covera-HS (ER)	Erythromycin Base (EC)
Amnesteem (IR)	Creon (EC)	Eskalith CR (SR)
Arthrotec (DR)	Cytovene (IR)	Extendryl JR, SR (SR)
Asacol (DR)	Dallergy, Dallergy-JR (SR)	Feldene (MMI)
Augmentin XR (ER)	Deconamine SR (SR)	Feosol (EC)
Avinza (ER)	Depakene (SR, MMI)	Feratab (EC)
Azulfidine EN-tabs (EC)	Depakote (EC)	Fergon (SR)
Bellergal-S (SR)	Depakote ER (ER)	Fero-Folic 500 (SR)
Biaxin XL (ER)	Desyrel (TS)	Fero-Grad-500 (SR)
Bisacodyl (EC)	Dexedrine Spansule (SR)	Ferro-Sequel (SR)
Bontril Slow-Release (SR)	Diamox Sequels (SR)	Feverall Children's Capsules, Sprinkle (TS)
Breonesin (LF)	Dilacor XR (ER)	Flomax (SR)
Brexin L.A. (SR)	Dilatrate-SR (SR)	Fumatinic (SR)
Bromfed, Bromfed-PD (SR)	Diltia XT (ER)	Geocillin (TS)
Calan SR (SSR)	Dimetapp Extentabs (SR)	Glucophage XR (ER)
Carbatrol (ER)	Ditropan XL (SR)	Glucotrol XL (SR)
Cardizem CD, LA, SR (SR)	Dolobid (IR)	Guaifed (SR)
Cartia XT (ER)	Drisdol (LF)	Guaifed-PD, Guaifenex LA (SR)
Ceclor CD (SR)	Dristan (PC)	Guaifenex PSE (SR)
Ceftin (SPT)	Drixoral (SR)	Humibid DM, LA, Pediatric (SR)
Charcoal Plus DS (EC)	Dulcolax (EC)	Hydergine LC (LC)
Chlor-Trimeton Allergy 8-hour and 12-hour (SR)	DynaCirc CR (SR)	Hytakerol (LF)
Choledyl SA (SR)	Easprin (EC)	Iberet (SR)
Cipro XR (ER)	Ecotrin (EC)	
Claritin-D 12-hour or 24-hour (SR)	Ecotrin Maximum Strength (EC)	
Colace (LC)	E.E.S. 400 Filmtab (EC)	
Colazal (GC, must reach colon intact)	Effexor XR (ER)	
	Emend (HGC)	

ICAPS Plus, Time Release (SR)	Pancrease, Pancrease MT (EC)	Ten-K (SR)
Imdur (SR)	Paxil CR (CR)	Tenuate Dospan (SR)
Inderal LA (SR)	PCE Dispertabs (SR)	Tessalon Perles (SR)
Indocin SR (SR)	Pentasa (CR)	Theobid Duracaps (SR)
InnoPran XL (ER)	Phazyme, Phazyme 95 (SR)	Theochron (SR)
Ionamin (SR)	Phenylek (ER)	Theoclear LA (SR)
Isoptin SR (SSR)	Plendil (SR)	Theolair-SR (SR)
Isordil Sublingual (SL)	Prelu-2 (SR)	Theo-Sav (SR)
Isordil Tembids (SR)	Prevacid, Prevacid SoluTab (DR)	Theospan-SR (SR)
Isosorbide Dinitrate Sublingual (SL)	Prilosec (SR)	Theo-24 (SR)
Kaon-CI (SR)	Prilosec OTC (DR)	Theovent (SR)
K-Dur (SR)	Pro-Banthine (TS)	Theo-X (SR)
Klor-Con (SR)	Procambid (SR)	Thorazine Spansules (SR)
Klotrix (SR)	Procardia (DA)	Tiazac (SSR)
K-Tab (SR)	Procardia XL (SR)	Topamax (TS)
Levbid (SR)	Protonix (DR)	Toprol XL (ER)
Levsinex Timecaps (SR)	Proventil Repetabs (SR)	T-Phyl (SR)
Lithobid (SR)	Prozac Weekly (SR)	Trental (SR)
Macrobid (SR)	Quibron-T/SR (SR)	Trinalin Repetabs (SR)
Mestinon Timespans (SR)	Quinidex Extentabs (SR)	Tylenol Extended Relief (SR)
Metadate CD, ER (ER)	Respire SR (SR)	Uniphyl (SR)
Methylin ER (ER)	Respbid (SR)	Vantin (TS)
Micro-K Extencaps (SR)	Risperdal M-Tab (DR)	Verelan, Verelan PM (SR)
Motrin (TS)	Ritalin-LA, -SR (SR)	Volmax (SR)
MS Contin (SR)	Rondec-TR (SR)	Voltaren (EC)
Mucinex (ER)	Sinemet CR (SR)	Voltaren-XR (ER)
Naprelan (SR)	Slo-bid Gyrocaps (SR)	Wellbutrin SR (SSR)
Nexium (SSR)	Slo-Niacin (SR)	Xanax XR (ER)
Niaspan (ER)	Slo-Phyllin GG, Gyrocaps (SR)	Zerit XR (ER)
Nitroglyn (SR)	Slow-FE (SR)	Zomig-ZMT (DR)
Nitrong (SR)	Slow-K (SR)	ZORprin (SR)
Nitrostat (SL)	Slow-Mag (SR)	Zyban (SR)
Norflex (SR)	Sorbitrate (SL)	Zyrtec-D 12 hour (ER)
Norpace CR (SR)	Sotret (IR)	
Oramorph SR (SR)	Sudafed 12 Hour (SR)	
Oruvail (ER)	Sustaire (SR)	
OxyContin (SR)	Tegretol-XR (ER)	

Key: **CR** — controlled release; **DA** — delayed absorption; **DR** — delayed release; **EC** — enteric coated; **ER** — enteric release; **GC** — granules within capsule; **HGC** — hard gelatin capsule; **IR** — irritant; **LC** — liquid within capsule; **LF** — liquid filled; **MMI** — mucous membrane irritant; **PC** — protective coating; **SL** — sublingual; **SPT** — strong, persistent taste; **SR** — slow release; **SSR** — sustained release; **TS** — taste

Source : Spring Nurse's Drug Guide 2005, Lippincott William & Wilkins, 2005.