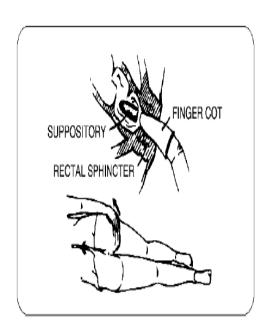






How to Use Rectal Suppositories Properly



- 1. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
- 2. If the suppository is soft, hold it under cool water to harden it before removing the wrapper.
- 3. Remove the wrapper, if present.
- 4. If you were told to use half of the suppository, cut it lengthwise with a clean, single-edge razor blade.
- 5. Put on a finger cot or disposable glove, if desired (available at a pharmacy).
- 6. Lubricate the suppository tip with a water-soluble lubricant such as K-Y Jelly, not petroleum jelly (Vaseline). If you do not have this lubricant, moisten your rectal area with cool tap water.
- 7. Lie on your side with your lower leg straightened out and your upper leg bent forward toward your stomach.
- 8. Lift upper buttock to expose the rectal area.
- 9. Insert the suppository, pointed end first, with your finger until it passes the muscular sphincter of the rectum, about 1/2 to 1 inch in infants and 1 inch in adults. If not inserted past this sphincter, the suppository may pop out.
- 10. Hold buttocks together for a few seconds.
- 11. Remain lying down for about 15 minutes to avoid having the suppository come out.
- 12. Discard used materials and wash your hands thoroughly.