

Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Products with a short shelf life

Certain oral preparations and ointments have a short shelf life once they have been opened.

The following list is not exhaustive and is only intended to cover some of the most frequently used products. Please add your own products as they become known to you. NB: Many specials will have a short shelf life.

This guidance has been produced by the RPSGB to help support clinical governance in pharmacy and should be linked to the date checking guidance.

Item	Shelf life once opened
Asasantin Retard	6 weeks
Cam Liquid	4 weeks
Chlorpromazine Syrup 25mg/5ml & 100mg/5ml (Rosemont)	6 months
Ditropan elixir	28 days
Folicare (Rosemont)	4 weeks
Frusol liquid (Rosemont)	3 months
Gastrocote liquid	1 month
Largactil Syrup	1 month
Neoral Oral Solution 100mg/ml	2 months
Oramorph 10mg/5ml	90 days
Persantin Retard Capsules	6 weeks
Phenergan Elixir	1 month
Risperdal Liquid 1mg/ml	3 months

Top tips:

- When any liquid preparation is opened it is advisable to write on the container either the date the product was opened or the date the product expires, to avoid the supply of a medicine whose integrity is unknown.
- Remember to add the date of expiry to the label of the dispensed medicine.

For the most up to date resource tool please refer to the RPSGB website:

<http://www.rpsgb.org/protectingthepublic/inspectorate/>

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For all your legal and ethical inquiries please contact the RPSGB advisory service on 020 7572 2308