

## PRESCRIPTION TYPES

Prescriptions can be classified as compounded and noncompounded.

**Compounded prescription**, also called *formula magistralis* (from Latin word magister – teacher) or *extemporaneous prescription* is an order that requires mixing of one or more ingredients (active medicaments) with one or more pharmaceutical necessities (vehicle, suspending agent). The physician selects the drugs, doses, and pharmaceutical form that he/she desires and the pharmacist prepares the medication accordingly. The name of each drug is placed on a separate line right under the preceding one. The order of ingredients is as follows: ***Remedium cardinale (basis)***. The basis is the principal drug and gives the prescription its chief action.

***Remedium adjuvans (adjuvant)***. As the name suggests, the adjuvant is a drug that aids or increases the action of the principal ingredient.

***Remedium corrigens (corrective)***. The corrective modifies or corrects undesirable effects of the basic or adjuvant.

***Remedium constituens (vehicle)***. The vehicle is the agent used as a solvent in the solution, to increase the size and volume, or to dilute the mixture. The most potent or principal drug is written first, the other ingredient second, and the vehicle last, as shown in the example.

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