

Practice 12.2.

Zinc Ointment (BP 1999)
Unguentum Zinci Oxydi

Zinc oxide	15 g
Simple ointment	85 g

Zinc oxide is put into the mortar and a few drops of liquid paraffin is placed on it. The mixture is well ground. The half of simple ointment is weighted in a porcelain dish and it is melted on the water bath. The hot melted simple ointment is added to the zinc oxide and it is mixed until smooth ointment is obtained. Then the remainder of the simple ointment is added and mixed thoroughly.

Questions:

1. For what purposes is this ointment used?
2. Apply your ointment to your hand and wash. How is the washable feature of this formulation?

Practice 12.10.

Zinc oxide paste (USP 27 – NF 22)
Pasta Zinci Oxydi

Zinc oxide	25 g
Starch	25 g
Soft petrolatum	50 g

Starch and zinc oxide are thoroughly mixed in a mortar. Soft petrolatum is melted on the water bath and it is added to the mortar. The ingredients should be mixed until a homogeneous paste is formed.

1. What is the purpose of this formulation?
2. What is the difference between Paste and Ointment?
3. What is Calamine? Which ingredients should it include according to various pharmacopoeias?