Capsule Dosing the Rabbit Performed by One Person

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Torpac's empty gelatin capsules provide a convenient method of orally dosing the rabbit offering several advantages to both the animal and the technician. An adult rabbit can easily swallow capsules as large as Torpac's Size 00.¹

Capsules are an ideal dosing vehicle when working with substances with poor dissolution as you can be sure the entire dose is taken. Capsules also mask the odor or taste of substances that rabbits find unpleasant. You are also assured that the full dose has been taken.

The rabbit is easily restrained when placed in a cat bag. The cat bag leaves the head of the rabbit exposed for easy and safe handling, and facilitates dosing by one person.

To dose capsules, a soft plastic dosing tube may be used.² Insert the filled capsule into the dosing tube so that the short end of the capsule protrudes slightly from the tip of the tube. The tip of the capsule may be dipped in mineral oil to aid swallowing.

Grasp the head firmly with one hand about the maxilla. Insert the dosing tube containing the capsule behind the incisors. Then slide the dosing tube straight into the back of the mouth. Now eject the capsule by pushing the plunger then remove the dosing tube and close the rabbit's mouth. Stroke the neck gently to facilitate swallowing.

The radiograph demonstrates a barium filled capsule descending into the esophagus.

For additional information about dosing the rabbit, see "Capsule Administration in the Rabbit Using a Modified Syringe" by Patrick M. Vanatta, *Laboratory Animal Science*, 1987, Vol. 37, #3, pp. 367-386.

E-Mail us for dosing guides on other species.

^{1,2} Available from Torpac Capsules.

Torpac's gelatin capsules are for professional use by or in consultation with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.

For free samples, information on filling machines, or assistance with research or other industrial uses contact us.





Plastic Dosing Tube & Capsule



Rabbit Restrained in Cat Bag



Dosing Capsule



Radiograph Showing Capsule in Esophagus