

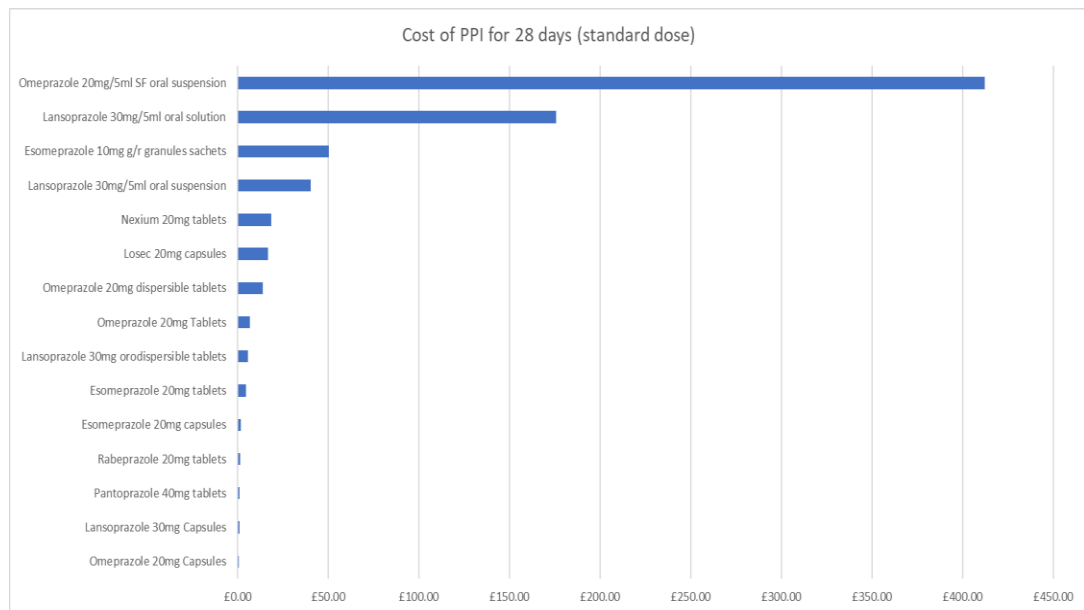
Acid suppression in Adult patients

Proton Pump Inhibitors (PPIs) are one of the most widely prescribed medicines in the NHS. PPIs inhibit the production of stomach acid, are used for many diseases and conditions in all age groups, but especially in children age < 1 year and in older adults.

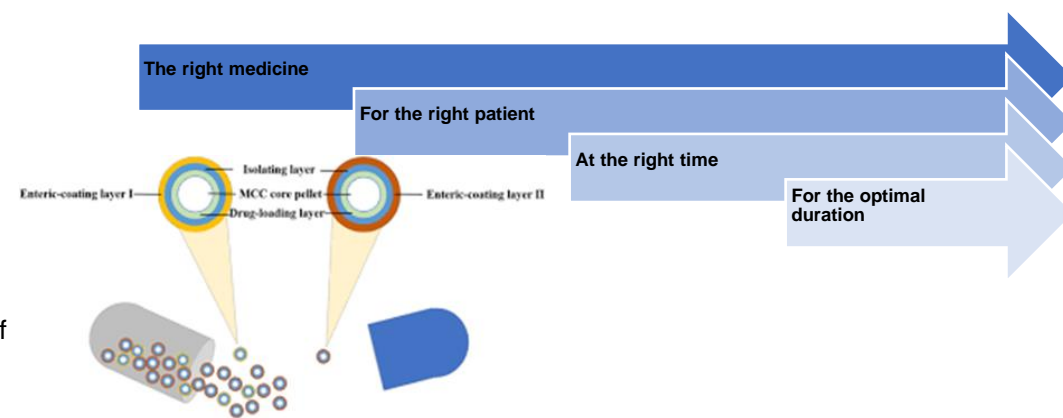
Liquid PPI is LESS clinically effective than other formulations- Do not prescribe.

When PPIs reach the stomach, they are, to a significant extent, destroyed by the acidic environment, which is why most of the preparations are enteric coated: individual granules inside capsules, dispersible tablets, and other formulations. This enteric coating protects the medicine until it reaches the small intestine, where the environment is more alkali, where the coating dissolves and the medicine is absorbed without being destroyed.

The medicine in the licensed oral omeprazole suspension, and all the unlicensed PPI oral suspensions and solutions are not enteric coated, and therefore only a small proportion of the medicine will be available for absorption and have a useful clinical effect. This is why we are recommending the switching of all PPI oral suspensions and solutions to one of the approved formulations.



All licensed PPIs (with the exception of omeprazole oral powder for solution and other unlicensed PPI solutions) are equal in terms of clinical efficacy. The formulary recommendations are based primarily on cost. Where indicated for the purpose of administration through enteral feeding tubes, the size of the enteric coated granules in the formulation are also considered. The omeprazole powder for oral solution (and all other unlicensed PPI solutions) should not be prescribed in adults as there are clinically superior choices.



For people with no swallowing difficulties:	For patients who cannot swallow tablets/have swallowing difficulties:	For patients with enteral feeding tubes:
FIRST LINE		
Lansoprazole capsules (preferred)	Lansoprazole orodispersible tablets	Lansoprazole orodispersible tablets
Omeprazole capsules		
Esomeprazole capsules		
SECOND LINE		
Pantoprazole tablets (Suitable for patients that cannot have animal-derived products)	Lansoprazole capsules	Lansoprazole capsules
Rabeprazole tablets (Suitable for patients that cannot have animal-derived products)	Omeprazole capsules	<i>Some capsules are licensed to be opened and have their contents mixed with water, apple/tomato juice, or sprinkled on soft food (e.g. yogurt, apple puree) to help people with swallowing difficulties. Some brands are licensed for enteral feeding tubes 14F or larger (check SPC) Bead size: Large (~1mm).</i>
	<i>Some capsules are licensed to be opened and have their contents mixed with water, apple/tomato juice, or sprinkled on soft food (e.g. yogurt, apple puree) to help people with swallowing difficulties.</i>	
THIRD LINE		
	Esomeprazole granule sachets	Esomeprazole granule sachets
		<i>Bead size: Small ~0.2mm Sachet contains beads and a thickening agent, Tastes slightly sweet and unoffensive. For use in enteral feeding tubes FR<6.</i>

Use the medicine with the lowest acquisition costs which meets the clinical requirements.