World Health Pictograms
Instructions for Use


Made possible through the contribution of the Military and Emergency Pharmacy Section of the FIP. These pictograms can be used freely under the condition that the authorship is recognized.

FIP / MEPS Website

Version 1.3 Dated 05 June 2009
Region / Language

Step 1: Choose Region

The region chosen is determined by the person administering the medication and is a judgment made based on the region of origin of the patient. This is because the region selected determines the set of pictograms that is available to use as some of the pictograms have a cultural basis. (For example, if the patient is a Cambodian who has recently immigrated to Europe, the region selected would be South-East Asia.) If the patient is an immigrant who has assimilated the local culture, then the region selected may well be determined as the local region. The selected region is chosen by clicking on the button (see example below).

![Region Selection](image)

Step 2: Choose Language

The World Health Pictograms program is available in the WHO standard languages: English, Spanish, French, Russian, Chinese and Arabic. Select the language that is preferred by the patient. (E.g. Chinese, French).

![Language Selection](image)

Step 3: Open program

Once the region and language are selected, click ‘OK’ to enter the program.

![OK Button](image)
Patient Directions

To comply with international best standard of practice it is important to enter the written directions for the medication instructions onto the pictogram label.

Step 4: Enter Patient / Medication Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Patient's ID:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medication:</td>
<td>Date:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directions:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisation:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) In the name field, enter the patient’s first and last name.

(b) In the medication field, enter the generic name of the drug in use.

(c) In the directions field, enter the directions for use for this medication (sig).

(d) In the organisation field, enter the name of the organisation that has provided the medication.

(e) In the patient ID field, enter the unique patient identifier used by the organisation.

(f) In the date field, enter the current day, month and year.

Example: Completed patient directions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Patient Name</th>
<th>Patient's ID: AB 123456</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medication:</td>
<td>Tab Placebo 500mg</td>
<td>Date: 29 May 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directions:</td>
<td>Take ONE tablet three times daily</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisation:</td>
<td>Registered HealthCare Provider Ltd</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Pictogram Storyboard**

The Pictogram Storyboard was developed around two key points. The first is that each pictogram is designed to illustrate one point only as it is easier for patients to comprehend a series of pictograms that build up a set of instructions rather than a smaller number of more complex pictograms. The second point is that region of origin of the patient is selected because research has established that some pictograms require a cultural element to enhance patient comprehension.

**Adding Pictograms**

The pictograms that can be added to the storyboard are available on the right end side of the screen under the tabs. The process of adding the pictograms to the storyboard is done by clicking on the appropriate pictogram.

**Step 5: Adding Dose**

Click on the “Dose / Route” tab, a list of tabs (oral, ear, etc.) will appear.

Click on the appropriate route.

Select the appropriate dosage instruction by clicking on the pictogram.
This pictogram will then appear under the “Dose / Route” on the storyboard to the left. Furthermore, the corresponding text will appear at the top of the “Dose / Route” section.

Example: Two tablets chosen as the dose required

The completed dosage instruction will appear as in the example below (for a medication that should be taken with food).
Removing Pictogram

To remove pictograms from the storyboard, just click on the pictograms you want to delete and it will be removed. To delete all the pictograms on the storyboard, click the “Erase” button.
Adding Dose - Graduated Spoon/Syringe

If you select an oral dosage form to be administered using a graduated medicine spoon or syringe, the image will appear on the left hand side, replacing the Indication frame.

![Graduated Spoon/Syringe Image]

Enter the volume (mL) on the box beside the spoon pictogram (and hit “enter”).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Precautions</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Dose / Route</th>
<th>Indication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You will now notice that the correct volume of liquid is displayed in the measuring device and on the storyboard pictogram.
Step 6: Adding Frequency

Click the “Frequency” tab.

A new list of tabs will appear.

Click on any appropriate pictograms and they will appear under the “Frequency” section of the pictogram.
Step 7: Adding Precautions

Click on the “Precautions” tab.

Click on any appropriate precautions.

This then populates the precautions field on the storyboard.

**Note:** There is also an option to click on the “All” button. This will bring up tabs for criteria for all three sections of the pictogram.
Step 8: Print Pictogram

When all fields have been filled in, click on the print button.

The pictogram will then be printed to your default printer.

Step 9: Indication

Lastly, you may circle or draw markers on the outline of the human body under the “Indication” section to represent the site of action of the medication. This drawing is done by hand after the storyboard is printed. It should be done in front of the patient so that they are able to associate a medication with the particular indication.