Capsule Dosing the Rat

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Torpac's Size 9 empty gelatin minicapsules provide a convenient method of orally dosing laboratory rats 200 gm + (150 gm min.) using a dosing syringe.

1. A stainless steel dosing syringe is used. The capsule should be inserted body (longer piece) first into the opening at the tip of the syringe.

2. The dosing syringe is used similarly to a gavage needle. Restrain the rat by grasping the scruff of the neck. Place the tip of the syringe in the center of the mouth and follow the ridges on the roof of the mouth. Tip the rat's nose back with the shaft of the dosing syringe. This aids the rat in swallowing the tip of the dosing syringe.

3. The dosing syringe will drop down the esophagus with gentle pressure. The entire shaft of the dosing syringe should be swallowed to assure correct placement of the capsule. Now eject the capsule by pushing the syringe plunger.

4. The radiograph shows correct placement of the dosing syringe and ejection of a barium filled capsule in bottom of the esophagus. After ejection, carefully remove the syringe from the rat's mouth. Close the rat's mouth and stroke the neck gently to facilitate swallowing. The capsule will dissolve within 10 minutes in the stomach.

For more information on Size 9 minicapsules ask for our publication "Minicapsules For Laboratory Rats & Guinea Pigs" which reviews dosing time, typical applications, etc.

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.