ATC (Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical) CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM:
We recently incorporated the World Health Organization’s ATC system into the Unisolv dispensing program. To make use of this feature, enter the relevant detail in the dispensing program, until the cursor is at the quantity to be dispensed. Then press <Page Down>.

A block will appear at the bottom of the page, giving the ATC classification for the relevant drug.
If <Enter> is pressed once more, so that the cursor is at the “Cost Plus Price” field, a message appears at the bottom of the page – indicating that <TAB> can be entered to see the Generics for the relevant drug, and <F2> to see Therapeutic Equivalents.
If <F2> is entered, all products classified under the same ATC code as the relevant drug, will appear. In this example, all products containing Ramipril (regardless of the strength) appear as therapeutic equivalents for Tritace 5mg. In most (however, not all) cases - for drugs that can be administered via more than one route, the ATC system allocated more than one code to the relevant active ingredient (e.g. Metronidazole, than can be administered topically, orally or intravenously). For some products with more than one active ingredient, an ATC code was allocated to that specific combination (e.g. Ramipril and Hydrochlorothiazide) – but not in all cases. If there is no ATC code for the specific combination, the product was classified under the most suitable ACT code.
If \(<F2>\) is now entered to show the therapeutic equivalents, all the drugs classified under the same ATC code (in this example, the ATC code for Spasmogel is A02AG00), will appear. Of course, all antacids can be considered as therapeutic equivalents. Our aim was to classify products with multiple active ingredients together in a way to guide dispensers in their choice, to find closest therapeutic equivalent other than the generics.
For more information regarding the ATC system, you can visit the WHO website (www.whocc.no). We use the ATC/DDD Index to look up ATC codes.
ATC/DDD Index 2012

A searchable version of the complete ATC index with DDDs is available below. The search options enable you to find ATC codes and DDDs for substance name and/or ATC levels. In your search results, you can choose to show or hide the text from the Guidelines for ATC classification and DDD assignment link to the ATC level. The text in the Guidelines will give information related to the background for the ATC and DDD assignment.

Search query

ATC code or name

containing query

Search