

Table 2 Physicians' knowledge in regard to administration routes that nullify or do not nullify fasting (n = 297)

Administration route	Nullify		Do not nullify		Not sure	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Eye and ear drops <sup>a</sup>	69	23.2	202	68.0	26	8.8
All substances absorbed into the skin such as creams, ointments and patches <sup>a</sup>	14	4.7	268	90.2	15	5.1
Vaginal pessaries, tablets, ovules and douches <sup>a</sup>	84	28.3	186	62.6	27	9.1
SC, IM or IV medications <sup>a</sup>	111	37.4	150	50.5	36	12.1
IV feeding (e.g. glucose)	269	90.6	8	2.7	20	6.7
Oxygen and anaesthetic gases <sup>a</sup>	71	23.9	205	69.0	21	7.1
Sublingual nitroglycerin tablets under the tongue for the treatment of angina <sup>a</sup>	195	65.7	78	26.3	24	8.0
Mouthwashes, gargles, oral sprays provided nothing is swallowed <sup>a</sup>	47	15.8	230	77.4	20	6.8
Nasal drops, spray, inhalers <sup>a</sup>	203	68.4	69	23.2	25	8.4
Suppositories, enemas <sup>a</sup>	140	47.1	132	44.4	25	8.5

<sup>a</sup>Does not nullify fasting (but important to ensure that nothing goes through the mouth if eye, ear or sublingual routes are used).

SC = subcutaneous; IM = intra-muscular; IV = intravenous.