CLAIMS

1. A support for a unit dose drug, comprising a relatively rigid planar body (11, 11', 11'') which is elongate in shape in a first direction and has a thickness which is relatively smaller in relation to a surface area, there being provided on one portion of said surface area an accommodation area (A1) for a unit dose drug (F), which area is completely displaced to one side relative to a transverse midline plane (M-M), transverse of said first main direction.

2. A drug support according to claim 1 or claim 2, comprising at least one hole (14) for hanging the drug support on a peg of a unit dose drug store.

3. A drug support according to claim 2, in which the hole (14) is arranged on the opposite side of the midline (M-M) relative to the accommodation area for a unit dose drug (F).

4. A drug support according to any one of the preceding claims, in which, on the opposite side of the midline (M-M) relative to the accommodation area for a unit dose drug (F) are shown informative details about the drug, printed directly on the planar body (11) or printed on a label (15) attached to the planar body (11).

5. A drug support according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the accommodation area for a unit dose drug (F) comprises a blister housing or recess (12) in which the unit dose drug (F) is placed, the blister housing or recess (12) being covered by a cover flap (13, 13', 29) which is attached to the planar body (11) and is intended to be opened during use when extracting the unit dose drug (F) from the support.

6. A drug support according to claim 5, in which the blister housing or recess (12) is integral with the planar body (11).

7. A drug support according to claim 5, in which the blister housing or recess (12) is a vessel body (17) inserted in an opening (16) of the planar body (11') and comprising an edge zone (18) attached to the planar body (11').

8. A drug support according to claim 5, in which the blister housing or recess (12) is a blister (B) containing a unit dose drug with an edge zone (22) attached to the planar body (11'').

9. A drug support according to claim 5, in which the cover flap is made integral with the planar body (11), one or more incisions (23, 24, 27) defining at least the majority of the outline of the cover flap in order to provide predetermined breaking lines.

10. A drug support according to claim 9, comprising an uninterrupted incision (23) of a depth which is less than the thickness of the planar body (11).

11. A drug support according to claim 9, comprising a discontinuous incision (24) made up of a plurality of relatively long incision sections (25) passing through the thickness of the planar body (11), alternating with relatively short unincised sections (26), the incision sections (25) and the unincised sections (26) forming a broken outline for breaking.

12. A drug support according to claim 13, in which the cover flap is made integral with the planar body (11''), comprising a continuous, open incision (27) along a majority

of a geometric profile, the zone of the planar body (11) corresponding to the remaining minority (28) of the geometric profile having an incision or precut in the manner of a plastic hinge, to facilitate bending of a tab (29) of the material of the planar body (11'') acting as a cover flap of the blister housing or recess (12).

13. A machine for manufacturing a drug support according to any one of the preceding claims comprises a strip material feeder (31), a first cutting station (32) for making a first incision (20) in the strip (31), a store (35) which contains the unit dose drugs (F) contained in blisters (B), an attachment station (36) for attaching the blister (B) to the strip (31), a print station (37) for printing details associated with the specific drug, a second cutting station (38) for cutting the strip (31) to the size corresponding to the planar body (11, 11', 11'').

14. A machine according to claim 13, in which the first cutting station (32) comprises a laser cutting tool (33) and the attachment station (36) comprises an ultrasound attachment tool.

15. A method for manufacturing a drug support according to any one of claims 1 to 12 comprising the following steps:

- feeding a strip material (31),
- making a first incision (20) in the strip (31) in a first cutting station (32),
- feeding unit dose drugs (F) contained in blisters (B) from a store (35),
- attaching the blister (B) to the strip (31) in an attachment station (36),
- printing details associated with the specific drug in a print station (37),

- cutting the strip (31) to the seize corresponding to the planar body (11, 11', 11'') in a second cutting station (38).

CLAIMS

1. A support for a unit dose drug, comprising a relatively rigid planar body (11'') which is elongate in shape in a first direction and has a thickness which is relatively smaller in relation to a surface area, there being provided on one portion of said surface area an accommodation area (A1) for a unit dose drug (F), which area is completely displaced to one side relative to a transverse midline plane (M-M), transverse of said first main direction, the accommodation area having a slot notch (40) made in one of the sides of the planar body (11'').

2. A drug support according to claim 1 or claim 2, comprising at least one hole (14) for hanging the drug support on a peg of a unit dose drug store.

3. A drug support according to claim 2, in which the hole (14) is arranged on the opposite side of the midline (M-M) relative to the accommodation area for a unit dose drug (F).

4. A drug support according to any one of the preceding claims, in which, on the opposite side of the midline (M-M) relative to the accommodation area for a unit dose drug (F) are shown informative details about the drug, printed directly on the planar body (11) or printed on a label (15) attached to the planar body (11).

5. A drug support according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the accommodation area for a unit dose drug (F) comprises a blister housing or recess (12) in which the unit dose drug (F) is placed, the blister housing or recess (12) being covered by a cover flap (13, 13', 29) which is attached to the planar body (11) and is intended to be opened during use when extracting the unit dose drug (F) from the support.

6. A drug support according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the slot notch (40) is made in the minor side (11''d) of the portion (A1) into which the planar body (11'') is ideally divided by the transverse midline plane (M-M).

7. A drug support according to claim 5, in which the blister housing or recess (12) is a vessel body (17) inserted in the slot notch (40) of the planar body (11') and comprises an edge zone (18) attached to the planar body (11').

8. A drug support according to claim 5, in which the blister housing or recess (12) is a blister (B) containing a unit dose drug with an edge zone (22) attached to the planar body (11'').

9. A drug support according to claim 5, in which the cover flap is made integral with the planar body (11), one or more incisions (23, 24, 27) defining at least the majority of the outline of the cover flap in order to provide predetermined breaking lines.

10. A drug support according to claim 9, comprising an uninterrupted incision (23) of a depth which is less than the thickness of the planar body (11).

11. A drug support according to claim 9, comprising a discontinuous incision (24) made up of a plurality of relatively long incision sections (25) passing through the thickness of the planar body (11), alternating with relatively short unincised sections (26), the incision sections (25) and the unincised sections (26) forming a broken outline for breaking.

12. A drug support according to claim 11, in which the cover flap is made integral with the planar body (11''), comprising a continuous, open incision (27) along a majority of a

geometric profile, the zone of the planar body (11) corresponding to the remaining minority (28) of the geometric profile having an incision or precut in the manner of a plastic hinge, to facilitate bending of a tab (29) of the material of the planar body (11'') acting as a cover flap of the blister housing or recess (12).