

## Children's Dosing Table

Give your child the acetaminophen dose as directed by your doctor. If you do not have specific directions from your child's doctor, carefully follow the dosing instructions on the package. The following table is a general guide that can be used to find the correct formulation and dose for children.

- Consult with your child's doctor before giving acetaminophen to children less than 2 years of age
- Your child's weight should be used to determine the acetaminophen dose. Use the child's age if the weight is not known.
- Consult with your child's doctor before using a suppository on a child. Acetaminophen comes in 80, 120, 325 and 650 mg suppositories. The rectal dose is the same as the dosage given by mouth.
- If your child has a serious medical condition, liver problems or is taking other medications that can cause liver problems consult your child's doctor before giving any products containing acetaminophen.

ACETAMINOPHEN (TYLENOL®) DOSAGE (FOR FEVER AND PAIN)									
DO <b>NOT</b> EXCEED FIVE DOSES IN 24 HOURS									
Child's weight (lbs = pounds)	Up to 10 lbs	11-16 lbs	17-23 lbs	24-35 lbs	36-47 lbs	48-59 lbs	60-71 lbs	72-95 lbs	96+ lbs
Child's Age	0-2 months*	3-5 months*	6-11 months	1-3 yrs	4-5 yrs	6-8 yrs	9-10 yrs	11 yrs	12 yrs or greater
Acetaminophen amount per dose	Consult Your Child's Doctor	80 mg	120 mg	160 mg	240 mg	320 mg	400 mg	480 mg	640 mg
Drops 80 mg / 0.8 mL	Consult Your Child's Doctor	0.8 mL (1 dropper)	1.2 mL (1½ droppers)	1.6 mL (2 droppers)	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended
Syrup 160mg / 5 mL (TSP = teaspoon)	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	1 TSP or 5 mL	1½ TSP or 7.5 mL	2 TSP or 10 mL	2½ TSP or 12.5 mL	3 TSP or 15 mL	Not Recommended
Chewable 80 mg tablet	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	2 TABLETS	3 TABLETS	4 TABLETS	5 TABLETS	6 TABLETS	Not Recommended
Chewable 160 mg tablet	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	2 TABLETS	2½ TABLETS	3 TABLETS	4 TABLETS
Adult 325 mg tablet	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	Not Recommended	1 TABLET	1½ TABLETS	2 TABLETS

\*Always notify your doctor if your baby under 6 months old has a fever

## References:

- Tylenol drug facts label. Available at [www.tylenol.com](http://www.tylenol.com). Accessed 10/10/07.
- Acetaminophen monograph. Available at [www.medlineplus.gov](http://www.medlineplus.gov). Accessed 10/7/07.
- The new drug facts label. Available at <http://www.bemedwise.org/label/label.htm>. Accessed 10/10/07
- Eustice C, Eustice R. Tylenol/acetaminophen: 10 things you should know. Available at [http://arthritis.about.com/od/acetamin/a/tylenol\\_warning.htm](http://arthritis.about.com/od/acetamin/a/tylenol_warning.htm). Accessed 10/2/07.
- Pediatric Lexi-Drugs Online Acetaminophen monograph. Available at <http://www.crlonline.com/crlonline>. Accessed 12/20/07.

# Information about your medicine: Understanding Acetaminophen (Tylenol®)

## Giving too much acetaminophen to your child can cause serious health problems

Acetaminophen is available alone or in combination with other medications.

It is found in hundreds of products, including:

- Prescription and over-the-counter pain relievers
- Cough and cold products
- Sleep aids
- Allergy medicines

Some examples of products:

- Tylenol
- Benadryl Allergy & Cold
- Excedrin PM
- Theraflu Cold & Sore Throat
- FeverAll
- Darvocet-N 100
- Vicodin
- Vicks Nyquil Multi-Symptom Cold/Flu Relief

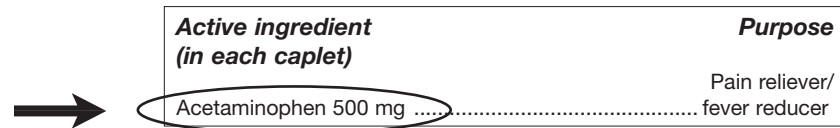
## Give only one acetaminophen product

- Read the medication label to see if it contains acetaminophen.
- Giving multiple products containing acetaminophen increases the risk of overdose.
- Avoid combination cough and cold products that contain acetaminophen.

## Double-check the strength of the product

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- Read the medication label to make sure you have the right strength.
- Many different types and strengths of acetaminophen are available.
- Acetaminophen can be found in chewable tablets, regular tablets, suppositories, infant drops, and syrups.
- Infant drops are three times stronger than the syrup—*be careful!*



Active ingredient (in each caplet)	Purpose
Acetaminophen 500 mg	Pain reliever/ fever reducer

## Measure liquid medications carefully

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- Do *not* use kitchen spoons to measure liquids.
- Use the measuring device that comes with the medicine to measure the dose.
- When giving a medication at night be sure you can clearly read the label.

## Follow directions exactly

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## Keep a list of each dose given

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- Make sure that all caregivers such as another parent, grandparent or babysitter tell you whenever they give your child medication.

## Keep all medications out of reach from children

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## Why does my child need this medication?

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- Acetaminophen is a medicine that helps relieve pain and fever.

## What do I do if my child misses a dose?

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- Give the missed dose as soon as possible.
- If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose.
- Do *not* give this medication more often than every four hours.

## What are the side effects of acetaminophen?

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- Acetaminophen has few side effects.
- Rash, itching, swelling, hives or trouble breathing are signs of an allergic reaction.

## What are the symptoms of acetaminophen overdose?

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- Signs of acetaminophen overdose/poisoning could include any combination the following:
  - Excessive sweating
  - Abdominal pain
  - Persistent diarrhea
  - Unusual bleeding or bruising
  - Yellowish skin or eyes (jaundice)
  - Feeling of irregular heartbeat

## When should I call my health care provider?

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- Call 911 immediately if your child has any life threatening symptoms (see below):
  - Difficulty breathing
  - Blue skin
  - Swelling of the tongue or throat
  - Unable to wake up
  - Chest tightness or pain
- Call the Poison Control Center (1-800-222-1222) or emergency department immediately if you suspect an overdose.
- Call your health care provider immediately if your child has any of these serious symptoms:
  - Wheezing
  - Itchy rash
  - Any other unusual behavior
  - If your child's pain or fever does not improve in the recommended time period or gets worse
  - If any of this information causes you to be concerned