



## Premier Care Pediatrics

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## Medicines for Fever or Pain Relief

### Acetaminophen (Tylenol)

Acetaminophen is available without a prescription. Children older than 2 months of age can be given any one of the acetaminophen products. They all have the same dosage. Give the correct dosage for your child's weight **every 4 to 6 hours**.

	Infants/Children's suspension (160 mg/5 ml)	Children's Meltaways (80 mg)	Jr. Meltaways (160 mg)	Adult regular strength tablets (325 mg)
<b>10-11 lbs.</b>	¼ tsp (1.25ml)			
<b>12-17 lbs.</b>	½ tsp (2.5ml)			
<b>18-23 lbs.</b>	¾ tsp (3.75ml)	1 ½ tablets		
<b>24-35 lbs.</b>	1 tsp (5ml)	2 tablets	1 tablet	
<b>36-47 lbs.</b>	1 ½ tsp (7.5ml)	3 tablets	1 ½ tablets	
<b>48-59 lbs.</b>	2 tsp (10ml)	4 tablets	2 tablets	
<b>60-71 lbs.</b>	2 ½ tsp (12.5ml)	5 tablets	2 ½ tablets	1 tablet
<b>72-95 lbs.</b>	3 tsp (15ml)	6 tablets	3 tablets	1 tablet
<b>96+ lbs.</b>	4 tsp (20ml)	8 tablets	4 tablets	2 tablets

Abbreviations: tsp=teaspoon ml=milliliters mg=milligrams

**Suppositories:** Acetaminophen is also available as a rectal suppository in 120-mg, 325-mg, and 650-mg dosages. Suppositories are useful if a child with a fever is vomiting often or having seizures caused by the fever. Use the same dose as listed above for the suppository. Most suppositories can be cut (for example, cut in half) to supply the right dose for your child's age.

## **Ibuprofen (Advil & Motrin)**

Ibuprofen is available without a prescription. Give the correct dosage for your child's weight **every 6 to 8 hours**. **DO NOT GIVE IBUPROFEN UNDER 6 MONTHS OF AGE.**

	<b>Infant drops (50 mg/1.25ml)</b>	<b>Children's syrup (100 mg/5 ml)</b>	<b>Children's Chewables (50 mg)</b>	<b>Junior Chewables (100 mg)</b>	<b>Junior Swallow Tablets (100 mg)</b>	<b>Adult regular strength tablets (200 mg)</b>
<b>10-11 lbs.</b>						
<b>12-17 lbs.</b>	1.25 ml					
<b>18-23 lbs.</b>	1.875 ml	$\frac{3}{4}$ tsp	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tablets			
<b>24-35 lbs.</b>	1.875+0.625 ml	1 tsp (5ml)	2 tablets	1 tablet		
<b>36-47 lbs.</b>	1.875+1.875 ml	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp (7.5ml)	3 tablets	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tablets		
<b>48-59 lbs.</b>		2 tsp (10ml)	4 tablets	2 tablets	2 tablets	1 tablet
<b>60-71 lbs.</b>		2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp (12.5ml)	5 tablets	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tablets	2 tablets	1 tablet
<b>72-95 lbs.</b>		3 tsp (15ml)	6 tablets	3 tablets	3 tablets	72-87lbs = 1 tablet 88-95lbs = 2 tablets
<b>96+ lbs.</b>		4 tsp (20ml)	8 tablets	4 tablets	4 tablets	2 tablets

Abbreviations: tsp=teaspoon ml=milliliters mg=milligrams

### **Alternating or Combining Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen**

If instructed by your health care provider to alternate ibuprofen and acetaminophen, do it as follows:

- Alternate doses of ibuprofen and acetaminophen every 4 hours.
- Alternate medicines for only 24 hours or less, then return to a single product.

Combining acetaminophen and ibuprofen is generally not recommended. Combining can cause confusion, dosage errors, and poisoning.

### **Avoid Aspirin**

Children (through age 21 years) should not take aspirin if they have chickenpox or influenza (any cold, cough, or sore throat symptoms). This recommendation is based on several studies that have linked aspirin to Reye's syndrome, a severe encephalitis-like illness. Most pediatricians have stopped using aspirin for fevers associated with any illness.

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Published originally by McKesson Health Solutions LLC.

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