

Common Pediatric Medications*

Analgesics

Acetaminophen

Forms: Liquid, tablet, oral disintegrating tablet, caplet, rectal suppository, injectable

Usual oral dosage^{1,4}:

Children < 12 years: 10-15 mg/kg/dose every 4-6 hours as needed (maximum 90 mg/kg/24 hours⁵ but not to exceed 2.6 g/24 hours^{1,4})

OR Alternative Acetaminophen Dosing Based on Age of Child⁴

Age	Weight		Dosage (mg) ⁵
	lbs	kg	
0-3 months	6-11	2.7-5	40
4-11 months	12-17	5.1-7.7	80
1-2 years	18-23	7.8-10.5	120
2-3 years	24-35	10.6-15.9	160
4-5 years	36-47	16-21.4	240
6-8 years	48-59	21.5-26.8	320
9-10 years	60-71	26.9-32.3	400
11 years	72-95	32.4-43.2	480

Children ≥ 12 years and adults: 325-650 mg every 4-6 hours or 1000 mg 3-4 times/day as needed (maximum 4 g/24 hours)

Acetaminophen with codeine

Forms: Liquid; tablet

Liquids: 120 mg acetaminophen and 12 mg codeine/5 mL (Note the elixir and solution, but not suspension, contain alcohol)

Tablet: No. 2: 300 mg acetaminophen and 15 mg codeine

No. 3: 300 mg acetaminophen and 30 mg codeine

No. 4: 300 mg acetaminophen and 60 mg codeine

Usual oral dosage^{2,4}:

Children < 12 years: 0.5-1 mg codeine/kg/dose every 4-6 hours as needed; 10-15 mg acetaminophen/kg/dose every 4-6 hours as needed (maximum 90 mg/kg/24 hours but not to exceed 2.6 g acetaminophen/24 hours)⁵

OR 3-6 years: 5 mL elixir 3-4 times/day as needed

7-12 years: 10 mL elixir 3-4 times/day as needed

> 12 years: 15 mL elixir every 4 hours as needed

Adults: Based on codeine 30-60 mg dose every 4-6 hours as needed (maximum 4 g acetaminophen/24 hours)

OR 1-2 tablets every 4 hours as needed (maximum of 12 tablets/24 hours).

Antibiotics

Amoxicillin

Forms: Suspension, chewable tablet, tablet, capsule

Usual oral dosage^{1,2}:

Children > 3 months of age up to 40 kg:

20-40 mg/kg/day in divided doses every 8 hours

OR 25-45 mg/kg/day in divided doses every 12 hours

Children > 40 kg & adults: 250-500 mg every 8 hours

OR 500-875 mg every 12 hours

Endocarditis prophylaxis³: 50mg/kg (maximum 2 g) 30-60 minutes before procedure

Amoxicillin clavulanate potassium

Forms: Suspension, chewable tablet, tablet

Usual oral dosage^{1,4}: (based on amoxicillin component):

Children > 3 months of age up to 40 kg: 25-45 mg/kg/day in doses divided every 12 hours (Prescribe suspension or chewable tablet due to clavulanic acid component)

Children > 40 kg & adults: 500-875 mg every 12 hours (Prescribe tablet)

Cephalexin

Forms: Suspension, tablet, capsule

Usual oral dosage^{1,4}:

Children > 1 year: 25-100 mg/kg/day in divided doses every 6-8 hours (maximum 4g/day)

Adults: 250-1000 mg every 6 hours (maximum 4g/day)

Endocarditis prophylaxis^{3,4}: 50 mg/kg (maximum 2 g) 30-60 minutes before procedure

Clindamycin

Forms: Suspension, capsule, injectable

Usual oral dosage^{2,4}:

Children: 8-20 mg/kg/day in 3-4 divided doses as hydrochloride

OR 8-25 mg/kg/day in 3-4 divided doses as palmitate

Adults: 150-450 mg every 6 hours (maximum 1.8g/day)

Endocarditis prophylaxis^{3,4}: 20 mg/kg (maximum 600 mg) orally, IM, OR IV 30-60 minutes before procedure

Penicillin V Potassium

Forms: Liquid, tablet

Usual oral dosage^{1,4,5}:

Children < 12 years: 25-50 mg/kg/day in 3-4 divided doses (maximum 3g/day)

Children ≥ 12 years & adults: 250-500 mg every 6-8 hours

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Analgesics**Ibuprofen**

Forms: Liquid, tablet, injectable

Usual oral dosage^{1,4}:

Children up to 12 years: 4-10 mg/kg/dose every 6-8 hours as needed
(maximum 40 mg/kg/24 hours)²

OR Alternative Ibuprofen Dosing Based on Age of Child⁴

Age	Weight		Dosage (mg)
	lbs	kg	
6-11 months	12-17	5.1-7.7	50
12-23 months	18-23	7.8-10.5	75
2-3 years	24-35	10.6-15.9	100
4-5 years	36-47	16-21.4	150
6-8 years	48-59	21.5-26.8	200
9-10 years	60-71	26.9-32.3	250
11 years	72-95	32.4-43.2	300

Children ≥ 12 years: 200 mg every 4-6 hours as needed
(maximum 1.2 g/24 hours)

Adults: 200 - 400 mg/dose every 4-6 hours as needed (maximum 1.2 g/
24 hours)

Naproxen base

Forms: Suspension, tablet

Usual oral dosage⁴:

Children > 2 years up to 12 years: 5-7 mg/kg every 8-12 hours as needed

Children ≥ 12 years: 200 mg every 8-12 hours as needed; may take 400 mg
for initial dose (maximum 600 mg/24 hours).

Adults: initial dose of 500 mg, then 250 mg every 6-8 hours as needed
(maximum 1250 mg/24 hours)

Antibiotics**Azithromycin**

Forms: Suspension, tablet, capsule, injectable

Usual oral dosage^{1,4}:

Children ≥ 6 months up to 16 years: 5-12 mg/kg once daily
(maximum: 500 mg/day)

OR 30 mg/kg as a single dose (maximum 1500 mg)

Children ≥ 16 years and adults 250-600 mg once daily

OR 1-2 g as a single dose

Doses vary for extended release suspension.

Endocarditis prophylaxis^{1,3}: 15 mg/kg 30-60 minutes before procedure
(maximum dose: 500 mg)

* Pediatric dosage should not exceed adult dosage.

References:

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3. Wilson W, Taubert KA, Gewitz M, et al. Prevention of infective endocarditis: Guidelines from the American Heart Association Circulation. 2007;116(15):1736-1754. Correction Circulation. 2007;116:e376-e377. Available at: "<http://circ.ahajournals.org/cgi/contentfull/116/15/1736TBL5183095>". Accessed April 11, 2011.
4. Wynn RL, Meiller TF, Crossley HL. Drug Information Handbook for Dentistry, 16th edition. Lexi-Comp, Hudson, Ohio. 2010.
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