

## Acetaminophen (Tylenol) and Ibuprofen (Advil/Motrin) Dosing

The tables below provide recommended dosage charts for acetaminophen (Tylenol) and ibuprofen (Advil/Motrin). Here are some important general guidelines for using these products:

- For first line treatment for pain and/or fever, we recommend acetaminophen (Tylenol). If your child's response does not seem adequate, try ibuprofen (Motrin/Advil) as an alternative. The goal in treating a fever is to make your child comfortable, not to make the number lower on the thermometer.
- When choosing an appropriate dose of medication, use your child's most current weight.
- Do not routinely give both acetaminophen and ibuprofen to a child with fever. It is OK to "tag team" a dose of the second medicine if you are having trouble making your child comfortable, but this should not be a recurrent procedure. Please discuss this with your physician at your next visit.
- Temperature should be measured rectally in children < 3 months; ear (otic) thermometers should be reserved for children > 3 months. An oral thermometer is not appropriate until your child can hold it under his tongue for several minutes without biting (usually around age 5).
- Never give acetaminophen or ibuprofen to an infant < 2 months. In addition, do not give ibuprofen to an infant under the age of 6 months without specific direction from a physician.
- Acetaminophen rectal suppositories can be purchased at your pharmacy without a prescription. They are helpful to have on hand in case your child has fever or pain and is vomiting and can't keep down acetaminophen by mouth. Use K-Y Jelly or Vaseline to lubricate the suppository and insert in the child's rectum every 4 hours as necessary.

**Acetaminophen (Tylenol) Dosage Chart (every 4 hours, as needed)**

Weight	Age	NEW Infant Suspension (160mg/5ml)	OLD Infant Drops (80mg/0.8ml)	Children Suspension (160mg/5ml)	Children Chew Tabs (80mg each)	Jr. Strength Tabs/Caps (160mg each)	Rectal Suppositories (various doses)
6-11lbs	2-3 mos.	1.25ml	0.4ml=½dropper				(½) 80mg
12-17lbs	4-11 mos.	2.5ml	0.8ml=1 dropper	½tsp=2.5ml			(1) 80mg
18-23lbs	12-23 mos.	3.75ml	1.2ml=1½dropper	¾tsp=3.75ml			(1) 120mg
24-35lbs	2-3 yrs.	5ml	1.6ml=2droppers	1tsp=5ml	2		(½) 325mg
36-47lbs	4-5 yrs.			1½tsp=7.5ml	3	1½	(2) 120mg
48-59lbs	6-8 yrs.			2tsp=10ml	4	2	(1) 325mg
60-71lbs	9-10 yrs.			2½tsp=12.5ml	5	2½	(1) 325mg
72-95lbs	11 yrs.			3tsp=15ml	6	3	(1½) 325mg
> 95lbs	> 11yrs.					4 or 2 adult tabs/caps	(1) 650mg or (2) 325mg

**Ibuprofen (Motrin/Advil) Dosage Chart (every 6-8 hours, as needed)**

Weight	Age	Infant Drops (50mg/1.25ml)		Children Suspension (100mg/5ml)		Chewable Tabs (100mg each)		
		If fever <102.5	If fever > 102.5	If fever < 102.5	If fever > 102.5 or pain relief	If fever < 102.5	If fever > 102.5 or pain relief	
< 12lbs	0-6 mos.	Do not give Motrin to an infant < 6 months without specific direction from a physician.						
12-17lbs	6-11 mos.	25mg = 0.675ml	50mg = 1.25ml	¼tsp=1.25ml/25mg	½tsp=2.5ml/50mg			
18-23lbs	12-23 mos.	50mg = 1.25ml	100mg = 2.5ml	½tsp=2.5ml/50mg	1tsp=5ml/100mg	½tab = 50mg	1tab = 100mg	
24-35lbs	2-3 yrs.	75mg = 1.875ml	150mg = 3.75ml	¾tsp=3.75ml/75mg	1½tsp=7.5ml/150mg	¾tab = 75mg	1½tab = 150mg	
36-47lbs	4-5 yrs.			1tsp = 5ml/100mg	2tsp=10ml/200mg	1tab = 100mg	2tabs = 200mg	
48-59 lbs	6-8 yrs.			1¼tsp=6.25ml/125mg	2½tsp=12.5ml/250mg	1¼tab = 125 mg	2½tabs = 250mg	
60-71 lbs	9-10 yrs.			1½tsp=7.5ml/150mg	3tsp=15 ml/300mg	1½tab = 150mg	3tabs = 300mg	
72-95 lbs	11 yrs.			2tsp=10ml/200mg or 1adult cap/tab	4tsp=20ml/400mg or 2 adult cap/tab	2tabs = 200mg or 1 adult cap/tab	4tabs = 400mg or 2 adult cap/tab	
> 95 lbs	> 11 yrs	For older children who can swallow pills, adult Motrin contains 200mg per capsule/tablet. Children > 12 can take 2 adult caps/tabs every 6-8 hours as needed, regardless of the reason (fever, pain, headache, etc.).						

**Do not give ibuprofen to a child with chickenpox**

