

# Common Pediatric Medications\*

## Antibiotics

### Amoxicillin

Forms: Liquid, tablet, capsule

Usual oral dosage<sup>†</sup>:

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 prophylaxis<sup>†</sup>: 50mg/kg (maximum 2 g) 30-60 minutes before procedure

### Amoxicillin clavulanate (Augmentin®)

Forms: Liquid, tablet

Usual oral dosage<sup>†</sup> (based on amoxicillin component):

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

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

### Cephalexin

Forms: Liquid, tablet, capsule

Usual oral dosage<sup>†</sup>:

Children: 25-50 mg/kg/day in divided doses  
Adults: 250 mg every 6 hours

Endocarditis prophylaxis<sup>†</sup>: 50 mg/kg (maximum 2 g) 30-60 minutes before procedure

### Clindamycin HCl

Forms: Liquid, tablet, capsule, injectable

Usual oral dosage<sup>†</sup>:

Children: 8-20 mg/kg/day in 3-4 divided doses  
Adults: 150-450 mg every 6 hours

Usual parenteral dose<sup>†</sup>:

Children > 1 mo old: 20-40 mg/kg/day in 3-4 divided doses  
Children > 12 & adults: 1.2-1.8 g/day in 2-4 divided doses

Endocarditis prophylaxis<sup>†</sup>: 20 mg/kg (maximum 600 mg) orally, IM, or IV 30-60 minutes before procedure

### Penicillin V Potassium

Forms: liquid, tablet

Usual oral dosage<sup>†</sup>:

Children < 12: 25-50 mg/kg/day in 3-4 divided doses  
Children > 12 & adults: 125-500 mg q 6-8 hrs

## Analgesics

### Acetaminophen

Forms: Liquid, tablet, capsule, rectal suppository

Usual oral dosage<sup>†</sup>:

Children < 12 years: 10-15 mg/kg/dose every 4-6 hours as needed.  
Do not exceed 5 doses (7.5 g) in 24 hours

Children > 12 years & adults: 325-650 mg every 4-6 hours as needed  
not to exceed 4g/day

### Acetaminophen with codeine<sup>†</sup>

Forms: Liquid, tablet

Elixin: 100 mg acetaminophen & 12 mg codeine/5 mL with alcohol 7%  
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:

Children < 12 years: 0.5-1 mg codeine/kg/dose every 4-6 hours as needed;  
10-15 mg acetaminophen/ kg/dose every 4 hours as needed not to exceed 2.8 g acetaminophen/24 hours

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

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

> 12 years: 15 mL every 4 hours

Adults (based on codeine component): 30-60 mg dose every 4-6 hours as needed not to exceed 360 mg codeine or 4 g acetaminophen per 24 hours

### Ibuprofen

Forms: Liquid, tablet

Usual oral dosage:

Children<sup>†</sup>: 4-10 mg/kg/dose every 6-8 hours  
Children > 12 years<sup>†</sup>: 200 mg every 4-6 hours as needed  
(maximum 1200 mg/24 hrs)

Adults<sup>†</sup>: 400 mg/dose every 4-6 hours

\* Pediatric dosage should not exceed adult dosage.

### Sources:

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# Childrens Medications A Parents Guide

**L Cohen**



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