

Tylenol®/acetaminophen ALERT!

Tylenol®/acetaminophen can help children feel better, but like any medicine, too much can make them sick. When a doctor tells you the dose for your child, do you know which product to use? Now it will be more important than ever to understand acetaminophen products, because they are changing.

Allison Muller, Pharm.D., D.ABAT, one of the directors of our regional Poison Control Center, authored this to help.

What's new about Tylenol/acetaminophen for kids?

The manufacturers of Tylenol and other acetaminophen brands will stop making **infant's acetaminophen concentrated drops**. This product has 80 mg of medicine in 0.8 mL (one full dropper).

Soon, the only product you will be able to buy is what we have always known as **children's acetaminophen liquid**. But wait! The name is changing. The product will be sold in one package for infants and another for older children. The new names are: **infant's acetaminophen oral suspension** and **children's acetaminophen liquid**. This product has 160 mg of medicine in 5 mL (one teaspoon).

For a short time, all of these products will be on the shelves (and in your medicine cabinet). Sound confusing? It is! The drops that will no longer be sold are much stronger than the product that will still be sold. You will need to take extra care to make sure you are giving the right dose. Your doctor, nurse or pharmacist will be glad to help you: ask them to show you the proper dose before leaving the office or pharmacy.

What is the reason for the change?

You can keep using the concentrated drops in your medicine cabinet. They're not unsafe. The reason they are not making the drops anymore is so the product you give to your child as a baby and when they are older is the same concentration. In the long run this will be less confusing for parents, and hopefully there will be fewer dosing accidents.

REMEMBER: If you give a dose and are concerned you made a mistake, your Poison Control Center (800-222-1222) or your doctor's office is a phone call away.



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