

# Acetaminophen (APAP)

## GENERIC NAME

Acetaminophen (APAP)

## TRADE NAME

Tylenol

## DESCRIPTION

Non-opioid analgesic and antipyretic.

## HOW SUPPLIED

Oral Suspension: 160 mg / 5 mL strength

## INDICATIONS

- Pain management – mild pain levels
- Fever

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Active and severe liver disease
- Severe liver impairment
- Allergy or hypersensitivity to acetaminophen
- Do not dose if acetaminophen has been taken within the last 4 hours

## PRECAUTIONS

1. Monitor for signs of liver toxicity, especially in patients with existing liver conditions.
2. Be cautious with dosing in patients who are also taking other medications containing acetaminophen.
3. Ensure proper dosage based on weight, particularly in pediatric patients.

## MECHANISM OF ACTION

Inhibits specific parts of the cyclooxygenase (COX) pathway in the central nervous system, likely inhibiting the synthesis of prostaglandins involved in pain sensation. Affects the hypothalamus to reduce body temperature.

## SIDE EFFECTS

- Skin rash
- Kidney toxicity
- Liver failure in large doses

## AUTHORIZATION

**EMT:** Standing Order

**EMT-I:** Standing Order

**Paramedic:** Standing Order

## DOSAGE

- **Adult:** 20 mL of PO liquid medication
- **Pediatric:**
  - **Under 2 years:** Not recommended
  - **2-3 years (24-35 lbs):** 5 mL
  - **4-5 years (36-47 lbs):** 7.5 mL
  - **6-8 years (48-59 lbs):** 10 mL
  - **9-10 years (60-71 lbs):** 12.5 mL
  - **11 years (72-95 lbs):** 15 mL
  - **12 years and above (96 lbs and above):** 20 mL

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