

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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