



Fever Chart and Dosing Tips

- Fever is our friend! When the immune system is faced with a virus, bacteria, or other foreign intruder it causes a rise in body temperature leading to a number of reactions that protect our body. A fever can be scary, but it means our body is working!
- In any child over 2 months old, **treat the child, NOT the fever!** We want the fever to do its job, but only give medication if your child is uncomfortable. Often times the fever will come down on its own with rest, fluids, or a luke warm bath.
- Temperatures should be taken orally or rectally. Ear thermometers are not accurate. If you are truly concerned about what the temperature is use a rectal thermometer until your child is old enough for an accurate oral temperature reading.
- **In a child less than 2 months old, any rectal temperature above 100.4 warrants a call to our office.** A fever without any other symptoms in this age group can be caused by overwaddling, a common viral infection, or meningitis--newborns do not look "sicker" if they have a more serious reason for their fever. Don't look for trouble, but if you think your newborn has a fever, undress him down to his diaper, let him acclimate to room temperature, and only then take a rectal temp.

- When medicating children we always base the dose on **weight NOT age!**
- In children 2-6 months old, Infant's/Children's Tylenol (Acetaminophen) is the appropriate fever reducing medication to be given every 4-6 hours as needed. The concentration is the same in both types, but the Infant one has a measuring dropper. Rectal Tylenol suppositories are available if your child is not tolerating the oral medication.
- For children over 6 months old, we recommend Children's Motrin/Advil (Ibuprofen) every 6-8 hours as needed since it does not have a risk of liver toxicity and it is an anti-inflammatory (Tylenol is not). You do not need to purchase Infant's Concentrated Motrin/Advil since children 6 months and older can use the Children's form. However, use what works best for your family.
- If a fever is not coming down with Tylenol or Motrin/Advil, you may use both medications as follows: Start with Advil, then 3 hours later give Tylenol, three hours later give Advil, and alternate every 3 hours back and forth as needed.
- Tylenol/Motrin may be used with cough/cold medications as long as there is no Tylenol/Motrin in the cough/cold medication. They may also be used with antibiotics or Benadryl if needed.
- Aspirin or any aspirin containing product is **NOT** recommended for use in children.
- Fever reducing medication can be given to children after their vaccines, but we do not recommend giving it before vaccines.

DOSAGE RECOMMENDATIONS

	6-11 lb	12-17 lb	18-23 lb	24-35 lb	36-47 lb	48-59 lb	60-71 lb	72-95 lb
Infant's/Children's Tylenol Liquid (160mg/5ml) Every 4-6 hours Max 5 doses in 24 hrs	1.25 ml (1/4 tsp)	2.5 ml (1/2 tsp)	3.75 ml (3/4 tsp)	5 ml (1 tsp)	7.5 ml (1&1/2 tsp)	10 ml (2 tsp)	12.5 ml (2&1/2 tsp)	15 ml (3 tsp)
Children's Motrin/Advil Liquid (100mg/5ml) Every 6-8 hours Greater than 6 months	-----	2.5 ml (1/2 tsp)	3.75 ml (3/4 tsp)	5 ml (1 tsp)	7.5 ml (1&1/2 tsp)	10 ml (2 tsp)	12.5 ml (2&1/2 tsp)	15 ml (3 tsp)
Feverall (rectal acetaminophen suppositories) Every 4-6 hours Max 5 doses in 24 hrs (80mg/120mg/325mg)	-----	80 mg (1-80mg supp.)	120 mg (1-120mg supp.)	160 mg (2-80mg supp.)	240 mg (2-120mg supp.)	325 mg (1-325mg supp.)	400 mg (1-325mg supp. & 1-80mg)	-----
Benadryl Liquid (Diphenhydramine) (12.5mg/5ml) Every 6-8 hours Greater than 6 months	-----	2.5 ml (1/2 tsp)	3.75 ml (3/4 tsp)	5 ml (1 tsp)	7.5 ml (1&1/2 tsp)	10 ml (2 tsp)	10 ml (2 tsp)	10 ml (2 tsp)