

Medication Information

Acetaminophen

(A – seat – a – min – oh – fen)

Other names for this medication

Abenol[®]

Atasol[®]

Exedrin[®]

Novogesic[®]

Pediatrix[®]

Tempra[®]

Tylenol[®]

There are other names for this medication.

How this medication is used

Acetaminophen is used to relieve mild to moderate pain. It also reduces fever.

How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor or health care provider.

Adults should never take more than 4000 mg a day. This equals 8 extra strength tablets (500 mg) or 12 regular strength tablets (325 mg).

For a child, follow the directions on the package. The amount (dose) will depend on your child's age and weight.

Many other pain, cold and flu medications also contain acetaminophen. Talk to your pharmacist first to make sure you do not take too much.

If you take more than 1 or 2 doses of acetaminophen, do not drink alcoholic beverages. This may increase the chance of liver damage.

How to take this medication (continued)

Drops and Liquid:

Carefully follow the dosing directions on the medication label. Use only the special dose-measuring dropper or oral syringe that comes with the specific pediatric drop or liquid you are using.

Using the wrong dropper or syringe may cause you to give your child an incorrect dose of acetaminophen.

You may need to shake the liquid before each use. Follow the directions on the medicine label.

Chewable:

Chew well and swallow.

Tablet or Caplet:

Take with a full glass of water or other liquid. Some tablets or caplets cannot be crushed or chewed. Follow the directions on the package.

Suppository:

- Wash your hands.
- Take off the wrapper.
- Lie on your side.
- Put the rounded end of the suppository into the rectum as far as it will go.
- It may be easier to moisten the suppository with cool water to help it slide in.

While taking this medication you may notice

- stomach upset

Contact your doctor or health care provider if you notice:

- your pain does not get better
- fever greater than 39.5°C or fever lasting longer than 3 days
- skin rash
- you cannot pass urine
- yellow eyes or skin

If you take more than the prescribed dose, contact your doctor or health care provider. You may have:

- severe stomach pain, cramps or tenderness
- continued nausea or vomiting
- signs of bleeding such as easy bruising, nosebleeds, black or bloody stools, red urine