Two over-the-counter medicines commonly used to treat fevers are acetaminophen (Tylenol) and ibuprofen (Motrin or Advil).

**Frequently asked questions about treating fevers:**

- **My doctor tells me to alternate ibuprofen and acetaminophen to treat persistent high fevers. How can I do that safely?**
- **Haven't there been changes to infants’ liquid acetaminophen?**
- **But what about dosing amounts and properly administering the medicine?**

### Alternate between medicines every three to four hours.

For example, if you give your child acetaminophen at noon, you can give him ibuprofen at 3 p.m. and then acetaminophen again at 6 p.m. and ibuprofen again at 9 p.m. Neither medicine should be used for more than 24 hours without consulting a physician.

### Haven't there been changes to infants' liquid acetaminophen?

First!

- For infants 0–3 years of age and children 2–12 years of age.
- All infants’ single-ingredient liquid acetaminophen products include a plastic measuring cup for easy, convenient use.

Before giving your child any medicines, make sure you know your child’s weight. Dosing is most accurate when it is based on weight, not age.

### But what about dosing amounts and properly administering the medicine?

Both infants’ and children’s single-ingredient liquid acetaminophen products have age-appropriate dosing devices.

Acetaminophen is most commonly administered at a dose of 10 mg/kg to 15 mg/kg every four hours; whereas, ibuprofen is usually administered at a dose of 10 mg/kg every six hours.

Both infants’ and children’s single-ingredient liquid acetaminophen products include a plastic measuring cup to administer medicines by mouth.

Always use the measuring device that comes with the medicine. Do not mix and match dosing devices.

Make sure to read the package label very carefully for proper dosing.

### OLD INFANT CONCENTRATION

80mg / 0.8 mL

**Old Dose**

Two 0.8 mL droppers totaling 16mg

80mg / 5 mL

**New Dose**

One 5 mL Syringe totaling 160mg

### NEW INFANT CONCENTRATION

160mg / 5 mL

There used to be two concentrations: one for infants 0–3 years of age and one for children 2–12 years of age. Now both infants’ and children’s liquid acetaminophen are made in the same strength to make it easier for parents and caregivers to avoid common dosing errors.

### All children’s single-ingredient liquid acetaminophen products include a small plastic measuring cup for easy, convenient use.

### All infants’ single-ingredient liquid acetaminophen products include a plastic measuring cup to administer medicines by mouth.

### First!

If your doctor makes this recommendation, ask as many questions as you need in order to be sure you understand his or her direction.

To ensure safe dosages, it’s best to record the precise doses and times.

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