

	Policy:	Administration of Acetaminophen & Ibuprofen (Pediatric)
	Number:	
Approved by: MAC November 2008	Manual:	
Signature:	Section:	Medical Directive Emergency
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Procedure:

For children presenting to the Emergency Department in pain and/or with fever >38°C

Administration of Intervention:

- Emergency Department RNs can administer a one time loading dose of Acetaminophen 30 mg/kg PO or PR to a maximum of 1500 mg except where contraindications exist and Ibuprofen 10 mg/kg to patient who is >6 months of age to a maximum of 800 mg; A dose of 5 mg/kg can be administered to patients under 6 months of age except where contraindications exist.
- If patient has received Acetaminophen within the past 4 hours, administer 15mg/kg to maximum dose of 1500 mgm. If patient has received Ibuprofen within the past 6 hours, Ibuprofen will not be administered.

Indications:

Clinical Criteria and Type of Client Situation to Which Protocol Applies:

- Temperature assessed (age under 2, PR; age over 2, PO) and documented
- Document last dose of Ibuprofen administered.
- Document last dose of Acetaminophen administered
- Allergies and current medications assessed
- Pain scale determined based on ‘Worst *Imaginable* Pain, 0 to 10’

Contraindications:

- Allergy to Ibuprofen or Acetaminophen
- Suspect present overdose of Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen (or same class medication)
- Age less than 1 month
- Presence of jaundice
- History of hepatic or renal disease
- History of peptic ulcer disease
- History of gastritis or presentation of abdominal pain (ensure not related to NSAIDS)

Effective Date: January 01/2009	Revised Date:	Version: November 2008
File Name: Tylenol & Ibuprofen (Pediatrics)	ED-Ped-01	

Guidelines

Documentation:

- Time and amount of last dose of Acetaminophen and Ibuprofen
- Child's weight in the ED **in kilograms**
- Complete set of patient vital signs (temperature, pulse, respiratory rate, blood pressure, oxygen saturation, pain scale)
- Pain scale determined based on 'Worst *Imaginable* Pain, 0 to 10'
- Medications given along with doses, routes, time, signature and patient status

Reassess:

- Temperature q 1 hr and pain q 20-30 min.

References:

1. *Sheehy's Emergency Nursing 5th Edition 2003 Chapter 14 Pain Management*
2. *Prussell, E, Treating fever in children: paracetamol or ibuprofen, British Jour of Comm Nursing, Vol. 7, Iss. 6, 14 June 2002 316-319*
3. *Meremikwu, M, Oyo-Ita, A, Paracetamol for treating fever in children, Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2002; (2): CD003676*
4. *Perrott, DA, Piira, T, Goodenough, B, Champion G, Efficacy and Safety of Acetaminophen vs. Ibuprofen for Treating Children's Pain or Fever- A meta-analysis. Arch pediatr Adolesc med. 2004; 158:521-526*