

Post-immunisation pyrexia in infants

► BY MOUTH

- Child 2-3 months: 60 mg for 1 dose, then 60 mg after 4–6 hours if required
- Child 4 months: 60 mg for 1 dose, then 60 mg after 4–6 hours; maximum 4 doses per day

- **UNLICENSED USE** Paracetamol oral suspension 500 mg/5 mL not licensed for use in children under 16 years. Not licensed for use in children under 2 months by mouth; under 3 months by rectum. [EvdGr](#) Not licensed for use as prophylaxis of post-immunisation pyrexia following immunisation with meningococcal group B vaccine. ⚠️ Intravenous infusion not licensed in pre-term neonates. Intravenous infusion dose not licensed in children and neonates with body-weight under 10 kg.

- **CAUTIONS** Before administering, check when paracetamol last administered and cumulative paracetamol dose over previous 24 hours · body-weight under 50 kg · chronic alcohol consumption · chronic dehydration · chronic malnutrition · hepatocellular insufficiency · long-term use (especially in those who are malnourished)

CAUTIONS, FURTHER INFORMATION [EvdGr](#) Some patients may be at increased risk of experiencing toxicity at therapeutic doses, particularly those with a body-weight under 50 kg and those with risk factors for hepatotoxicity. Clinical judgement should be used to adjust the dose of oral and intravenous paracetamol in these patients.

Co-administration of enzyme-inducing antiepileptic medications may increase toxicity; doses should be reduced. ⚠️

- **INTERACTIONS** → Appendix 1: paracetamol

● **SIDE-EFFECTS****GENERAL SIDE-EFFECTS**

- **Rare or very rare** Thrombocytopenia

SPECIFIC SIDE-EFFECTS

- **Common or very common**

- With rectal use Anorectal erythema

- **Rare or very rare**

- With intravenous use Hypersensitivity · hypotension · leucopenia · malaise · neutropenia

- With rectal use Angioedema · liver injury · skin reactions

- **Frequency not known**

- With intravenous use Flushing · skin reactions · tachycardia

- With oral use Agranulocytosis · bronchospasm · hepatic function abnormal · rash · severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs)

- With rectal use Agranulocytosis · blood disorder · severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs)

Overdose Liver damage and less frequently renal damage can occur following overdose.

Nausea and vomiting, the only early features of poisoning, usually settle within 24 hours. Persistence beyond this time, often associated with the onset of right subcostal pain and tenderness, usually indicates development of hepatic necrosis.

For specific details on the management of poisoning, see Paracetamol, under Emergency treatment of poisoning p. 891.

- **PREGNANCY** Not known to be harmful.
- **BREAST FEEDING** Amount too small to be harmful.
- **HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT** Manufacturer advises caution (increased risk of toxicity).

● **RENAL IMPAIRMENT**

Dose adjustments Increase infusion dose interval to every 6 hours if estimated glomerular filtration rate less than 30 mL/minute/1.73 m².

- **DIRECTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATION** For *intravenous infusion* (*Perfalgan*®), give in Glucose 5% or Sodium Chloride 0.9%; dilute to a concentration of not less than 1 mg/mL and use

within an hour; may also be given undiluted. For children under 33 kg, use 50 mL-vial.

- **PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION** BP directs that when Paediatric Paracetamol Oral Suspension or Paediatric Paracetamol Mixture is prescribed Paracetamol Oral Suspension 120 mg/5 mL should be dispensed.

● **PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE**

Medicines for Children leaflet: Paracetamol for mild-to-moderate pain www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/paracetamol-mild-moderate-pain

● **PROFESSION SPECIFIC INFORMATION****Dental practitioners' formulary**

Paracetamol Tablets may be prescribed.

Paracetamol Soluble Tablets 500 mg may be prescribed.

Paracetamol Oral Suspension may be prescribed.

- **EXCEPTIONS TO LEGAL CATEGORY** Paracetamol capsules or tablets can be sold to the public provided packs contain no more than 32 capsules or tablets; pharmacists can sell multiple packs up to a total quantity of 100 capsules or tablets in justifiable circumstances.

- **MEDICINAL FORMS** There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug. Forms available from special-order manufacturers include: oral suspension, oral solution, suppository, powder

Tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 29 (500 mg tablets in adults), 30

- **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**

Paracetamol 500 mg Paracetamol 500mg caplets |

100 tablet [PoM](#) £3.05 DT = £2.41

Paracetamol 500mg tablets | 100 tablet [PoM](#) £2.41 DT = £2.41 |

1000 tablet [PoM](#) £24.10

Paracetamol 1 gram Paracetamol 1g tablets | 100 tablet [PoM](#)

£2.49 DT = £2.49

- **Mandalol** (M & A Pharmachem Ltd)

Paracetamol 500 mg Mandalol 500mg caplets | 100 tablet [PoM](#)

£1.34 DT = £2.41

Mandalol 500mg tablets | 100 tablet [PoM](#) £1.34 DT = £2.41

- **Paravict** (Ecogen Europe Ltd)

Paracetamol 500 mg Paravict 500mg tablets | 100 tablet [PoM](#)

£1.62 DT = £2.41

Suppository

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 30

- **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**

Paracetamol 80 mg Paracetamol 80mg suppositories |

10 suppository [P](#) £10.00 DT = £10.00

Paracetamol 120 mg Paracetamol 120mg suppositories |

10 suppository [P](#) £12.39 DT = £12.39

Paracetamol 125 mg Paracetamol 125mg suppositories |

10 suppository [P](#) £15.00 DT = £13.80

Paracetamol 240 mg Paracetamol 240mg suppositories |

10 suppository [P](#) £22.01 DT = £22.01

Paracetamol 250 mg Paracetamol 250mg suppositories |

10 suppository [P](#) £33.38 DT = £27.60

Paracetamol 500 mg Paracetamol 500mg suppositories |

10 suppository [P](#) £36.50 DT = £36.50

Paracetamol 1 gram Paracetamol 1g suppositories |

10 suppository [P](#) £60.00 DT = £59.50

- **Alvedon** (Intrapharm Laboratories Ltd)

Paracetamol 60 mg Alvedon 60mg suppositories |

10 suppository [P](#) £11.95 DT = £11.95

Paracetamol 125 mg Alvedon 125mg suppositories |

10 suppository [P](#) £13.80 DT = £13.80

Paracetamol 250 mg Alvedon 250mg suppositories |

10 suppository [P](#) £27.60 DT = £27.60

Oral suspension

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 30

- **Paracetamol (Non-proprietary)**

Paracetamol 24 mg per 1 ml Paracetamol 120mg/5ml oral suspension paediatric | 100 ml [P](#) £1.25-£1.70 | 500 ml [P](#) £6.23 DT = £6.23

Paracetamol 120mg/5ml oral suspension paediatric sugar-free |

100 ml [P](#) £1.83 DT = £1.37 sugar-free | 200 ml [P](#) £2.72-£3.20

sugar-free | 500 ml [P](#) £8.00 sugar-free | 1000 ml [P](#) £10.48