

Suppository Paracetamol

Factsheet



Paracetamol Suppositories

Paracetamol is a pain killer (analgesic) and Paracetamol Suppositories are presented in the form of a white suppository. They are available in four strengths. A suppository is a long, but small-in-size capsule-shaped medicine which is inserted into the back passage (rectum).

They are for the treatment of mild to moderate pain such as toothache and/or a high temperature (fever) when it is difficult to take paracetamol by mouth in the form of tablets or a syrup.

Uses

A medication in the form of a suppository (which is inserted into the back passage) is useful if:

- You are unable to swallow an oral medicine (tablet, capsule, or liquid) for any reason
- You are vomiting or feel sick and cannot keep an oral medicine down
- You are having seizures and cannot take medicines by mouth
- You have a blockage that stops the medication moving through the digestive system and being absorbed
- You have had surgery and cannot take medicines by mouth

Using a suppository with adults

- Your bowels need to be empty when you use this medicine
- If you need to go to the toilet, make sure that you do it before you use the suppository
- It may be easier to use the suppository if you are lying on your front or side on a bed
- Wash your hands
- Then peel the wrapping apart to take out the suppository
- Use only a whole suppository. Do not break the suppository before use
- Gently push the suppository into your back passage with the pointed end first
- To make it easier to use the suppository you may warm it slightly between your hands beforehand
- Try to keep still for a minute or two and then wash your hands

The dose should not be repeated more frequently than every 4 hours. Do not exceed the recommended dose, higher doses do not produce any increase in analgesic effect. The product should not be used for more than 3 days, except on the advice of a doctor.

- Please check with your pharmacist the exact dose to use and the maximum dose
- Do not take any other paracetamol containing products whilst using paracetamol suppositories

Paracetamol 125mg Suppositories

Paracetamol Suppositories are available in four strengths (125mg, 250mg, 500mg, 1000mg).

Infant 1 year (up to 10kg)

1 x 125mg suppository every 4 to 6 hours up to a maximum of 4x125mg suppositories in 24 hours.

Child over 1 year up to 5 years (10-20kg)

1 or 2 x 125mg suppositories every 4 to 6 hours up to a maximum of 4 or 8 suppositories in 24 hours.

Paracetamol 250mg Suppositories

Children 6-9 years (20-30kg)

1-2 x 250mg suppositories every 4 to 6 hours up to a maximum of 4x 250mg suppositories in 24 hours.

Children 10-12 years (30-40kg)

1-2 x 250mg suppositories every 4-6 hours up to a maximum of 4 or 8 suppositories in 24 hours.

Paracetamol 500mg Suppositories

Adults and Children 12 years and over

1-2 500mg suppositories every 4 to 6 hours up to a maximum of 4 or 8 suppositories in 24 hours.

Children 10-12 years (30-40 kg)

1 x 500mg suppository every 4 to 6 hours up to a maximum of 4 x 500mg suppositories in 24 hours.

Paracetamol 1000mg Suppositories

Adults only

1x 1000mg suppository every 4 to 6 hours up to a maximum of 4 x 1000mg suppositories in 24 hours

Suppository Paracetamol

Factsheet



Using a suppository with children

- Your child's bowels need to be empty when you give them this medicine
- If your child needs to go to the toilet, make sure that they do it before you give them the suppository
- It may be easier to give your child the suppository if they are lying on their front or side on a bed
- Wash your hands
- Then peel the wrapping apart to take out the suppository
- Use only a whole suppository. Do not break the suppository before use
- Gently push the suppository into your child's back passage with the pointed end first
- To make it easier to give the suppository you may warm it slightly between your hands beforehand
- Try to keep your child still for a minute or two and then wash your hands
- If you need to give another suppository, then follow the above procedure again

Doses should be based on the child's age and weight. These doses may be repeated up to a maximum of 4 times in 24 hours. The dose should not be repeated more frequently than every 4 hours. The recommended dose should not be exceeded. Higher doses do not produce any increase in analgesic effect. The product should not be used for more than 3 days, except on the advice of a doctor.

- Please check with your pharmacist the exact dose to use and the maximum dose
- Do not take any other paracetamol containing products whilst using paracetamol suppositories

What are the side effects of paracetamol?

Serious side effects of paracetamol include:

- Allergic reactions, which may be severe and include:
 - Skin rashes, itching or hives
 - Swelling of the throat, tongue or face
 - Shortness of breath or wheezing
- Skin rash or peeling, or mouth ulcers
- Breathing problems. This is more likely if you have experienced them before when taking other painkillers such as ibuprofen and aspirin
- Unexplained bruising or bleeding or becoming unusually tired or getting more infections than usual
- Liver problems. Nausea, sudden weight loss, loss of appetite and yellowing of the eyes and skin can occur

If you get any of the rare side effects listed above, stop taking the medicine and contact your doctor immediately.

Access

Paracetamol Suppositories are a Pharmacy Medicine. People can buy products classified as 'pharmacy medicines' (P) but only from a pharmacy and in the presence of a pharmacist. These medicines, also called 'pharmacy-only medicines', are not usually displayed on open shelves.