

# Supply issue: Paracetamol liquid

(Say 'pa-ra-SEE-ta-mol')



Paracetamol liquid is commonly used for fever and pain relief, mainly in children. From 1 September 2022, supply of the funded brand of liquid paracetamol (Paracare) will begin to be disrupted. To ensure ongoing supply, Paracare will be replaced by a new brand called Avallon paracetamol.

## How is Avallon paracetamol different?

### 120 mg in 5 mL (lower strength)

The colour and taste are different. Avallon is off-white in colour and has a strawberry/vanilla flavour.

### 240 mg in 5 mL (higher strength)

- The dose of 240 mg in 5 mL is different from Paracare Double Strength, which has 250 mg in 5 mL. This may mean the amount of medicine you give your child may change. See the dose table on the next page.
- This strength is also off-white in colour and has a strawberry/vanilla flavour.



Both strengths of Avallon paracetamol are the same colour and flavour. Always read the label and give your child the right dose. **Do NOT rely on the colour, smell, or flavour.**

Ask your GP, nurse or pharmacist if you aren't sure what dose to give.



### Note

The inactive ingredients such as flavourings, colourings and sugar may be different. If you have questions about these, talk to your GP, nurse or pharmacist.



## Avallon 240 mg in 5 mL is not Medsafe approved

Although it is approved in Australia, Avallon 240 mg in 5 mL hasn't been through New Zealand's Medsafe approval process. This doesn't mean the medicine is unsafe.

### How much paracetamol should I give my child?

- The dose of paracetamol depends on your child's weight.
- Weigh your child AND check the strength of the paracetamol you have.
- Use the dose table below to find the correct dose.

### Before giving your child paracetamol:

- Check if your child still needs it.
- Wait at least 4 hours between doses.
- Do NOT give more than 4 doses in 24 hours.
- Check the expiry date.

**!** It's important your child does not take more than the daily recommended dose. If your child takes too much – all at once or over a period of days – paracetamol can damage their liver.

## Paracetamol dose table

Child's weight	120 mg in 5 mL	250 mg in 5 mL	240 mg in 5 mL (new strength)
Less than 5 kg	Ask your doctor or pharmacist	Ask your doctor or pharmacist	Ask your doctor or pharmacist
5 kg	3 mL	1.5 mL	1.5 mL
6 to 7 kg	3.5 mL	1.5 mL	1.5 mL
8 to 9 kg	5 mL	2 mL	2.5 mL
10 to 12 kg	6 mL	3 mL	3 mL
13 to 14 kg	8 mL	4 mL	4 mL
15 to 16 kg	9.5 mL	4.5 mL	4.5 mL
17 to 18 kg	10.5 mL	5 mL	5 mL
19 to 20 kg	12 mL	5.5 mL	6 mL
21 to 22 kg	13 mL	6.5 mL	6.5 mL
23 to 25 kg	14.5 mL	7 mL	7 mL
26 to 28 kg	16.5 mL	8 mL	8 mL
29 to 32 kg	18 mL	8.5 mL	9 mL
33 to 36 kg	20.5 mL	10 mL	10 mL
37 to 41 kg	23 mL	11 mL	11.5 mL
42 to 60 kg	26 mL	12.5 mL	13 mL
Greater than 60 kg	30 to 40 mL	15 to 20 mL	15 to 20 mL