

# I can tell you where to get, how to store, and what to do if my child misses a medication.

## How will I get my child's medicines?

Your transplant coordinator and social worker will help you find a drug store (pharmacy) that works with your insurance company. Before your child leaves the hospital, your child's home medicines will be brought to the hospital room. The transplant pharmacist and the transplant coordinator will talk to you about each of the medicines before you go home.

## Medications in tablet or capsule form that should not be split or crushed

Sirolimus (Rapamune)  
Mycophenolate (Cellcept/Myfortic)  
Valganciclovir (Valcyte)

## • Where do I keep my child's medicines at home?

Keep medicine in a dry place, out of reach of children.

## How to store liquid medicine

### Medicine

Tacrolimus (Prograf liquid)  
Mycophenolate (Cellcept liquid)  
Sirolimus (Rapamune liquid)  
Cyclosporine (Neoral)  
Prednisolone (Orapred)

### How to Store

Room temperature  
Room temperature  
Refrigerator  
Room temperature  
Refrigerator or Room temperature  
Check with pharmacy

Valganciclovir (Valcyte)	Refrigerator
Sulfamethoxazole/Trimethoprim (Bactrim liquid)	Room temperature
Fluconazole (Diflucan liquid)	Room temperature
Amlodipine (Norvasc liquid)	Refrigerator
Ursodiol (Actigal liquid)	Refrigerator
Lansoprazole (Prevacid liquid)	Refrigerator

## **I can tell you what to do if we miss a dose of medicine.**

- **What do I do if my child misses a dose of medication?**

If your child misses a dose, give it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, give only one dose. Do not give two doses to make up for a missed dose. If you have any questions, call the transplant center

- **What happens if my child doesn't take these medications every day?**

Taking too little medicine may let your child's body reject the transplanted liver. Too much medicine may hurt the liver and make it hard for your child's body to fight infection.

Do not stop, start, or change your child's medication unless your doctor or transplant coordinator tells you to.

- **What happens if my child is sick and cannot take his or her medicine?**

If your child is sick to the stomach or is throwing up and cannot take medicine, call your doctor or transplant coordinator.

If your child has more than 4 loose stools in 24 hours, call your doctor or transplant coordinator.

- **Can my child take medicine not prescribed by the transplant doctor?**

Your child's medicine needs change after transplant.

- Do not give your child any medicine, supplement, or herb until the transplant doctor or coordinator says it is all right. They may interfere with your child's transplant medicine.

- If any other doctor prescribes medicine for your child, tell your transplant doctor or coordinator before you give it.
- Do not give your child any of these medicines unless your transplant doctor or coordinator says it is all right:
  - medicine to treat loose stools or diarrhea
  - cold medicine, like nose sprays or decongestants (like Sudafed)

Some medicines or grapefruit can cause dangerous drug interactions when taken with the immunosuppressive medications. If your child's pediatrician or other doctor prescribes any new medicines for your child, call the transplant team or transplant pharmacist to discuss any new medications before giving them to your child.

**If your child has fever or pain**, you can give regular strength acetaminophen (Tylenol) in the right dose for your child's age and weight.

If you give the acetaminophen for more than 48 hours and your child still has symptoms, call

- your Clinical Transplant Coordinator at (602) 933-5134 if the clinic is open
- Or call the on-call GI provider through the hospital operator at (602) 933-1000 if it is after 4:30 pm, or a weekend or holiday.

**Do not give Advil, Motrin, ibuprofen, ketoprofen, naproxen, Aleve or aspirin for fever or pain.** These can affect kidney function.

The clinical transplant coordinator will call you with your child's lab results and to let you know if the doctors want to make any changes to your child's medication.

### **What do I do if we run out of medicine when we are home?**

Missing a dose of immunosuppressant may affect your child's liver and increase risk of rejection. Make sure you have enough medication to last at least 1 week. Call drug store for refills as soon as you see you are running low, because it takes the pharmacy time to make some of these medicines.

If there are no refills left, ask them to call the Transplant Center at 602-933-5134. At your next appointment, you can ask your doctor or Transplant Coordinator for new prescriptions.

If you run out of medicine, call transplant team right away. You may have to go to the Emergency Department of the hospital for medication.

## What do I do if I cannot pay for my child's medicine?

Your child must always have his or her medicine. If you do not have money to pay for refills, before you run out of medicine call your social worker at the transplant center for help.

### Over-the-Counter Medicines

If a medicine is not listed here as safe, ask your Transplant Team before you give it to your child.

Your child should not take anything with pseudoephedrine, phenylephrine, phenylpropanolamine, ibuprofen, naproxen, or ketoprofen. Avoid combination or multi-symptom cold, sinus, and flu products (Triaminic multi symptom products, Dayquil, Nyquil).

### OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS

Symptom	Safe	Not Safe
Sneezing, Itching and Runny Nose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Loratadine (Claritin)</li><li>Fexofenadine (Allegra)</li><li>Cetirizine (Zyrtec)</li><li>Cromolyn (NasalCrom)</li><li>Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)</li><li>Chlorpheniramine (Chlor-trimeton)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Loratadine + Pseudoephedrine (Claritin-D)</li><li>Fexofenadine + Pseudoephedrine (Allegra-D)</li></ul>
Nasal and Sinus Congestion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Oxymetolazone nasal spray/drops (Afrin or Allerest 12 hour Nasal Spray)</li><li>Little noses saline spray/drops</li><li>Sodium Chloride nasal spray (Ocean spray)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pseudoephedrine (Sudafed, Afrin tablets)</li><li>Phenylephrine (Sudafed PE)</li></ul>
Cough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dextromethorphan (Delsym)</li><li>Dextromethorphan/Guaifenesin (Robitussin DM)</li><li>Guaifenesin (Robitussin)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dextromethorphan + Guaifenesin + Phenylephrine (Robitussin CF)</li><li>Acetaminophen + Diphenhydramine + Phenylephrine (Robitussin Night time Multi Symptom Cold Relief)</li></ul>

#### Disclaimer

The information provided at this site is intended to be general information, and is provided for educational purposes only. It is not intended to take the place of examination, treatment, or consultation with a physician. Phoenix Children's Hospital urges you to contact your physician with any questions you may have about a medical condition.