

# Single Checking of Analgesia during Triage in the Children's Emergency Department - Paediatric Full Clinical Guideline - Derby only.

Reference no.: CH CLIN C49/Jan 2023/v002

## 1. Introduction

- Historically there have always been 2 registered nurse checkers for paediatric medicines in the Children's Hospital.
- The introduction of single checking of analgesia at triage began in the Children's Emergency department (CED) in April 2011. This was in response to longer waiting times for triage and in turn, longer waiting times for analgesia whilst a second checker was found.
- This process was formalised after a discussion and acceptance of change of practice at a meeting of the Medicines Management Group in December 2010.
- It was accepted that rather than change the whole Medicines Code it would be reasonable to accept the minutes as formal acknowledgement of the change.
- The implementation of a current guideline will formally recognise the embedded change and will make it easy to follow an audit trail of this process.

## 2. Aim and Purpose

- The aim is to formally recognise embedded practice only in this area of the Children's Emergency Dept in the Children's Hospital.
- It will be easier for nurses to distinguish the difference between single checking of analgesia by age doses at triage as per BNFC and packet labelling and then administering PGD's using the patient's weight with 2 registered nurse checkers later on in the patient's journey.

## 3. Definitions, Keywords

- PGD's: Patient Group Directions
- BNFC: British National Formulary for Analgesia refers to paracetamol and ibuprofen.

## 4. Main body of Guidelines –

- A second nurse checker is not needed to give analgesia during triage when a child has pain or discomfort.
- The registered nurse must have 6 months experience in a paediatric setting and have passed the Triage Package competency booklet.
- This dose is an age related dose as per BNFC and packet labeling. If the child weighs less than or significantly more than average, a weight related dose can be

given using a second nurse checker as per PGD and the Medicines Code, following the initial triage period.

- The purpose of age related dosing is to reduce the potential risk of error when calculating a weight-based dose. If the child is incorrectly weighed this could result in an incorrect analgesia dose. This provides quality reassurance and reduces risk of drug error.
- After triage the child can have a weight related dose as per PGD and using the child's weight and with a second checker.
- The dose of analgesia given is documented the Lorenzo prescription box.

## 5. References (including any links to NICE Guidance etc.)

- Minutes of Medicines Management Group 10/12/04 December 2010
- Guidelines on the Administration of Paracetamol in Children CH PH GE 17
- BNF for Children 2016-17 bnfc.org
- Medicines Code 2017– Section 9 Checking 9.4.2

## 6. Documentation Controls

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Review Date:	January 2023 - Extended to July 2024
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## 7. Appendices

Appendix 1: Single nurse administration of ibuprofen at triage

Appendix 2: Single nurse administration of paracetamol at triage

**Appendix 1****Single Nurse Administration of Ibuprofen at Triage****Mild to Moderate Pain****Pyrexia with discomfort****Pain and inflammation of soft tissue injuries****Ibuprofen 100mg/5mls**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Dose</b>	<b>Volume</b>
<b>3 -5 months</b>	<b>50mg</b>	<b>2.5mls</b>
<b>6-11 months</b>	<b>50mg</b>	<b>2.5mls</b>
<b>1-3 years</b>	<b>100mg</b>	<b>5mls</b>
<b>4-6 years</b>	<b>150mg</b>	<b>7.5mls</b>
<b>7-9 years</b>	<b>200mg</b>	<b>10mls</b>
<b>10-11 years</b>	<b>300mg</b>	<b>15mls</b>
<b>12-17 years</b>	<b>300-400mg</b>	<b>15-20mls</b>

Reference - <http://bnfc.nice.org.uk/drug/ibuprofen.html#indicationsAnddoses>**Appendix 2**

**SINGLE NURSE ADMINISTRATION OF PARACETAMOL****BABIES AND CHILDREN AGED 3 MONTHS TO 5 YEARS****120MGS/5MLS**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Dose</b>	<b>Volume ( mls)</b>
3-5 months	60 mg	2.5 mls
6-23 months	120 mg	5 mls
2-3 years	180 mg	7.5 mls
4-5 years	240 mg	10 mls

**CHILDREN AGED 6 – 12 YEARS+****250MG/5 MLS**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Dose</b>	<b>Volume (mls)</b>
6-7 years	250 mg	5 mls
8-9 years	375 mg	7.5 mls
10-11 years	500mg	10 mls
12-15 years	500-750 mgs	10-15 mls
16-17 years	0.5-1g	1-2 tablets

Reference : <https://bnfc.nice.org.uk/drug/paracetamol.html#indicationsAndDoses> [ accessed  
2 June2019]