Creating Liquid Doxycycline for infants and children exposed to a disease

How to Make Liquid Doxycycline

25 mg per 5 mL (teaspoon)

You will need:
- One (1) 100 mg doxycycline tablet
- Something heavy to crush the tablet, such as a metal spoon, the bottom of a cup or glass or a hammer
- Measuring teaspoon(s), regular eating teaspoon, medicine cup or medicine syringe
- Water and one of the following: sugar, chocolate or flavored syrup, apple juice or apple sauce
- One (1) bowl or cup
- These directions

Please read all instructions before you begin.

Step 1

Put one (1) 100mg doxycycline tablet into a small bowl. Crush into powder using the back of a metal spoon or the bottom of a cup or glass.

You can also place the tablet in a plastic bag and crush it with something heavy like a hammer or rolling pin.

The powder should not have any large pieces of medicine.

Add four (4) teaspoons (20mL) of water into the medicine powder.

Mix well until the powder dissolves and there is no more powder at the bottom of the bowl.

Step 2

Weigh your child. Use your child’s weight to find the correct dosage on the chart below.

Weight: ___________ lbs

Dosage Chart
- You can find out how much medicine to give your child based on your child’s weight.
- Use this chart to find the amount for one (1) dose.
- Give this dose two (2) time(s) a day - once in the morning and once in the evening - for as many days as you were told to give this medication.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight (lbs)</th>
<th>Dose (teaspoon)</th>
<th>Dose (mL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 pounds or less</td>
<td>1/2 teaspoon</td>
<td>2.5 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 to 25 pounds</td>
<td>1 teaspoon</td>
<td>5 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 to 50 pounds</td>
<td>2 teaspoons</td>
<td>10 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 to 75 pounds</td>
<td>3 teaspoons</td>
<td>15 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76 pounds or more</td>
<td>4 teaspoons or 1 whole tablet (100mg)</td>
<td>20 mL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Dosage applicable for prophylaxis against anthrax, plague and tularemia as referenced by the CDC and U.S. Food and Drug Administration in the “How to Prepare Doxycycline for Children and Adults Who Cannot Swallow Pills” (March 28, 2016).

If you do not have a measuring teaspoon or a medication syringe, then use a regular teaspoon. When using a regular teaspoon it may be hard to measure portions (1/2) of a teaspoon. Do the best you can. It is better to give a little more medicine than not enough.

See reverse for more directions.
How to Make Liquid Doxycycline

My child’s name ____________________
My child’s dose is ___________________

Mix this amount with food or liquid. See below.

Step 3

This medicine tastes better mixed with table sugar or other sweet food or drink.

One (1) dose of doxycycline liquid

Mix with:
Chocolate foods or drinks like chocolate syrup, apple juice or apple sauce sweetened with extra table sugar.

Mix well before using.

DO NOT mix with:
- Calcium fortified juice
- Infant formula
- Breast milk
- Milk or any milk-products such as yogurt or ice cream.

You may use this medicine for up to 24 hours if it is kept at room temperature or in the refrigerator. Throw away any unused liquid after 24 hours and mix fresh every day.

Step 4

How to give the medicine to an infant:

Bottle Nipple:
Mix the medicine with one or two teaspoons of the above flavor additives inside the nipple of the bottle. Let your infant suck on the nipple until all the medicine is gone

Medicine Syringe:
Mix the medicine as described in Step 3. Remove cap from tip of syringe. Place tip of syringe into the medicine mix and draw up into the syringe. Squirt the medicine into the mouth along the side of the cheek. Make sure the child drinks all the liquid mixed with the medicine.

For older children:
Make sure your child eats or drinks all the food or drink that is mixed with the medicine. It may be helpful to have the child suck on an ice cube or fruit flavored popsicle before and after giving this medication. This may help cover up the bad taste.

Important Information:
Mix well before using
Give this medication one hour before or two hours after your child takes any of these:
- Infant formula, breast milk or milk products such as yogurt, or ice cream
- Calcium fortified juice, vitamins, antacids, or sucralfate (a medicine)

Possible Side Effects of Doxycycline
- Upset stomach, throwing up, and/or diarrhea
- Sunburn - use sunscreen on your child before going out in the sun
- Possible permanent staining of teeth

Warnings
Stop use and seek medical help if your child develops any of these rare but dangerous symptoms:
- Allergic effects such as: trouble breathing; closing of the throat; swelling of lips, tongue or face; hives
- Painful swallowing
- Yellowing of skin or eyes, dark urine, stomach pain, throwing up and/or loss of appetite
- Bulging soft spot in infants

For more information about doxycycline, go to: http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/EmergencyPreparedness/BioterrorismandDrugPreparedness/ucm131012.htm

If you have further questions, contact your family physician, local pharmacist, or the state designated help line.

Funded by a federal grant from the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Content developed by the Illinois Emergency Medical Services for Children program and the Pediatric Preparedness Workgroup. Illustrations provided by Loyola University Health System, Maywood, Illinois.

Note: Information contained in this brochure was adapted from the U. S. Food and Drug Administration information card, “How to Prepare Doxycycline for Children and Adults Who Cannot Swallow Pills”

Revised March 2017