

Public Service Announcement

Nationwide shortage of Children's Tylenol and Children's Advil liquid medications

Start date: November 21, 2022

End Date: November 30, 2022

Nunavut-wide

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The Government of Nunavut (GN) is advising of a temporary shortage of Children's Tylenol (acetaminophen) and Children's Advil (ibuprofen) liquid medications. The shortage is due to increased demand for this medication in response to a heightened level of circulating respiratory illnesses this season.

Currently, the GN has been able to secure sufficient medication for community health centres but following the steps below can help ensure continued access to these medications.

- Speak with your local health care provider or pharmacist to check if your child needs these medications.
- As pharmacy shortages may continue only buy what is necessary to ensure that medication is available for others.
- Do not use adult fever and pain medications for children without consulting a health care professional. There is a serious risk of overdosing.
- Do not give Aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid) to your child, as it can increase the risk of a serious illness called Reye's Syndrome when used during a viral illness.
- Ensure your child's vaccines are up to date to reduce their risks of serious illness.
- Do not use expired products as they can be less effective and may not be safe.

Health Canada has secured foreign supply of acetaminophen, which will improve the supply shortage in the coming weeks. The GN continues to monitor the situation and is working with Federal, Provincial and Territorial partners for solutions to the situation.

Nunavummiut over the age of six months are encouraged to get a flu shot and stay up-to-date on their COVID-19 vaccinations to reduce the risk of severe disease.

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