

## 9 Medications

If you are unfamiliar with giving medicine, be very careful. It may be best for the patient to see a pharmacist or medical clinician.

Avoid giving medicine that will not work for the patient's condition.

Be careful to give the proper amount.

Before giving medicine ALWAYS ASK:

Does any medicine make you sick?

If so, what medicine made you sick, and what happened.

Do not give this kind of medicine to the patient if it caused problems in the past.

### Pain

	Adult dose (60kg or heavier)	Child dose (30-50Kg)
Aspirin	600-1000mg every 4-6 hours	300mg every 4-6 hours
Ibuprofen	400-600mg every 4-6 hours	200mg every 4-6 hours
Acetaminophen	600-800mg every 4-6 hours	300mg every 4-6 hours

Avoid medication from the opioid family (codeine, hydrocodone, oxycodone) unless you have specific training giving them.

### Infection

You usually do not need to give medicine for an infection if the source of the infection is removed such as abscessed tooth or debris from gums.

Only give antibiotics if:

- The patient has a large swelling associated with a bacterial infection.
- The patient has a fever which is associated with an oral bacterial infection.

Otherwise, it is best for the patient to see a pharmacist or physician.

The more these antibiotics are used, the less they will work in the future. So only give them if completely necessary. Antibiotics do not fight pain. Give pain medicine to fight pain. Give antibiotics to fight bacterial infections.

First choice for oral infection:

	Adult dose	adolescent dose	child dose
Penicillin VK	500mg 3x/day for 7 – 10 days	250mg 3x/day for 7-10 days	100mg 3x/day for 7 days
	If allergic to Penicillin, give Erythromycin		
Erythromycin	250mg 4x/day for 10 days	125mg 4x/day for 10 days	50mg 4x/day for 10 days

Some people will only want to take medicine and not receive treatment. This is especially true if an extraction is necessary. Avoid giving medicine if they do not want treatment. In situations in which there is a swelling associated with a dental infection, and the patient is unable to become numb, it is alright to give antibiotics to fight the infection first. The patient should then return after 3-10 days to have definitive treatment such as tooth extraction or gum cleaning.