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Children & Nonprescription Medicines

When your child gets sick, you may reach for a nonprescription (or "over-the-counter") medicine. As part of its national Be MedWise campaign, the National Council on Patient Information and Education recommends these safety tips for you and your children's caregivers:

1. Give infants and children only those medicines specifically formulated for their weight and age. In fact, rely on a child's weight for correct dosing.
2. Use the specific dropper or dosing cup that comes with the medicine. Household utensils are not accurate measuring devices.
3. Read the "Drug Facts" label carefully. Check and compare the "active ingredient" on each medicine your child might be using, before giving a new OTC medicine. Be sure that he or she gets only the recommended dose of any single active ingredient.

Because we care about you and your family's safe use of medicines, (NAME OF ORGANIZATION) is proud to join in the nationwide Be MedWise campaign. For more information, visit www.bemedwise.org.

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