

Acetaminophen by any other name (356 words)

Acetaminophen is an active drug ingredient in many of the over-the-counter (OTC) and prescription medicines that we use to treat colds, headaches, flu symptoms and aches and pains. In fact, it's in over 600 OTC and prescription medicines. What we may not know is how many of the medicines we take actually contain acetaminophen. The truth is that too much acetaminophen can cause liver damage and even death.

Which medicines contain acetaminophen? Take a look at the lists below and check off all of the medications that *you think* contain acetaminophen.

Over-the-Counter Brand Name Midol[®] **Common Prescription Drugs** Actifed[®] Motrin[®] Diltazium[®] □ Advil® Nyquil[®] Endocet[®] Alka-Seltzer Plus Liquid Gels[®] Panadol[®] Fioricet[®] □ Anacin[®] Robitussin[®] Hycotab □ Saint Joseph[®] Aspirin-Free Benadryl[®] Hydrocet[®] Cepacol[®] □ Singlet[®] Hydrocodone Bitartrate □ Contac[®] □ Sinutab[®] Lortab[®] Percocet[®] Coricidin[®] Sudafed[®] □ Theraflu® Dayquil[®] Phenaphen[®] Dimetapp[®] □ Triaminic[®] Sedapap[®] Dristan[®] TYLENOL[®] Brand Products Tapanol[®] □ Excedrin[®] Vanguish[®] □ Tylenol[®] with Codeine □ Feverall[®] Vicks[®] □ Tylox[®] Formula 44[®] Zicam[®] Ultracet[®] Goody's[®] Powders And store brands Vicodin[®] Liquiprin[®] Zydone[®] And generic drugs

Acetaminophen: Do They or Don't They ?

ALL but **3** of these medicines contain acetaminophen. Advil[®], Motrin[®] and Diltazium[®] do not. Acetaminophen is in more medicines than you think. When you take these medications, be A**cetaminophen-Savvy**:

- **1.** ALWAYS READ THE DRUG FACTS LABEL! Learn to recognize acetaminophen in your OTC medications by reading the Active Ingredients section of the Drug Fact label. If it's a prescription medicine that contains acetaminophen, it may be listed as *APAP*, *acet*, *acetamin* or *acetaminoph* on the prescription container label.
- **2.** USE AS DIRECTED. Acetaminophen is safe and effective when used as directed. Taking more could cause an overdose and can lead to liver damage.
- **3.** NEVER DOUBLE-DOSE. Never take two medicines that contain acetaminophen at the same time.
- **4.** DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK. Talk to your healthcare professional if you have acetaminophen questions.

For further information, contact [organization's name] at [URL].

