

This sheet explains how to prepare emergency dosages of

Ciprofloxacin

for infants and children exposed to **anthrax**

Once you have been notified by your federal, state, or local authorities that you have been exposed to anthrax, it may be necessary to prepare **emergency** doses of ciprofloxacin for infants and children using ciprofloxacin tablets.

You will need:

- One (1) 500 milligram (mg) ciprofloxacin tablet
- Metal teaspoon
- Measuring spoons [1 teaspoon (tsp); and ½ teaspoon (tsp)] (NOTE measuring spoons are preferred, however if not available, use the metal spoon to grind, measure and give the medicine)
- 1 small bowl
- One of these foods
 - chocolate syrup
 - maple syrup
 - caramel syrup
 - ketchup

Directions:

1. Put one (1) 500-mg ciprofloxacin tablet into a small bowl. Crush the tablet with the back of the metal spoon until no large pieces are seen.



2. Add six (6) level teaspoons (tsp) of a food to the crushed ciprofloxacin. Stir them together until the drug looks evenly mixed with the food.



How Much of the Ciprofloxacin Mixture to Give a Child

The number of teaspoons of the ciprofloxacin mixture to give a child depends on the child's weight. **If child's weight is unknown, weigh child before giving the first dose.** The chart tells you how much to give a child for one dose. You should give child two doses each day (one in the morning and one in the evening) **for 60 days.**

| If the child weighs | Give the child |
|-----------------------|---|
| 4 - 6.5 pounds (lbs.) | One half (1/2) teaspoon (tsp) (2.5mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 7 - 12.5 (lbs.) | One (1) teaspoon (5mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 13 - 18 (lbs.) | One and one half (1 ½) teaspoons (7.5mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 19 - 24 (lbs.) | Two (2) teaspoons (10mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 25 - 30 (lbs.) | Two and one half (2 ½) teaspoons (12.5mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 31 - 37 (lbs.) | Three (3) teaspoons (15mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 38 - 43 (lbs.) | Three and one half (3 ½) teaspoons (17.5mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 44 - 49 (lbs.) | Four (4) teaspoons (20mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 50 - 55 (lbs.) | Four and one half (4 ½) teaspoons (22.5mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 56 - 61 (lbs.) | Five (5) teaspoons (25mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 62 - 67 (lbs.) | Five and one half (5 ½) teaspoons (27.5mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture |
| 68 - 73 (lbs.) | Six (6) teaspoons (30mL) of the ciprofloxacin mixture (or 1 tablet) |

Children heavier than 73 pounds who are exposed to anthrax should take one (1) 500-mg tablet of ciprofloxacin two times a day (at the same time each day if possible) **for 60 days.** If the child cannot swallow tablets, use the directions for preparing a mixture and give 6 teaspoons twice a day.

How already prepared Ciprofloxacin mixture should be stored

- Prepare the Ciprofloxacin mixture daily; store mixture in covered container and refrigerate. Mixture will keep for at least 24 hours refrigerated.
- Throw away any unused portions.

