

Paracetamol Dosing

	Adults weighing 33kg to 40kg	Adults weighing 41kg to 49kg	Adults weighing >50kg
Oral dose and frequency of administration	1 x 500mg tablet up to FOUR times a day	2 x 500mg tablets (1g) up to THREE times a day*	2 x 500mg tablets (1g) up to FOUR times a day
Maximum daily dose	4 x 500mg tablets (2g)	6 x 500mg tablets (3g)	8 x 500mg tablets (4g)

*This is equivalent to 1.5 x 500mg (750mg) four times a day, but eliminates the need for tablet halving, which in turn saves pharmacy dispensing time and is more comfortable for the patient to swallow

For patients unable to swallow tablets there are liquid preparations available as follows:

Liquid Strength	Container Size	Price	33kg to 40kg		41kg to 49kg		>50kg	
			Dose	Cost/day	Dose	Cost/day	Dose	Cost/day
Paracetamol 250mg/5ml oral suspension	100ml	£1.61	10ml up to FOUR times a day	£0.64	15ml up to FOUR times a day	£0.97	20ml up to FOUR times a day	£1.29
Paracetamol 250mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free	200ml	£2.31	10ml up to FOUR times a day	£0.46	15ml up to FOUR times a day	£0.69	20ml up to FOUR times a day	£0.92
Paracetamol 500mg/5ml oral suspension sugar free*	150ml	£24.00	5ml up to FOUR times a day	£3.20	7.5ml up to FOUR times a day	£4.80	10ml up to FOUR times a day	£6.40
Paracetamol 500mg/5ml oral solution sugar free*	200ml	£18.00	5ml up to FOUR times a day	£1.80	7.5ml up to FOUR times a day	£2.70	10ml up to FOUR times a day	£3.60

*This strength should only be used for patients on fluid restriction

Other preparations available are:

- Paracetamol 120mg/5ml suspension/solution
- Soluble paracetamol (these have a high sodium content)
- Rectal suppositories
- Intravenous paracetamol (for use by nursing staff, only if oral and rectal routes are inappropriate)