





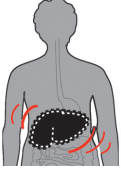





<p><b>Active ingredients (generic names)</b></p>	<p><b>PARACETAMOL</b> (para-ceet-a-mol)</p>  <p><b>Paracetamol combinations</b> not included in this monograph — see individual monograph for information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paracetamol + codeine</li> <li>• Paracetamol + ibuprofen</li> </ul> <p>Paracetamol is in lots of commonly available mixtures and tablets, alone or in combination.</p>
<p><b>What it is used for</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mild to moderate pain relief</li> <li>• Fever</li> <li>• Chronic pain</li> </ul>
<p><b>How it works</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduces pain by blocking some pain pathways</li> <li>• Lowers fever by reducing production of prostaglandins (hormone-like substances)</li> <li>• Can be combined with stronger pain medicines (analgesics) — so less of the stronger pain medicine is needed</li> </ul> 
<p><b>Side effects</b></p>	 <p>Nausea and vomiting</p>  <p>Diarrhoea</p>

 <p><b>Warnings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Do not give tablets closer together than 4 hours for regular tablets or 6 hours for slow release tablets</b> (can cause liver damage)</li> </ul>   <p>Liver trouble</p>  <p><b>Emergency if a lot of tablets taken at once (overdose) — call doctor or ambulance straight away</b></p>
<p><b>Tell the patient</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure children are given correct dose             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Children’s paracetamol comes in different strengths</li> <li>▶ Use specially marked medicine cup or dropper</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Taking more than 6 slow-release or 8 regular tablets containing paracetamol in one day can damage your liver             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ If taking paracetamol for pain or fever — make sure there is no paracetamol in other medicines you are taking (eg cold medicines, osteoarthritis medicines)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  <p>Return to clinic if needed for more than a few days for adults or 48 hours for children OR you take too much</p>
<p><b>Check</b></p>	<p><b>Warning stickers (page 310):</b> 19a, A (slow-release tablets)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children’s paracetamol comes in different strengths — check the dose carefully</li> <li>• Do person’s other medicines contain paracetamol <i>OR</i> dosing aid contains paracetamol</li> <li>• If also taking warfarin — monitor INR and decrease warfarin dose if needed</li> </ul>