

3.13 Standing Order for supply of Paracetamol

TITLE	Standing order for Paracetamol
Trade Name(s)	APO, Dimetapp, Dymadon, Febridol, Lemsip, Panadol, Panamax, Paralgin (Note: Some paracetamol preparations contain combinations of caffeine, chlorpheniramine, codeine, dextromethorphan, dextropropoxyphene, doxylamine, metoclopramide, orphenadrine, phenylephrine, pseudoephedrine, and / or triprolidine. This Standing Order is for paracetamol <u>only</u>).
Presentation¹	<u>Tablets / capsules / chewable tablets / soluble tablets or soluble powder:</u> containing 120mg, 250mg, 500mg, 600mg, 1000mg <u>Suspension:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50mg / mL • 100mg / mL • 120mg / 5mL • 240mg / 5mL (Note: paracetamol is available as modified / sustained release (665mg) tablets, suppositories and intravenous infusions. This Standing Order is for oral non-modified release preparations <u>only</u>)
Indication	Analgesia for the treatment of mild to moderate pain (any cause). Corresponding pain score may range from 1 – 6
Contraindications¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Known allergy to paracetamol or specific preparation components • Impaired liver function including current alcohol dependence • Previous dose 15mg / kg (1g adult dose) of paracetamol within 4 hours • Cumulative dose 60mg / kg (4g adult dose) of paracetamol within preceding 24 hours • Avoid soluble preparations (due to high sodium content) in heart failure / hypertension / where low sodium intake is indicated
Precautions¹	Nil specific – assess effectiveness by repeating pain assessment 30 – 60 minutes post administration
Dose¹	<p><u>Adults and children > 12 years</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1g <p><u>Children > 1 month</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15mg / kg (maximum 1g) (maximum 60mg / kg / 24 hours – not more than 4g per 24 hours)
Dose frequency¹	<p><u>Adults and children > 12 years</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • every 4 – 6 hours (maximum 4g per 24 hours) <p><u>Children > 3 months</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • every 4 – 6 hours (maximum 60mg / kg / 24 hours – not more than 4g per 24 hours)
Administration and Supply¹	<p>May be administered in hospital and supplied via pre-labelled stock for use outside the hospital in a take-home pack of no more than 10 tablets.</p> <p>Prepare and administer appropriate oral dose based on product concentration, product instructions and intended dose.</p>
Storage	Must be stored out of patient and public access, preferably in a locked room or a locked cabinet securely attached to the wall or floor – see PD2013_043.
Adverse effects¹	Rare – though hypersensitivity / allergic type reactions are possible

Nursing Accreditation Requirements	An RN whose competency to practice Nurse Delegated Emergency Care and to comply with this Standing Order has been assessed and approved by a <i>Local Facilitator</i> , in accordance with the NDEC Education and Accreditation Framework.
Documentation	Administration and supply record is to be documented by the administering nurse. Document first dose and supply of take home pack (if applicable) on the “once only” section of the appropriate medication chart The record of administration must be checked and countersigned by a medical officer within 24 hours of initial administration.
Related Documents	NDEC Nurse Management Guideline: Pain http://www.ecinsw.com.au/node/275

Local Standing Order Authorisation:

Date approved by _____ LHD Drugs and Therapeutics Committee:	Medical Officer Name:
Review Date:	Signature:

¹ The drug information provided is to act as a guide only, for further information reference should be made to the full product info available on MIMS or the Australian Medicines Handbook <accessible in NSW Health facilities via CIAP: > If contraindications, precautions or interactions are present refer to MO before administration