



TYPES OF MEDICATION

Medication Categories	Definition	How you can identify the type of medication	Common Examples in Child Care Settings
Prescription	Medication that requires a written order by a licensed prescriber to get medicine from the pharmacy to treat a specific condition. It can be a generic or brand name medication.	All prescription medications come in a container/bottle with a pharmacy label on it. The label has instructions for how to give the medication for a specific child.	Antibiotics, Ventolin®, Epi-Pen®, Ritalin®, Dilantin®, Mycostatin®, Zantac®, Cortisporin Otic®, Septra®, Zyrtec®, Auralgan®, Amoxicillin
Over-the-counter (non-prescription)	Medication that can be obtained without a prescription from a licensed authorized prescriber. It can be a generic or brand name medication.	Over-the-counter medication does not have a pharmacy label on it. The instructions for use are not specific to the child.	Tylenol®, Desitin®, Dimetapp®, sunblock, insect repellent, PediaCare®, antibiotic ointment, ibuprofen
Generic name	The chemical name of a medication. It is also the “active ingredient” of the medication.	The medication package or container will be listed “active ingredient”.	Amoxicillin, acetaminophen, ibuprofen, hydrocortisone cream, albuterol, triple antibiotic ointment, nystatin
Brand name	The name given to the medicine by the pharmaceutical company that created it.	The medication name should have a ® symbol identifying it as a proprietary name.	Tylenol®, Desitin®, Dimetapp®, Lantus®, Motrin®, Pen Vee-K®, Cipro®, Benadryl®, Neosporin®