

Medication Routes



Medication can get into a child's body in many ways. The most common ways for medication to be absorbed into a child's body is through the lining of the stomach and intestines, through the skin or through the lining of the lungs. The way medication is taken, so it can be absorbed into the body, is called the medication **route**.

In this course you will learn seven ways (routes) to give medication:

- On the skin (topically)
- By mouth (orally; includes topically applied in the mouth)
- Inhaled through the mouth or nose
- By using medicated patches
- By putting it in the ear
- By putting it in the eye
- By using an auto-injector, like an EpiPen®, to give a shot of epinephrine to prevent anaphylaxis.

Routes **not** covered in this course include:

- Rectal
- Vaginal
- Injection

If a child in your program needs medication given rectally, vaginally or by injection, you will need to get additional training. For more information on the steps you need to take before you are able to give medication by routes other than the ones listed above, see Module 10.



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