



Health
Canada

Santé
Canada

Deputy Minister

Sous-ministre

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0K9

Your file

Votre référence

Our file

Notre référence

November 29, 2022

Patrick Williams, Clerk
Standing Committee on Health
Sixth Floor, 131, Queen Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Williams,

I am writing to respond to the motion of the Committee on November 22, regarding the shortages of pediatric analgesics.

Specifically, on November 22, 2022, the Standing Committee on Health (HESA) adopted the following motion:

That for the next six months Health Canada table with the committee every 14 days the number of infant and children's analgesic units that arrived in Canada through exceptional importations that month; and, that this information be provided in both official languages, and the clerk post this information on the committee's website immediately.

Please find attached the Department's response to the order of the Committee. We will provide further updates to the Committee as per the schedule outlined in the Motion.

We are available, as always, to address the Committee's questions and concerns.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen Lucas
Deputy Minister of Health

Pediatric Analgesics

In the two-week period between November 15-29, 1.1 million units of children's pain and fever medications were imported into Canada for hospitals, community pharmacies and retail outlets, for a total of 1.137 million units imported since this shortage began.

This will supplement the increased domestic production of Canadian supply, which is at a record high, with some companies producing about 100% more than they were at the same time in 2021. This increase in domestic production includes 1.1 million units which began to be released into the market in November.

Products listed below include both acetaminophen and ibuprofen containing products that we have authorized to be imported to alleviate the shortage.

List of products eligible for importation

Brand name	Strength	Manufacturer	Date of authorization	Country of authorization	Availability
Children's Advil Suspension Bubblegum 4oz (120mL)	100 mg/5 mL	Haleon	October 17, 2022	United States	Hospitals
Children's Advil Suspension Dye Free Blue Raspberry 4oz (120mL)	100 mg/5 mL	Haleon	October 17, 2022	United States	Hospitals
Tylenol for Babies 1 Month – 2 years 200mL	24 mg/mL	Johnson & Johnson Inc.	October 20, 2022	Australia	Hospitals
Children's TYLENOL Oral Suspension 4 oz (120 mL) Grape	160 mg/5 mL	Johnson & Johnson Inc.	November 10, 2022	United States	Retail
Children's TYLENOL Oral Suspension 4 oz. (120 mL) Dye Free Cherry	160 mg/5 mL	Johnson & Johnson Inc.	November 10, 2022	United States	Retail