

Deputy Minister Sous-ministre Ottawa, Canada

K1A 0K9

April 4, 2023

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. The next report will be provided to the Committee on April 18, 2023.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen Lucas Deputy Minister of Health

## **Children's Analgesics**

As of April 4, 3,491,780 units of children's pain and fever medications were imported into Canada for hospitals, community pharmacies, and retail outlets. This is an additional 335,500 units imported during the period of March 22 and April 4.

This will continue to supplement the increased domestic production of Canadian supply, which remains at record levels.

Products listed below include both acetaminophen and ibuprofen containing products that Health Canada has authorized to be imported to alleviate the shortage.

## List of products eligible for importation

| Brand name |                                                                                  | Strength        | Manufacturer                              | Date of<br>authorization | Country of authorization | Availability                             |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1.         | Children's Advil<br>Suspension<br>Bubble gum<br>4oz (120mL)                      | 100 mg/5<br>mL  | Haleon                                    | October 17,<br>2022      | United States            | Hospitals &<br>Retail                    |
| 2.         | Children's Advil<br>Suspension<br>Dye Free Blue<br>Raspberry 4oz<br>(120mL)      | 100 mg/5<br>mL  | Haleon                                    | October 17,<br>2022      | United States            | Hospitals                                |
| 3.         | Tylenol for<br>Babies 1<br>Month – 2<br>years<br>200mL                           | 24 mg/mL        | Johnson &<br>Johnson Inc.                 | October 20,<br>2022      | Australia                | Hospitals                                |
| 4.         | Children's<br>TYLENOL Oral<br>Suspension 4<br>oz (120 mL)<br>Grape               | 160 mg/5<br>mL  | Johnson &<br>Johnson Inc.                 | November 10,<br>2022     | United States            | Retail                                   |
| 5.         | Children's<br>TYLENOL Oral<br>Suspension 4<br>oz. (120 mL)<br>Dye Free<br>Cherry | 160 mg/5<br>mL  | Johnson &<br>Johnson Inc.                 | November 10,<br>2022     | United States            | Retail                                   |
| 6.         | Children's Advil<br>Suspension<br>Bubble gum 4<br>oz (120mL)                     | 100 mg/5<br>mL  | Haleon                                    | November 30,<br>2022     | United States            | Retail & Hospital                        |
| 7.         | Genexa Kids'<br>Pain & Fever                                                     | 160mg/5<br>mL   | Genexa                                    | December 7,<br>2022      | United States            | Retail                                   |
| 8.         | Infants' Advil<br>Concentrated<br>Drops                                          | 50mg/1.2<br>5mL | Haleon                                    | December 8,<br>2022      | United States            | Retail & Hospital                        |
| 9.         | Parol<br>(Paracetamol)<br>Suspension for<br>children 2 – 11<br>years (150mL)     | 24mg/mL         | Atabay Kimya<br>Sanayi ve<br>Ticaret A.S. | December 30,<br>2022     | Turkey                   | Hospitals in<br>Alberta                  |
| 10.        | Parol<br>(Paracetamol)<br>Suspension for<br>children 2 – 11<br>years (150mL)     | 24mg/mL         | Atabay Kimya<br>Sanayi ve<br>Ticaret A.S. | January 26,<br>2023      | Turkey                   | Pharmacies in<br>Alberta                 |
| 11.        | Pedifen<br>(Ibuprofen)<br>Pediatric Syrup                                        | 20 mg/mL        | Atabay Kimya<br>Sanayi ve<br>Ticaret A.S. | February 10,<br>2023     | Turkey                   | Retail &<br>hospitals (<br>Alberta only) |

| for children 2 –<br>11 years (100<br>mL)                                            |                |                           |                      |               |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 12. Children's<br>TYLENOL Oral<br>Suspension 4<br>oz (120 mL)<br>Dye Free<br>Cherry | 160 mg/5<br>mL | Johnson &<br>Johnson Inc. | February 14,<br>2023 | United States | Retail & Hospital |