

Reducing Pain for Needle Related Procedures



Comfort measures are meant to help with pain. These measures may be used when placing an IV, drawing blood or giving shots. The best methods to help with your child's pain will be based on your child's age, medical history and procedure. Options may include:

Sucrose. This is sugar water.

It is given to infants less than 6 months old. It is given by mouth 2 minutes before the procedure. This works well with a pacifier.

PainEase™. A fast acting spray that goes on the skin.

This can be used only if your child is at least 12 months old. It is put on the treatment area immediately before the procedure. This is available for purchase without a prescription at the Children's Hospital outpatient (Skywalk) pharmacy.

LMX™. Local anesthetic cream.

The cream needs to be put on the treatment area 30 to 60 minutes before the procedure.

Buffered Lidocaine via J-Tip™. A needle-free injection system.

It pushes local anesthetic medicine into the skin just before starting an IV.

J-Tip can only be used if your child is at least 6 months old. It is normally used only if there is not time to use one of the other options.

Synera. A numbing patch or bandage. This is put on the skin where the needle will go in. It takes 20 to 40 minutes to numb the skin. It is warm to the touch. It can be used for children who are 6 months older. (Only used at some locations).

ALERT: Call your child's doctor, nurse, or clinic if you have any concerns or if your child has special health care needs not covered by this information.

This teaching sheet is meant to help you care for your child. It does not take the place of medical care. Talk with your healthcare provider for diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up.