How to Use an Oral Syringe

Oral syringes are used to measure liquid medications. One side of the syringe is marked in teaspoons (tsp). The other side is marked in milliliters (ml).

Drawing the Medicine into the Oral Syringe:

- Wash your hands well for 15 seconds.
- Pour some medicine into a small, clean cup.
- Put the tip of the syringe into the medicine.
- Pull the plunger back to bring the medicine into the syringe. Draw back the medicine to the correct mark (the amount of medicine needed).
- Make sure there are no large air bubbles in the syringe. If there are air bubbles, squirt the medicine back into the cup and try again.

Giving the Medicine to an Infant – Syringe Only:

- Hold your baby the same way as when you nurse or feed him. Place the syringe tip between the baby's cheek and gum at the back of the mouth.
- Give your baby small amounts of the medicine by slowly pushing in on the plunger.
- Be sure to let your baby swallow the medicine before giving another squirt.
- Do not lay your baby down until all the medicine has been swallowed.
- If your baby has trouble swallowing the medicine from the oral syringe, you may squirt medicine from the syringe into an empty nipple.
  1. Hold your baby in his feeding position.
  2. Place an empty bottle nipple in your baby’s mouth.
  3. Squirt the medicine from the oral syringe into the nipple.
  4. Allow your baby to suck the medicine from the nipple.
  5. Clean the syringe and nipple with warm water.

REMEMBER: Do not put any medicine into your child’s formula or juice unless directed by your child’s doctor.

Giving the Medicine to an Older Child: Squirt the medicine slowly into your child’s mouth. Be sure your child swallows the medicine.

Cleaning the Oral Syringe:

- Take the syringe apart and wash with warm tap water after each use.
- The oral syringe should only be used for one child.