

24/7
Illinois Perinatal
HIV Hotline



GIVE BIRTH TO A FUTURE
WITHOUT HIV/AIDS

800-439-4079

hivpregnancyhotline.org

GIVING YOUR NEWBORN MEDICINE

Your baby is being sent home on AZT syrup (also called Zidovudine). This is a medication that stops the HIV virus from growing. Giving your baby this medication may help him or her to not become HIV positive. You should give your baby this medicine for _____ weeks after you leave the hospital.

Your baby's dose is _____ ml (_____ mg) to be given every _____ hours (standard dosing is every 12 hours).

HOW TO GIVE THIS DRUG

Use the syringe that the nurses gave you to draw up the medication dose. You may pour a small amount of medication into the medication cup if it is easier for you. The nurses will show you how to give the medication to your baby while you are still in the hospital and make sure that you can give it properly.

Try to give your baby the medication before a feeding. Do not mix the medication with the entire bottle of formula. However, you may add a teaspoon of formula to the nipple if your baby takes it better that way.

You can slowly squirt the medicine from the syringe directly into your baby's mouth or you can slowly squirt the medicine into a clean bottle nipple. Have your baby suck on the nipple until all of the medicine is gone.

Give your baby the medicine every _____ hours for _____ weeks. It is very important to stay on schedule.

Take the syringe apart and clean it with water after each dose.

IF YOU FORGET A DOSE

If you remember it less than 2 hours after the time you were supposed to give it, **GIVE THE DOSE, AND** give the next dose on time.

If you remember it within 6 hours of the time you were supposed to give it, **GIVE THE DOSE** and then give the doses every 10 hours until you are back on a convenient schedule.

If you remember it more than 6 hours after the time you were supposed to give it, **DO NOT GIVE THE DOSE** and instead wait and give the dose at the next scheduled time.

If you forget 2 or more doses, give a dose right away, and call your doctor or nurse.

IF YOUR BABY SPITS UP

If your baby spits up a little, do not worry.

If your baby throws up a lot, check to see when you last gave the medicine.

- If it was less than 20 minutes ago, **GIVE** another dose of the medicine right away.
- If it was more than 20 minutes ago, **DO NOT GIVE** an extra dose of the medicine. Just give the next dose on schedule.

OTHER INFORMATION

Keep this medication in the refrigerator.

Do not mix the medicine with the baby's bottle of formula. The baby may not receive all of the medicine.

Do not change the dose of the medicine unless you have been told to do so by your doctor or nurse.

Do not give your baby any other medicine without talking to your doctor or nurse first.

Watch your baby for side effects of the medication. Call your doctor or nurse if your baby has diarrhea, vomiting, a fever, or unusual bleeding or bruising.

REMEMBER, YOUR BABY HAS THE BEST CHANCE OF NOT BECOMING HIV POSITIVE IF YOU GIVE EVERY DOSE FOR THE TOTAL NUMBER OF WEEKS.

SAMPLE DOSING SCHEDULES

The medicine should be given every ____ hours for ____ weeks. The nurses will help you decide on a schedule for your baby. Circle the times so that you won't forget!

1am	7am	1pm	7pm
2am	8am	2pm	8pm
3am	9am	3pm	9pm
4am	10am	4pm	10pm
5am	11am	5pm	11pm
6am	12pm	6pm	12am