

Applying Medication Topically



Topical medication comes in many forms such as:

- gels
- creams
- ointments
- aerosols

In addition to any medication-specific instructions, follow these principles when applying medication topically:

- You should wear gloves if:
 - ◇ the skin on your hands is cut, scabbed or broken;
 - ◇ the child's skin where the medication is to be applied is cut, scabbed or broken;
 - ◇ the medication to be applied should not touch **your** skin; or
 - ◇ you feel more comfortable wearing gloves to apply the medication.
- For non-aerosol topical medication, squeeze the appropriate amount of medication into your gloved hand.
- If you need to apply more medication, change gloves and squeeze the medication into the clean glove.
- Apply or spray the medication evenly on the skin.
- When spraying any topical medication, shield the child's face or have the child turn away from the spray and close his/her eyes.



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