

Helping HandTM Health Education for Patients and Families

(<u>To Staff and Families</u>: Please use Helping Hand V-157 *Medicine Safety* – *General* for safety information.)

Mixing Antibiotics at Home

When you go to the pharmacy to pick up your antibiotic, you will be given 3 items to keep in the refrigerator:



1. Premixed liquid medicine. Your child will take this for the next 14 days.



 Water bottle(s) with an exact amount of water. This water will be mixed with powder medicine.



3. Powder medicine that must be mixed when the premixed liquid medicine is all gone or expired.

How to Give This Medicine

- Give your child the premixed liquid medicine as written on the label. Do this for 14 days.
- When your premixed liquid medicine expires or is gone, you will mix the powder medicine in the water bottles for the next 14 days.
- Only use the water from the pharmacy to mix your child's medicine. **Do not use any other water.**
- The pharmacy will give you the exact amount of powder and water you need to mix the medicine. You **must** use all the water. **Do not add any more.** If some of the water spills or can't be used, call the pharmacy that filled the antibiotic.

How to Mix This Medicine

- 1. Shake the powder medicine bottle to loosen the powder.
- 2. Open the powder medicine bottle. Pull off the seal if there is one.
- 3. Open the water bottle. Pour half of the water into the powder medicine bottle. Do not pour the powder into the water bottle.
- 4. Close the powder medicine bottle. Shake it for 20 seconds.
- 5. Open the powder medicine bottle. Pour in the rest of the water.
- 6. Close the powder medicine bottle. Shake it for 20 seconds.
- 7. Look at the bottom of the powder medicine bottle to make sure all the powder has been mixed. If the powder is clumped, shake the closed bottle until the clumps are gone.
- 8. Give your child the mixed medicine.
- 9. Label the bottle with a date that expires 14 days from the date it was mixed.

Medicine Storage

Keep premixed liquid medicine, medicine powder, and water in the refrigerator.