

Cough and Cold Medicine for Children

Based on a preliminary analysis of available information, Health Canada recommended in October 2007 that over-the-counter cough and cold medicines not be used in children under the age of 2, unless directed to do so by a health care practitioner. Since that time, Health Canada has completed its analysis, received input from a Scientific Advisory Panel convened in March 2008, and decided, in December 2008, that certain non-prescription cough and cold medicines should not be labelled for use in children under 6.

Cough and Cold Medicine for Children - Not for Children Under 6

<http://healthcanada.gc.ca/coughandcold>

The graphic is a bilingual informational poster. At the top, it features the Health Canada logo and the slogan 'Your health and safety... our priority' in both English and French. The main title in English is 'Over-the-counter cough and cold medicines with certain active ingredients are being relabelled to say: "Do not give to children under 6."'. The French title is 'Les médicaments en vente libre contre la toux et le rhume contenant certains ingrédients actifs font l'objet d'une modification d'étiquetage précisant: « Ne pas administrer aux enfants de moins de six (6) ans ».' Below the titles are two circular images of a child coughing into their elbow. The left side contains text about the relabelling process, stating it will be completed by fall 2009 and advising parents to consult a health practitioner. The right side explains that the modification is completed by autumn 2009 and advises consulting a health professional. Both sides provide contact information: 1-866-558-2946 and the website www.healthcanada.gc.ca/coughandcold (English) and www.santecanada.gc.ca/touxe rhume (French). The Canada wordmark is at the bottom of each column.

Over-the-counter cough and cold medicines with certain active ingredients are being relabelled to say: **“Do not give to children under 6.”**

Relabelling will be completed by fall 2009. Until then, parents and caregivers should talk to a health practitioner (such as a pharmacist, nurse or doctor) when buying or using these products.

For more information about non-medicinal ways to provide temporary relief for cough and cold symptoms and the list of ingredients to watch for, call 1-866-558-2946 or go to www.healthcanada.gc.ca/coughandcold

Les médicaments en vente libre contre la toux et le rhume contenant certains ingrédients actifs font l'objet d'une modification d'étiquetage précisant : **« Ne pas administrer aux enfants de moins de six (6) ans ».**

Cette modification d'étiquetage pour ces médicaments sera terminée d'ici l'automne 2009. C'est pourquoi, d'ici là, les parents et les personnes qui prennent soin des enfants devraient consulter un professionnel de la santé (par exemple : un pharmacien, une infirmière ou un médecin) s'ils achètent ou utilisent ces produits.

Pour obtenir plus de renseignements concernant les façons non médicinales de soulager temporairement les symptômes de la toux et du rhume ou pour consulter la liste des ingrédients à surveiller, veuillez composer le 1 866 558 2946 ou consulter www.santecanada.gc.ca/touxe rhume

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