

This card explains how to prepare emergency dosages of

## Doxycycline

for infants and children exposed to anthrax

Once you have been notified by your federal, state, or local authorities that you have been exposed to anthrax, it may be necessary to prepare **emergency** doses of doxycycline for infants and children using doxycycline tablets.

### You will need:

- One (1) 100 milligram (mg) doxycycline tablet
- Metal teaspoon
- Measuring spoons [1 teaspoon (tsp); and ½ teaspoon (tsp)]  
(NOTE measuring spoons are preferred, however if not available, use the metal spoon to grind, measure and give the medicine)
- 1 small bowl
- One of these foods or drinks
  - chocolate syrup
  - maple syrup
  - strawberry jam
  - apple juice

### Directions:

1. Put one (1) 100-mg doxycycline tablet into a small bowl. Crush the tablet with the back of the metal spoon until no large pieces are seen.



2. Add four (4) level teaspoons (tsp) of a food or drink to the crushed doxycycline. Stir them together until the drug looks evenly mixed with the food or drink.



### How Much of the Doxycycline Mixture to Give a Child

The number of teaspoons of the doxycycline mixture to give a child depends on the child's weight. **If child's weight is unknown, weigh child before giving the first dose.** The chart tells you how much to give a child for one dose. You should give a child **two doses** each day (one in the morning and one in the afternoon).

<i>If the child weighs</i>	<b>Give the child</b>
4 – 11.5 pounds (lbs.)	<b>One half (1/2) teaspoon (tsp)</b> of the doxycycline mixture
11.5 – 22.5 (lbs.)	<b>One (1) teaspoon</b> of the doxycycline mixture
22.5 – 33.5 (lbs.)	<b>One and one half (1 ½) teaspoons</b> of the doxycycline mixture
33.5 - 45 (lbs.)	<b>Two (2) teaspoons</b> of the doxycycline mixture
45 - 55 (lbs.)	<b>Two and one half (2 ½) teaspoons</b> of the doxycycline mixture
55 - 65 (lbs.)	<b>Three (3) teaspoons</b> of the doxycycline mixture
65 - 77 (lbs.)	<b>Three and one half (3 ½) teaspoons</b> of the doxycycline mixture
77 - 88 (lbs.)	<b>Four (4) teaspoons</b> of the doxycycline mixture
Children heavier than 88 pounds who are exposed to anthrax should take one (1) 100-mg tablet of doxycycline two times a day (at the same time each day if possible) for 60 days. If the child cannot swallow tablets, use the directions for preparing a mixture and give 4 teaspoons twice a day.	

### How already prepared Doxycycline mixture should be stored

- Doxycycline mixed with any of the recommended foods and drinks will keep for at least 24 hours.
- Store the mixture in a covered container and refrigerate.
- Mixtures made with juice can be stored at room temperature.
- Prepare the doxycycline mixture daily; unused portions should be thrown away.