Health Facts for You



Sweet-ease® for Infant Pain Relief

Sweet-ease[®] is an oral liquid made of sugar (sucrose) and water that can be used to decrease pain in infants.

When can Sweet-ease® be used?

Sweet-ease[®] may be used if your baby is going to the operating room or having deep sedation in the sedation clinic to complete a painful procedure.

Here is a list of other times Sweet-ease[®] may be used:

- Poking a heel for a lab.
- Poking a vein for a lab draw.
- Placing an IV into a vein.
- Placing a catheter into the bladder.
- Giving an immunization.

Who can get Sweet-ease®?

Sweet-ease[®] is most often given to infants 6 months and younger.

Who should not get Sweet-ease®?

Sweet-ease[®] may not be given if your baby cannot have anything to eat or drink. Talk with your baby's doctor or nurse.

Sweet-ease[®] is used for pain. It is not used to calm fussy infants.

How is Sweet-ease® given?

To give Sweet-ease[®], dip a pacifier into the Sweet-ease[®] and have your baby suck on the pacifier. If a pacifier can't be used, a 1mL syringe can be used to drop a few drops (0.1-0.2mL) on the front part of your baby's tongue. Giving Sweet-ease[®] with a pacifier may give better pain control than using Sweet-ease[®] alone.

As a parent, you can give Sweet-ease[®] to your baby. Your baby's nurse can also give it.

Sweet-ease® works best if given two minutes before the procedure starts. Repeat every 5 minutes during the procedure, but no more than 3 times total in a 2-hour period. After the procedure, any leftover Sweetease® is thrown away.

To find out if Sweet-ease[®] is a good option for your baby, ask your baby's doctor or nurse.

Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 10/2023 University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#7555