



ADR

Tip of the Month

Challenges in paediatric drug use

Infants, children and youth represent nearly 25% of Canada's population and receive, on average, four prescriptions a year from a range of more than 1,200 different drugs. Data on the efficacy and safety of most medications prescribed is limited.

Drug investigations in the paediatric population face multiple challenges, such as:

- Defining appropriate ethical adaptation of clinical trials
- Ensuring adequate sample sizes
- Overcoming technical difficulties (i.e., frequent blood sampling)
- Expanding the availability of age-appropriate products (i.e., liquid, chewable or melt formulations).

To improve safety data for the paediatric population, health care providers must continue to report ADRs.

Please report all serious adverse drug reactions (ADRs).