



Baby Powder

Prepared by the Health Consultant Team at Child Care Aware® of North Dakota

Any type of baby powder (talcum powder, cornstarch, diaper powder, dusting powder, etc.) is a non-prescription product that needs to be treated like a medication. It is not recommended to use by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Baby powder is not recommended for the following reasons:

- Powder is considered a fine particle. Fine particles are easily inhaled deep into the lungs or can become lodged in the eye. Infants and children are more susceptible to the effects of breathing in fine particles because they have faster rates of breathing, smaller airways and their lungs are still developing. Trouble breathing, coughing, and wheezing can occur.
- The powder may contain harmful ingredients. Talcum powder, which contains talc, has been found to damage lungs and cause death.

If you decide to use baby powder:

- Be sure parents have filled out a non-prescription product form and have signed it before you use it.
- Don't shake the powder directly on the child. Apply an amount of the powder to your hand, away from the child's head and then apply it to the child's bottom.
- Store the baby powder out of the reach of children.

Sources:
National Capital Poison Center
American Academy of Pediatrics

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