Objective

- Demonstrate the true palatability of pediatric clindamycin suspension
- Compare the palatability of acetaminophen elixir & suspension
- By demonstrating that one formulation of acetaminophen is both better tasting AND more affordable we can help reduce redundancy over the counter & improve patient compliance/adherence

Background

- When treating bacterial infections in children, physicians often prescribe antibiotic suspensions in lieu of tablets or capsules which children have not learned to swallow
- Palatability plays a significant role in patient compliance/adherence
- Taste is well developed by early infancy and younger children are equally capable as older children at expressing judgments regarding taste
- Clindamycin is traditionally believed to be one of the worst tasting of the antibiotic suspensions whereas amoxicillin is widely believed to be one of the best tasting
- Acetaminophen is available as a suspension or an elixir

Methods

Subjects

- 46 adult volunteers, aged 20-82

Exclusion criteria

- Allergy to penicillin/amoxicillin, allergy to medicine or food, fever/kidney/liver/stomach or intestinal disease at time of the study, respiratory infection or any other condition that might impair the senses of smell and taste, pregnancy, medication/vitamin/supplement use within 6 hours of study participation

Study Design

- Subjects assessed the tastes of 5 antibiotic suspensions: 3 clindamycin products and 2 acetaminophen product tasted twice in a single-blinded, alternating, randomized fashion
- Subjects then rated the palatability of each medication on a 0-5 scale (see table 2)
- Subjects then assessed the tastes of acetaminophen elixir and suspension in a single-blinded, randomized fashion
- Subjects again rated the palatability of each medication on the 0-5 scale mentioned above

Table 1: Products Used

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manufacturer/ Formulation</th>
<th>Price (in USD)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clindamycin 75mg/5mL</td>
<td>$68.59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riang</td>
<td>$84.44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greenstone</td>
<td>$84.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amoxicillin 400mg/5mL</td>
<td>$30.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acetaminophen Elixir</td>
<td>$7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acetaminophen Suspension</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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