

Fever: the Body's Way of Fighting Sickness



REMEMBER you can call your doctor's office 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They are your Medical Home.

If your child has a fever but is still playing and eating, your child can be treated at home. But if your child looks sick and doesn't want to play or eat, your child should see the doctor no matter what the thermometer reads. If you aren't sure, call your doctor. Say what your child's temperature is and where you took it – under the tongue, in the armpit, etc.

AGE: BIRTH - 2 MONTHS

TEMPERATURE OVER 100.5°F: Call the doctor **NOW**. Don't give any medicine. Fever in babies can be a sign of a bad infection.

AGE: 3 MONTHS AND OLDER

TEMPERATURE OF 100.5° - 104°F: Call the doctor if the fever doesn't go away in 2 days or if your baby is less than 6 months old.

WITH A TEMPERATURE OF 104°F OR HIGHER: Your child may have an infection and need antibiotics. Call the doctor.

WITH ALL FEVERS

For children under 6 months, treat the fever with Tylenol (also known as acetaminophen).

Children 6 months or over may use Tylenol (also known as acetaminophen) or Advil or Motrin (also known as ibuprofen). Make sure your child gets lots of rest and drinks plenty of liquids.

EMERGENCY ROOM OR CALL 911 WHEN YOUR CHILD

Go to the **Emergency Room** or call 911 when a child could die or risk their health without help NOW!

- is unusually hard to wake up
- has a red rash under the skin that doesn't fade when it's pressed
- has a stiff neck and headache, or the soft spot on a baby's head is swollen
- has a convulsion/seizure (unusual staring or movements)



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