



# Fever / Infection Control

## Assessment

### Pediatric Pearls:

- Use pediatric dosing of medications or electrical therapy for a pediatric patient < 37 kg and as defined by the PEDIA Tape.
- Pediatric hypotension is defined as SBP < 70 + (age in years x 2) mmHg

### Signs & Symptoms:

- Warm
- Flushed
- Diaphoretic / Sweaty
- Chills / Rigors

### Associated Symptoms to Help

#### Localize:

- Myalgia, cough, chest pain, headache, dysuria, abdominal pain, altered mental status, rash, vomiting, diarrhea

### Differential:

- Infections / Sepsis
- Cancer / Tumors / Lymphomas
- Medication or drug reaction
- Connective tissue disease(s):
  - Arthritis
  - Vasculitis
- Hyperthyroid
- Heat stroke
- Meningitis

## Clinical Management Options

P	P	P	P	P	P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age appropriate core body temperature assessment</li> <li>• <a href="#">Oxygen</a></li> <li>• Cooling measures and/or unbundle</li> </ul>
L	L	L	L	L	L	
1	2	3	4	5	6	

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- If fever > 100.4 F without an environmental cause:
  - Adult – [Acetaminophen](#)
  - Adult – [Ibuprofen](#)

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- If fever > 100.4 F without an environmental cause:
  - Pediatric – [Acetaminophen](#)
- [Vascular access](#)
- If dehydrated and not able to hold PO fluids: [Isotonic Crystalloid](#) titrated to effect

## Consult Online Medical Control As Needed

### Pearls:

- Refer to drug formulary charts for all medication dosing for both adults and pediatric patients.
- Provider and patient PPE are to be donned as soon as possible when signs of an infectious disease are recognized.
- Signs of improvement to help titrate to effect include: improved heart rate, decrease body temperature, resolution of thirst, feeling the need to urinate and/or increased urination, improvement in mental status, improvement in skin conditions, etc.
- If increased temperature, utilize passive cooling by removing excessive clothing or covers
- Droplet precautions include standard PPE plus a standard surgical mask for providers who accompany patients in the back of the ambulance and a surgical mask or NRB O2 mask for the patient. This level of precaution should be utilized with influenza, meningitis, mumps, streptococcal pharyngitis, and other illnesses spread via large particle droplets are suspected. A patient with a potentially infectious rash should be treated with droplet precautions.
- Contact precautions include standard PPE plus utilization of a gown, change of gloves after every patient contact, and strict hand washing precautions. This level of precaution is utilized when multi-drug resistant organisms (e.g. MRSA, scabies, or zoster (shingles)), or with other illnesses spread by contact are suspected.
- All-hazards precautions (Airborne Precautions) include standard PPE, contact precautions plus N-95 mask for providers. At minimum a surgical mask should be placed on the patient. This level of precautions is utilized during the initial phases of an outbreak when the etiology of the infection is unknown or when the causative agent is found to be highly contagious (e.g. SARS, TB).
- High Consequence Infectious Disease (HCID) is defined as: "An infectious disease that presents an immediate threat; poses a high risk of death or serious long-term disability to a large number of people; and creates a substantial risk of public exposure, due to the disease's high level of contagion or the method by which the disease is transmitted."