



Fever Protocol



Symptom definition:

- Fever is the only symptom
- Fever=temperature >100.4

See immediately if:

- Age younger than 3 months with any fever greater than 100.4
- Age older than 3 months and fever higher than 105
- Crying almost constantly, inconsolable
- Crying when child is touched or moving him or her
- Child has a stiff neck
- Child recently developed drooling; child unable to swallow fluids
- Child had a convulsion
- Child has burning or pain with urination

See within 24 hours by appointment:

- Age 3 to 6 months and fever higher than 102
- Fever that lasts longer than 3 days (72 hours)
- There is no obvious cause or site of infection

Treatment:

- Extra fluids and less clothing
- Fever medicine: Give Acetaminophen (dosing every 4 hours) or Ibuprofen (dosing every 6 hour) for fevers higher than 102 and if the child is uncomfortable. If dosing is needed, please see separate handouts.
 - Please note: Ibuprofen is approved only for infants older than 6 months of age
 - For most children, ibuprofen works better and longer than acetaminophen. If fevers difficult to control, use the following method:
 - Give ibuprofen around the clock every 6 hours
 - If break-through fever before it is time for another ibuprofen dose, give acetaminophen
 - As long as ibuprofen is 6 hours apart from ibuprofen and acetaminophen is 4 hours apart from acetaminophen; *it doesn't matter what the timer difference is between ibuprofen and acetaminophen.*
- Give your child a submersible bath in lukewarm (room temperature) water

