

FACTS ABOUT FEVERS

Call us First...

- Fever is a symptom, not a disease. Fever is the body's normal response to infections. Your Child has a fever if her temperature is over 100.4 (F).
- The fever itself is not harmful (unless it is higher than 107 (F). It helps fight infection.
- Most Fevers in children are caused by viral infections.
- Most viruses do not need treatment. Most fevers with viruses range from 101-104 (F) and last 2-4 days.
- The height of the fever does not generally relate to the severity of the illness. How sick your child acts is what counts.
- Most often, your child will not need emergency assessment for a fever. If you are concerned about your child or feel she may need emergency assessment, **call us first, anytime night or day.**
- While the fever is not dangerous, it is often helpful to reduce the fever to below 102 (F) so your child is more comfortable and so we together can assess how your child is acting.
- **Call us first, anytime night or day** if your child is under 2 months of age and has a fever (greater than 100.4 (F), or if your child (at any age) has a fever greater than 105 (F), or is working hard to breathe, is difficult to arouse, has a rash with purple spots, looks or acts very sick (particularly even after fever below 102 (F) or if you are worried or have concerns.
- **Call us first, anytime, day or night**, before seeking emergency care. We can call ahead to the Emergency Room to let them know to expect your child or, if appropriate, we can schedule an office visit.

If your child is experiencing and immediate, life-threatening emergency, call 911 or go to an Emergency Room.

TAKING YOUR CHILD'S TEMPERATURE

To measure a fever, a digital multi-use thermometer works well.

It can be used rectally for babies and toddlers, under the arm for any age, and in the mouth for children 4 and older.

For infants under 2 months old, it is important to check the rectal temperature.

A temporal artery (side of head) thermometer can be used in children over 3 months old.

A tympanic (ear) thermometer can be used in children over 6 months old.

DOSING MEDICATION FOR FEVER AND PAIN

ACETAMINOPHEN (TYLENOL)

Child's weight (pounds)	6-11	12-17	18-23	24-35	36-47	48-59	60-71	72-95	96+	lbs.
Liquid 160 mg/ 5 milliliters (mL)	1.25	2.5	3.75	5	7.5	10	12.5	15	20	mL
Liquid 160 mg/ 1 teaspoon (tsp)	—	1/2	3/4	1	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	3	4	tsp
Chewable 80 mg tablets	—	—	1 1/2	2	3	4	5	6	8	tabs
Chewable 160 mg tablets	—	—	—	1	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	3	4	tabs
Adult 325 mg tablets	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1 1/2	2	tabs
Adult 500 mg tablet	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	tab

IBUPROFEN (MOTRIN/ADVIL) > 6 MONTHS

Child's weight (pounds)	12-17	18-23	24-35	36-47	48-59	60-71	72-95	96+	lbs.
Infant Drops 50 mg/ 1.25 (mL)	1.25	1.875	2.5	3.75	5	—	—	—	mL
Liquid 100 mg/ 5 milliliters (mL)	2.5	4	5	7.5	10	12.5	15	20	mL
Liquid 100 mg/ 1 teaspoon (tsp)	1/2	3/4	1	1 1/2	2	2 1/2	3	4	tsp
Chewable 50 mg tablets	—	—	2	3	4	5	6	8	tabs
Junior-strength 100 mg tablets	—	—	—	—	2	2 1/2	3	4	tabs
Adult 200 mg tablets	—	—	—	—	1	1	1 1/2	2	tabs