Mercer Health
Patient Education

Mercer County Community Hospital.....419-678-2341
Community Medical Center and Urgent Care....419-586-1611
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www.mercer-health.com

Form # 424
11/2024

CHILDREN'S FEVER

WHEN YOUR CHILD HAS A FEVER

A fever is a rise in body temperature above what a normal temperature is for your baby. It is the body's normal defense response against infection. How high a fever is does not always tell how sick your child may be. Your child can be just as sick with a fever of 100.3 degrees as 102 degrees. Your baby may develop a fever after active play or from an emotional upset.

WHAT TYPE OF THERMOMETER TO USE:

(Regardless of the method used to take the temperature, DO NOT add or subtract a degree)

Axillary (Under the arm):

- Make sure the child's underarm is dry.
- Check to make sure the screen is clear of any earlier readings.
- Place the thermometer under the child's arm in the armpit.
- Place the child's arm down and across his chest to keep the thermometer in place.
- Hold the thermometer in place until it signals it is done.
- Read the temperature. A normal axillary temperature is 98.6 degrees F.

Ear thermometers can be used with babies older than 3 months of age.

Forehead strips or **temporal thermometers** and **pacifier thermometers** are not as reliable and not recommended for accurate readings.

Rectal thermometers are the most reliable.

TREATMENT:

- Give fever medication as instructed by your doctor. DO NOT give aspirin to children.
- Sponge or bathe your child with room temperature water. DO NOT use ice water or alcohol sponge baths.
- DO NOT cover your child with too many blankets or heavy clothes.

WHEN TO CALL THE DOCTOR

- Call your doctor if your baby is less than 3 months old and has a temperature greater than or equal to 100.4F degrees. The baby needs to be evaluated in the office during office hours or in the emergency room when the office is closed.

KEEP ALL MEDICINES OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN

PEDIATRIC TYLENOL/MOTRIN DOSING CHART

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TYLENOL (ACETAMINOPHEN)

DOSAGE SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN

DO NOT give Tylenol (acetaminophen) to an infant under 2 months of age unless directed by a medical professional

Weight Age	**Children's and Infant's Liquid Suspension**	**Children's Chewable Tablets/Meltaways**	**Adult Tablets**
Strength	**160 mg/5 ml**	**160 mg/1 tablet**	**325 mg/1 tablet**
6-11 lbs.	**1.25 ml**		
12-17 lbs.	**2.5ml**		
18-23 lbs.	**3.75 ml**		
24-35 lbs.	**5 ml**	**1 tablet**	
36-47 lbs.	**7.5ml**	**1 ½ tablets**	
48-59 lbs.	**10 ml**	**2 tablets**	**1 tablet**
60-71 lbs.	**12.5 ml**	**2 ½ tablets**	**1 tablet**
72-95 lbs	**15 ml**	**3 tablets**	**1 ½ tablet**
96 lbs and over	**20 ml**	**4 tablets**	**2 tablets**

** **DO NOT give this medicine to an infant under 2 months of age unless directed by a medical professional.**

-Determine the dosage for your child based on his/her weight

-Can give every 4-6 hours and may alternate with Motrin (Ibuprofen)

-Do not dose more than 5 times in 24 hours

-Do not give with other Acetaminophen containing products

MOTRIN (IBUPROFEN)

DOSAGE SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN

DO NOT give Motrin (ibuprofen) to infants under 6 months of age

Weight Age	**Infants Drops**	**Children's Liquid Suspension**	**Children's Chewable Tablet**	**Adult Tablets**
Strength	**50 mg/1.25 mL**	**100 mg/5 mL**	**100 mg/1 tablet**	**200 mg**
Under 6 months	**DO NOT GIVE**	**DO NOT GIVE**	**DO NOT GIVE**	**DO NOT GIVE**
12-17 lbs.	**1.25 ml**	**2.5 ml**		
18-23 lbs.	**1.875 ml**	**3.75 ml**		
24-35 lbs.		**5 ml**	**1 tablet**	
36-47 lbs.		**7.5 ml**	**1 ½ tablet**	
48-59 lbs.		**10 ml**	**2 tablets**	**1 tablet**
60-71 lbs.		**12.5 ml**	**2 ½ tablets**	**1 tablet**
72-95 lbs.		**15 ml**	**3 tablets**	**1 ½ tablets**
95 lbs. and over		**20 ml**	**4 tablets**	**2 tablets**

-Do not give to infants 6 months of age and younger

-Can give every 6-8 hours

-May alternate with Tylenol (Acetaminophen)

-Do not exceed 4 doses in 24 hours