

FEVER

- Fever is when the temperature of the body rises.
- Fever is usually a sign of infection in the body.
- Fever is often caused by a virus and sometimes by a bacteria.
- Viral infections are far more common and do not need antibiotics. Bacterial infections are treated with antibiotics.
- Most viral fevers last 3-5 days
- A high fever does not necessarily mean your child has a serious illness. The fever seen in common childhood infections is not harmful, and in fact it helps the body's immune system fight off the infection.
- There is no advantage to lowering your child's fever except for comfort.
- Expect the fever to return when medication has worn off.
- Fever tends to rise as the day goes on
- Treat your child by making them more comfortable; give acetaminophen or ibuprofen (older than 6 months) if the fever is making your child miserable.
- Dosing of fever reducing medication is on our website.
- Fever does not cause damage to the brain or other organs.
- Febrile seizures occur in only 2-4% of children when they have a fever.

When to contact us/ come for a sick visit

- When the fever has been present for 72 hours
- Difficulty breathing (not just a stuffy nose)
- Vomiting/inability to keep liquids down for more than 24 hours
- Excessive irritability, even when the fever is lowered
- Any child 6 weeks or younger with temperature > 100.4F
- Or any other concern you may have