

## PEDIATRIC FEVER

Fever is defined as a temperature of 100.4° F (38° C) or greater. Fever is a sign of infection rather than a problem itself. Body temperature < 105° F is not harmful in and of itself. Emergency management of the febrile child involves an assessment to determine if any associated problems are present which require emergent treatment.

- A. Perform **Initial Treatment / Universal Patient Care Protocol** and follow the proper protocol for medical management based on clinical presentation.
- B. If child appears acutely ill, **DO NOT** delay transport to check temperature. Transport and treat associated problems per appropriate protocol.
- C. Check temperature. If temperature is >102° F:
  1. Facilitate passive cooling by removing excess clothing and blankets.
  2. If child has not been given **Acetaminophen (Tylenol®)** in the last four (4) hours, administer **Acetaminophen (Tylenol®)** at 15 mg/kg per **MCP order** with the assistance of the parent or legal guardian to calm child.
- D. If child has temperature >105° F:
  3. Treat as in “C” above and also facilitate active cooling by applying wet towels with tepid water to trunk and head.
  4. **Do not** submerge in water or use ice or rubbing alcohol.
- E. Notify **Medical Command**.
- F. Transport.

