

# Emergency or not?

## A parent's guide to fever in children

In consultation with **Dr Jasmine Ho**, Consultant with the Children's Emergency at Khoo Teck Puat – National University Children's Medical Institute (KTP-NUCMI) at **National University Hospital**.



**DON'T PANIC**

- Most fevers typically range from 38°C to 40°C, and last for 3 to 5 days.
- High fever does not necessarily mean a serious illness.
- Seek medical attention if your child displays any red flag signs of severe illness.



### HOW SHOULD I CARE FOR MY CHILD AT HOME?

- Ensure adequate hydration.
- Give fever medications to bring down the temperature and help your child feel better.
- Take your child's temperature two to three times a day or more often if your child looks ill.
- Dress them in light clothing.

**For children with a temperature of 38°C**

Is your child below 3 months old?

YES



Seek medical attention at Children's Emergency immediately

Is your child above 3 months old?

YES

Does your child have any of these red flag signs as well as a fever?



Lethargy



Drowsiness



Difficulty breathing



Persistent crying



Seizure

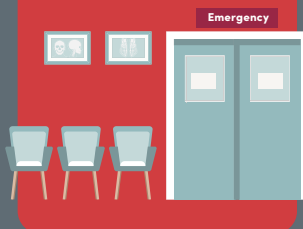


No urine output for the past 8 hours

YES



Seek medical attention at Children's Emergency immediately



NO



Go to the children's urgent care clinic if your child:

- Has a fever of less than 41°C
- Has prolonged fever for 5 days or more
- Is drinking less but at least half of the usual fluid intake
- Has decreased urine output



Go to the family or GP clinic if your child:

- Has a fever of less than 40°C
- Is still active and drinking well
- Has no change in urine output

