



FEVER

IMPORTANT FACTS

- 1. Fever is a sign of infection/illness, not a disease**
- 2. Fever is the body's natural way of helping to fight infection. High temperatures help kill germs.**
- 3. Fever will not lead to brain damage or death, even at temperatures of 104-106 degrees F. A very small percentage of children experience febrile seizures, but this usually occurs as the temperature rises sharply. Febrile seizures are usually benign.**
- 4. Though fevers do not require treatment, we often treat them because they cause discomfort. DO NOT treat until a temperature returns to normal, rather treat until the child is more comfortable.**
- 5. DO NOT wake your child to check his/her temperature.**
- 6. DO NOT alternate between acetaminophen and ibuprofen unless advised to do so by your physician. This can cause dose confusion and has not been shown to be more effective at lowering temperature.**
- 7. Call your doctor if:**
 - child is under 3 months old with a rectal temperature greater than 100.4 degrees F**
 - child is lethargic (especially when temp coming down)**
 - Fever is present for greater than 3 days, or child is not drinking or urinating**