

February 27, 2023 **PEDIATRIC & ADOLESCENT MEDICAL ASSOC PC**

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## Fever Therapy

### 2-4 MONTHS OF AGE

If your child has a fever, there are several things you can do to bring the temperature down at home. Generally, fevers less than 102° do not require treatment and frequently accompany mild illnesses such as colds, diarrhea, etc. If your child appears unusually ill or if the fever persists, you should consult your doctor. Infants (under 2 months of age) with a rectal temperature of 100° or above should be seen by their physician.

**SKIN EXPOSURE:** Children lose heat through their skin. Dress the child lightly. If you use sleepers, blankets or heavy clothes, this will prevent the loss of heat and the fever will go higher.

**FLUIDS:** Fevers are higher if a child does not have enough fluids in his/her body. Give plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration and to make the child more comfortable.

### ACETAMINOPHEN DOSING--EVERY 4 HOURS

<u>AGE</u>	<u>160mg/5mL</u>	<u>Suspension 160mg/5mL</u>	<u>Infant's Oral Suspension 80mg/tab</u>	<u>Children's Oral Chewable 160mg/tab</u>	<u>Junior 325mg/tab</u>	<u>Adult WEIGHT</u>
6 - 11 LBS	0 - 3 MOS	1.25 mL				
12 - 17 LBS	4 - 11 MOS	2.5 mL				
18 - 23 LBS	12 - 23 MOS	3.75 mL				
24 - 35 LBS	2 - 3 YRS	5 mL	5mL (1 tsp)	2 tab	1 tab	
36 - 47 LBS	4 - 5 YRS		7.5mL (1.5 tsp)	3 tab	1.5 tab	
48 - 59 LBS	6 - 8 YRS		10mL (2 tsp)	4 tab	2 tab	1 tab
60 - 71 LBS	9 - 10 YRS		12.5mL (2.5 tsp)	5 tab	2.5 tab	1 1/4 tab
72 - 95 LBS	11 - 12 YRS		15mL (3 tsp)	6 tab	3 tab	1 1/2 tab

**SPONGING:** If the temperature will not return to <103 with the above measures, you may use a lukewarm bath or sponge to lower the fever. *DO NOT USE COLD WATER OR ALCOHOL.* Rub the skin briskly with a washcloth so the blood will come to the surface where it can be cooled. If the child develops chills, stop sponging and in a short while start again. Be sure the water is lukewarm. Bathe the child no more frequently than every 2 hours. It usually take 20-30 minutes in the tub to bring the fever down.