Fever Advice Sheet

Patient presents with a history of fever or has a history of fever

How is your child?
- Red
- Green
- Some useful phone numbers

Clinical Assessment / Management Tool for Children

Immediate Senior Review
- blood culture
- urinary culture/microscopy
- stool sample
- blood gas
- Lumbar Puncture

Review
Consider the following, as guided by clinical assessment:
- chest X-ray
- serum electrolytes
- Lumbar Puncture

Do not perform Lumbar Puncture in a child with suspected Meningococcal Septicemia.

For all patients, continue monitoring following PEWS Chart recommendation

Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical Findings</th>
<th>Green - low risk</th>
<th>Amber - intermediate risk</th>
<th>Red - high risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colour Activity</td>
<td>Normal colour of skin, lips and tongue</td>
<td>Pallor reported by parent/carer</td>
<td>Pale / mottled / ash / blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory</td>
<td>None of the amber or red symptoms or signs</td>
<td>Nasal flaring</td>
<td>Reduced skin turgor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation and Hydration</td>
<td>Normal skin and eyes</td>
<td>Tachycardia: HR &gt; 160 beats/min if age &lt; 1 yr; HR &gt; 150 beats/min if age 1 - 2 years; HR &gt; 140 beats/min if age 3 - 5 years; HR &gt; 120 beats/min if 6-11 years; HR &gt; 100 beats/min if age &gt; 12 years</td>
<td>Red, reduced skin turgor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>None of the amber or red symptoms or signs</td>
<td>Fever for &gt;3 days</td>
<td>Age 0-3 months, temp &gt; 38°C (100.4°F)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: This writing of this guideline involved extensive consultation with healthcare professionals in Wessex. This document was arrived at after careful consideration of the evidence available including but not exclusively NICE, SIGN, EBM data and NHS evidence, as applicable. Healthcare professionals are expected to take it fully into account when exercising their clinical judgement. The guidance does not, however, override the individual responsibility of healthcare professionals to make decisions appropriate to the circumstances of the individual patient in consultation with the patient and/or carer.
Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Respiratory Rate at Rest [b/min]</th>
<th>Heart Rate [bpm]</th>
<th>Systolic Blood Pressure [mmHg]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 1 year</td>
<td>30 - 40</td>
<td>110 - 160</td>
<td>70 - 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2 years</td>
<td>25 - 35</td>
<td>100 - 150</td>
<td>80 - 95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 2-5 years</td>
<td>25 - 30</td>
<td>95 - 140</td>
<td>80 - 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 5-12 years</td>
<td>20 - 25</td>
<td>80 - 120</td>
<td>90 - 110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 12 years</td>
<td>15 - 20</td>
<td>60 - 100</td>
<td>100 - 120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Glossary of Terms:

- ABC: Airways, Breathing, Circulation
- APLS: Advanced Paediatric Life Support
- AVPU: Alert Voice Pain Unresponsive
- B/P: Blood Pressure
- CPD: Continuous Professional Development
- CRT: Capillary Refill Time
- ED: Hospital Emergency Department
- GCS: Glasgow Coma Scale
- HR: Heart Rate
- MOI: Mechanism of Injury
- PEWS: Paediatric Early Warning Score
- RR: Respiratory Rate
- WBC: White Blood Cell Count

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