Fever Information and Temperature Conversion

Fever in children is an important sign that your child is ill. Cancer and hematopoietic stem cell patients are at greater risk of developing infections and may have more difficulty fighting infection.

Call your healthcare provider right away if your child has:

- A temperature of 38.5°C (101.3°F) or higher
- A temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher twice in 24 hours

Tips for Taking Your Child’s Temperature

- Never take a rectal temperature.
- If your child appears sick or doesn’t feel well, check his or her temperature under their armpit, by mouth, or in their ear.
- When taking your child’s temperature use the same method whenever possible.
- If you are having difficulty getting a consistent temperature, call your healthcare provider.
- We recommend you recheck a temperature in one hour if it is 100.4°F (38°C) or higher.

Please refer to chart on the following page

Contact Us
For patient care assistance, please call the following phone numbers:

- Jimmy Fund Clinic (617) 632-3270
  Business Hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Page Operator (617) 632-3352
  Off hours: weekdays after 5 p.m., holidays, and weekends
  Page pediatric hematology/oncology fellow on call
- Life Threatening Emergencies dial 911

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The information on this page is for patients who are receiving care at Dana-Farber/Boston Children’s Cancer and Blood Disorders Center. The information is not meant as a substitute for professional medical advice. Always speak with your health care provider with any questions you may have. For emergency medical care, call 911.

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