# **Fever pathway**





## Clinical support tool for remote clinical assessment

History of fever ≥38°

Is the child younger than 3 months?

Yes

Will need face to face review in hospital based setting. Consider whether 999 transfer or parent/ taxi most appropriate based on clinical acuity

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Clinical findings	Green – low risk	Amber – intermediate risk	Red – high risk
Colour Activity	<ul> <li>Normal colour of skin, lips and tongue</li> <li>Responds normally to social cues</li> <li>Content/smiles</li> <li>Stays awake or wakens quickly</li> <li>Strong normal cry / not crying</li> </ul>	Pallor     Reduced response to social cues     Wakes only after prolonged stimulation     Infant (under 1 year) not feeding	Blue or grey colour     Unable to rouse or if roused does not stay awake     Clinical concerns about nature of cry (Weak, high pitched or continuous)
Respiratory	None of amber or red symptoms	<ul> <li>RR 50-60 breaths/min if aged &lt;12 months</li> <li>RR 40-50 breaths/min if age 1-5 years</li> <li>RR 25-30 breaths/min if age 6 -11 years</li> <li>RR 20-25 breaths/min if age ≥12 years</li> <li>Mild/moderate respiratory distress</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Grunting or severe respiratory distress</li> <li>RR &gt;60 breaths/min if aged &lt;12 months</li> <li>RR &gt;50 breaths/min if age 1-5 years</li> <li>RR &gt;30 breaths/min if age 6 -11 years</li> <li>RR &gt;25 breaths/min if age ≥12 years</li> </ul>
Circulation / hydration	None of amber or red symptoms	Cold hands and feet in absence of fever     Reduced urine output     Not tolerating fluids	
Other	None of amber or red symptoms	<ul> <li>Fever for ≥ 5 days</li> <li>Swelling of limb or joint</li> <li>Non-weight bearing / not using an extremity</li> <li>Swollen eye</li> <li>A new lump ≥ 2cm</li> <li>Symptoms suggest UTI</li> <li>Symptoms suggest cellulitis</li> <li>Symptoms suggest scarlet fever</li> <li>Age 3-6 months with temp ≥39° (102.2°F) with no clear focus of infection</li> <li>Additional parental/carer support required</li> <li>Lower threshold for face to face review if significant chronic co-morbidities</li> <li>Recent return from malaria endemic area in preceeding 3 months</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Age 0-3 months with temp ≥38° (100.4°F)</li> <li>Seizure</li> <li>Rigors</li> <li>Non-blanching rash</li> </ul>



### **Green Action**

Provide Fever safety netting advice for children: fever advice sheet

Confirm they are comfortable with the decisions/advice given Always consider safeguarding issues.



### **Amber Action**

Consider video consultation

and/or

refer to primary care service for review



#### **Red Action**

Refer immediately to emergency care – consider whether 999 transfer or parent/taxi most appropriate based on clinical acuity etc.

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