



# Fever/ Infection Control

## History

- Age
- Duration of fever
- Severity of fever
- Past medical history
- Medications
- Immunocompromised (transplant, HIV, diabetes, cancer)
- Environmental exposure
- Last acetaminophen or ibuprofen

## Signs and Symptoms

- Warm
- Flushed
- Sweaty
- Chills/Rigors

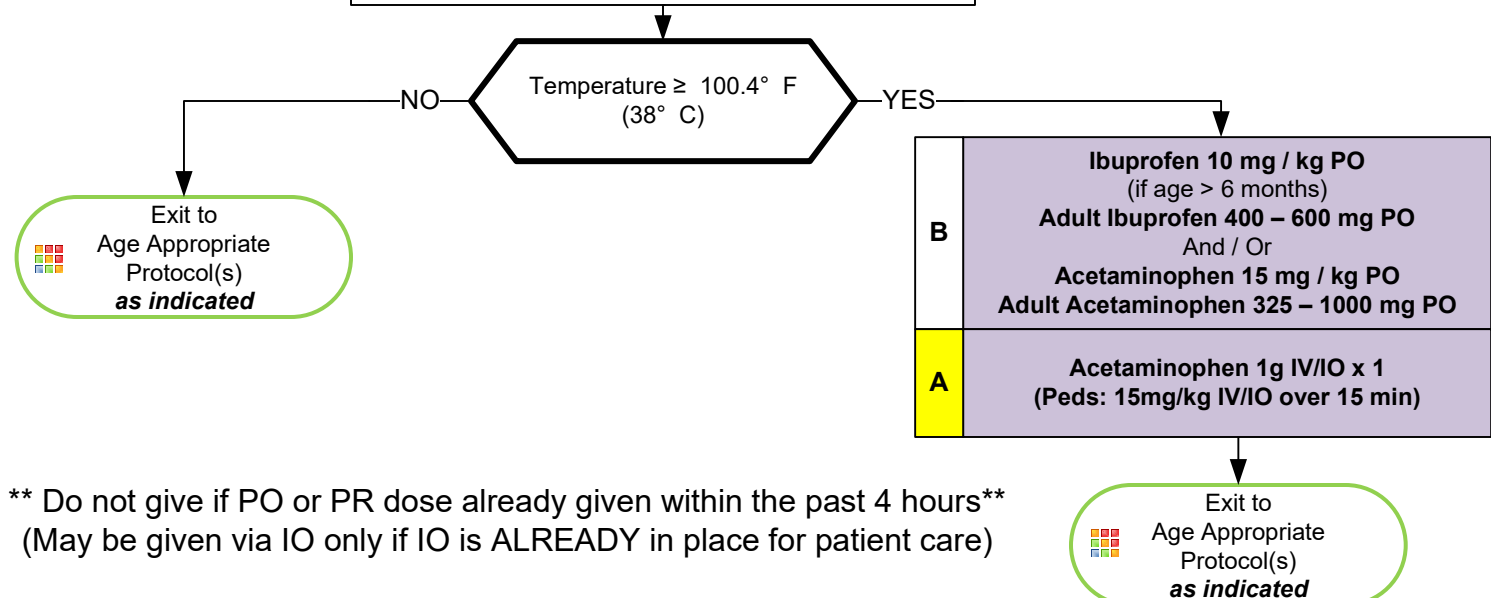
### Associated Symptoms (Helpful to localize source)

- Myalgias, cough, chest pain, headache, dysuria, abdominal pain, mental status changes, rash

## Differential

- Infections / Sepsis
- Cancer / Tumors / Lymphomas
- Medication or drug reaction
- Connective tissue disease
  - Arthritis
  - Vasculitis
- Hyperthyroidism
- Heat Stroke
- Meningitis

	Contact, Droplet, and Airborne Precautions See Pearls
<b>B</b>	Temperature Measurement Procedure <i>if available</i>
	IV or IO Access Protocol UP 6 <i>if indicated</i>



**\*\* Do not give if PO or PR dose already given within the past 4 hours\*\***  
(May be given via IO only if IO is ALREADY in place for patient care)

## Pearls

- **Recommended Exam: Mental Status, Skin, HEENT, Neck, Heart, Lungs, Abdomen, Back, Extremities, Neuro**
- Febrile seizures are more likely in children with a history of febrile seizures and with a rapid elevation in temperature.
- Patients with a history of liver failure should not receive acetaminophen.
- Rehydration with fluids increases the patient's ability to sweat and improves heat loss.
- Allergies to NSAIDs (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications) are a contraindication to Ibuprofen not acetaminophen.
- NSAIDs should not be used in the setting of environmental heat emergencies.
- **Do not** give aspirin to a child, age ≤ 15 years.
- Manufacturer recommends to be infused over 15 minutes. This recommendation is related to the formulation propacetamol, the prodrug to acetaminophen, approved in Europe, which caused pain on infusion, and data from the clinical development of acetaminophen. The formulation of IV acetaminophen is not a prodrug and does not have the same adverse reaction. An objective chart review study has shown the lack of side effects of rapidly infusing intravenous acetaminophen. There it is acceptable to infuse IV Acetaminophen over 3 to 4 minutes in adults only. Pediatrics has not been studied.
- Agency Medical Director does not require contact of medical control prior to EMT/ EMR administering any medication.