

# Guideline for managing young infants with fever announced

July 19 2021

---



(HealthDay)—In a new clinical practice guideline issued by the

American Academy of Pediatrics and published online July 19 in *Pediatrics*, key action statements are presented for the management of well-appearing infants aged 8 to 60 days with a fever  $\geq 38$  degrees Celsius.

Robert H. Pantell, M.D., from the Alta Bates Summit Medical Center-Berkeley in Honolulu, and colleagues developed guidelines for the evaluation and management of well-appearing febrile [infants](#) aged 8 to 21 days, 22 to 28 days, and 29 to 60 days.

For infants aged 8 to 21 days, the authors recommend obtaining a urine specimen by catheterization or suprapubic aspiration of the bladder for urinalysis (UA) and for culture if the UA is positive. A [blood culture](#) should be obtained; inflammatory markers may be assessed.

Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) should be obtained for analysis and cultured for bacteria. Parenteral antimicrobial therapy should be initiated. While awaiting results of bacterial culture, infants should be actively monitored in the [hospital setting](#) by experienced nurses and staff. If culture results are negative for 24 to 36 hours or are positive only for contaminants, the infant continues to appear clinically well or is improving, and there are no other reasons for hospitalization, parenteral antimicrobials should be discontinued and patients discharged. Bacterial pathogens in urine, blood, or CSF should be treated with targeted antimicrobial therapy.

"As we learn more about the risks and benefits of treating infants, we offer evidence-based recommendations for physicians to consider," a coauthor said in a statement. "We also acknowledge the significant role that parents play in the decision making process as informed participants in the process."

Several authors disclosed financial ties to industry.

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text](#)

Copyright © 2021 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: Guideline for managing young infants with fever announced (2021, July 19) retrieved 21 July 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2021-07-guideline-young-infants-fever.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.