

# Febrile convulsion



**IN A MEDICAL EMERGENCY  
CALL TRIPLE ZERO (000) FOR AN AMBULANCE.**

**DRSABCD Danger ▶ Response ▶ Send for help ▶ Airway ▶ Breathing ▶ CPR ▶ Defibrillation**

The DRSABCD Action Plan is the first step when providing first aid. Use this to assess the immediate situation. [DOWNLOAD THE DRSABCD FACT SHEET.](#)

## WARNING

DO NOT cool the child by sponging or bathing, but do remove excess clothing.

## SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

A rapid rise in body temperature can cause convulsions. This occurs most often in children aged 6 months to 5 years, and can occur with a temperature change from the normal 37°C to as little as 38.5°C.

Symptoms can include:

- fever
- muscle stiffening
- twitching or jerking of face or limbs
- eyes rolling upwards
- blue lips, face, earlobes, fingernails
- loss of consciousness.

## WHAT TO DO

### During the convulsion

- 1 Place the patient on their side for safety.
- 2 DO NOT restrain the patient.

### After the convulsion

- 3 Follow DRSABCD.
- 4 Remove excess clothing or wrappings.
- 5 Seek medical aid.

**YOU COULD SAVE A LIFE WITH FIRST AID TRAINING [WWW.STJOHN.ORG.AU](http://WWW.STJOHN.ORG.AU) • 1300 360 455**

© St John Ambulance Australia Inc. 2017. St John first aid protocols are for the Australian market only. All care has been taken in preparing the information but St John takes no responsibility for its use by other parties or individuals. This information is not a substitute for first aid training. St John recommends attending first aid training courses. Not for commercial distribution.