



First aid fact sheet

Febrile convulsion



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

Signs and symptoms

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 child on their side for safety.
- 2 DO NOT restrain the child.
- 3 DO NOT cool the child by sponging or bathing, but do remove excess clothing.

After the convulsion

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

In a medical emergency call Triple Zero (000)

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

You could save a life with first aid training • www.stjohn.org.au • 1300 360 455

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