

stimulate urination. A small child may be placed prone across parent's lap.



Temporal Artery

An infrared sensor probe scans across forehead, capturing heat from arterial blood flow.

Temporal artery is only artery close enough to skin's surface to provide access for accurate temperature measurement.



Data from Martin SA, Kline AM: Can there be a standard for temperature measurement in the pediatric intensive care unit? *AACN Clin Issues* 15(2):254–266, 2004; Falzon A, Grech V, Caruana B, et al: How reliable is axillary temperature measurement? *Acta Paediatr* 92(3):309–313, 2003. Oral, axillary, rectal, and temporal artery images courtesy of Paul Vincent Kuntz, Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, TX.

The most frequently used temperature measurement devices in infants and children include:

Electronic intermittent thermometers—measure the patient's temperature at oral, rectal, and axillary sites and are used as primary diagnostic indicators

Infrared thermometers—measure the patient's temperature by collecting emitted thermal radiation from a particular site (e.g., ear canal)

Electronic continuous thermometers—measure the patient's temperature during the administration of general anesthesia, treatment of hypothermia or hyperthermia, and other situations that require continuous monitoring