

airway, keep the child comfortable, and reassure the child and parent. An antipyretic may be administered for the fever as per standing practitioner's orders.

4. Yes, the evidence supports the conclusion.

Chapter 22

Diarrhea

1. Evidence: Yes, there are sufficient data for the nurse practitioner to arrive at some conclusions.

2. Assumptions:

- a. See [Table 22-3](#), Evaluating Extent of Dehydration, and note the criteria for mild dehydration.
- b. Infants or children with mild or moderate dehydration are managed with oral rehydration therapy (ORT) and early reintroduction of an adequate diet. In cases of severe dehydration or when infants and children have uncontrollable vomiting, intravenous fluids are used in the management of acute diarrhea.
- c. Breastfeeding generally can be continued in mild dehydration.
- d. Antidiarrheal medications are not recommended for the treatment of acute infectious diarrhea. These medications have adverse effects such as slowed motility and can prolong the illness.

3. At present, Mary meets all the criteria for mild dehydration. It is