

frequent sips of clear liquids. Dress the child in light clothing; use a light blanket for children who are cold or shivering (Walsh and Edwards, 2006).

## Family-Centered Care

### The Child with Fever

#### Call Office Immediately If:

Your child is younger than 2 months old.

The fever is over 40.6° C (105° F).

Your child looks or acts very sick, including a stiff neck, persistent vomiting, purplish spots on the skin, confusion, trouble breathing after you have cleaned his or her nose, or inability to be comforted.

#### Call Within 24 Hours If:

The fever is between 40° and 40.6° C (104° and 105° F), especially if your child is younger than 2 years old.

Your child has had a fever for more than 24 hours without an obvious cause or location of infection.

Your child has had a fever for more than 3 days.

Your child has burning or pain with urination.

Your child has a history of febrile seizures.

The fever went away for more than 24 hours and then returned.

You have other concerns or questions.

Modified from Schmitt BD: *Instructions for pediatric patients*, ed 2, Philadelphia, 1999, Saunders.