



Febrile Convulsions (fever fits)

A few children, usually under the age of 6, can have a fit (convulsion) due to a fever. This may happen if your child's temperature goes up suddenly, sometimes this can occur before parents are aware the child has a fever.

Most febrile convulsions are not serious and the child recovers fully, long-term effects are rare and usually only happen if the convulsion lasts for a very long time. It is common for children to sleep for a short period after a convulsion.

Febrile convulsions can last from a few seconds to about five minutes and although they are distressing to watch they usually stop without any treatment.

Febrile convulsions occur when a child develops a high temperature usually due to a viral illness however we do not know exactly why this causes a convulsion.

How are Febrile Convulsions diagnosed?

The diagnosis is based on the history of what is witnessed by others therefore an accurate description of what you or whoever was with the child saw is really important. There are no specific tests for febrile convulsion however the presence of a fever is important. The child will be fully examined to determine the cause of the fever and ensure they are well and that the illness does not require any specific treatment, the convulsion does not require any treatment provided it stops within 5 minutes.

What to do if your child has a Febrile Convulsion

When a child is having a febrile convulsion, it is important to put them in a safe position and stay with them while the convulsion is happening. The safest position is the recovery position, on their side with their head tilted backwards. Do not put anything in their mouth – this is more dangerous than the risk that they bite their tongue. If it is the child's first febrile convulsion, they should be reviewed by a doctor even if the convulsion was brief, to confirm the diagnosis and ensure the child is well. If the child has had febrile convulsions before, you may not need to take them to hospital if they recover quickly and are well. **However, if the convulsion lasts longer than five minutes or if the child does not recover quickly – call 999.**

Can a child have more than one Febrile Convulsion?

Around one third of children will go on to develop another febrile convulsion during their childhood and some children may have several febrile convulsions. While they are worrying for parents it is important to remember that they do not cause any lasting effects in most cases.

Tell us your views

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your treatment and care, please speak to a senior member of staff or to the nurse looking after you. The matrons are also available during normal working hours and they welcome your views.

Friends and Family Test

Whatever your experience you can give feedback by answering the Friends & Family test question – How likely are you to recommend our A&E Department to family and friends if they needed similar care or treatment?

This can be completed online at <http://surveys.this.nhs.uk> using tag name **chftae** or by completing the form available within the department.

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Manager

Emergency Department

Huddersfield Royal Infirmary

Telephone No: 01484 342396

www.cht.nhs.uk

or

Calderdale Royal Hospital

Telephone No: Halifax: 01422 222325

www.cht.nhs.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce, obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Amennyiben ezt az információt más formátumban vagy nyelven szeretné megkapni, vegye fel a kapcsolatot fenti részlegünkkel.

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym formacie lub wersji językowej, prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww. danych kontaktowych

ਰ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور فارمیٹ یا زبان میں درکار ہوں، تو برائے مہربانی مندرجہ بالا شعبے میں ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔