

Tots “Too Hot!” - The Cute, The Bad and The Ugly of Pediatric Fever

Rommie L. Duckworth

Director

New England Center for Rescue and Emergency Medicine LLC

Rom Duckworth is a dedicated emergency responder and award-winning educator with more than twenty-eight years of experience working in career and volunteer fire departments, hospital healthcare systems, and public and private emergency medical services. Rom is currently a career fire Captain and paramedic EMS Coordinator, Founder and Director of the New England Center for Rescue and Emergency Medicine and an emergency services advocate, author, and speaker at conferences around the world.

Elevated temperatures in pediatric patients are some of the most common, and often frustrating types of calls in EMS. Are the parents over-reacting? Are we under-reacting? This presentation illuminates what causes fever, how it can help or harm a child, what problems it can cause or be caused by, how to differentiate critical vs benign fever and how to choose the best care for pediatric patients with elevated temperature.

Presentation Outline:

- 1) Elevated temp must be differentiated between critical and non-critical
- 2) Pathophysiology of elevated temp
- 3) Febrile Seizures
- 4) Critical vs Non-Critical
- 5) Assessment and treatment
- 6) Case study
- 7) Summary

Objective 1: Recall normal and abnormal thermoregulation in pediatric patients.

Objective 2: Differentiate “Febrile Seizure” from “Seizure with Fever”

Objective 3: Discuss special concerns for pediatric fever