Pediatric Fever

This protocol is intended to assist EMS providers in reducing fever in the pediatric patients prior to arrival to the emergency department. Fever is defined as a core temperature of 101 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) or greater. Emergency management of the febrile child involves an assessment to determine if any associated problems are present which may require emergency treatment.

Pre-Medical Control

MFR/EMT/SPECIALIST/PARAMEDIC

1. Obtain baseline temperature and document method used.
2. Facilitate passive cooling by removing excess clothing and blankets.

PARAMEDIC

3. If the child has not been given acetaminophen in last four (4) hours and is alert, give oral Tylenol (acetaminophen) 15 mg/kg.
4. If any question concerning alertness or ability to swallow, **DO NOT ADMINISTER.**

Acetaminophen Dosing Chart[1]

Child's Weight *Child's Age*	**Children's Suspension Liquid (160 mg/5ml)**
6-11 lbs *0-3 mos*	**¼ tsp or 1.25 mL (40 mg)** *PO q 4h prn; Max 75 mg/kg/day*
12-17 lbs *6-11 mos*	**½ tsp or 2.5 mL (80 mg)** *PO q 4h prn; Max 75 mg/kg/day*
18-23 lbs *12-23 mos*	**¾ tsp or 3.75 mL (120 mg)** *PO q 4h prn; Max 75 mg/kg/day*
24-35 lbs *2-3 yrs*	**1 tsp or 5 mL (160 mg)** *PO q 4h prn; Max 75 mg/kg/day*
36-47 lbs *4-5 yrs*	**1 ½ tsp or 7.5 mL (240 mg)** *PO q 4h prn; Max 75 mg/kg/day*
48-59 lbs *6-8 yrs*	**2 tsp or 10 mL (320 mg)** *PO q 4h prn; Max 75 mg/kg/day*
60-71 lbs *9-10 yrs*	**2 ½ tsp or 12.5 mL (400 mg)** *PO q 4h prn; Max 75 mg/kg/day*
72-95 lbs *11 yrs*	**3 tsp or 15 mL (480 mg)** *PO q 4h prn; Max 75 mg/kg/day*
96+ lbs *12 yrs*	**4 tsp or 20 mL (640 mg)** *PO q 4h prn; Max 75 mg/kg/day*

Safety tips for Acetaminophen

1. ***Don't give to babies under 3 mos. w/o Medical Control Approval***
2. ***Don't confuse infant drops with the new infant liquid. Avoid use of any medication not provided in EMS supply.***
3. ***Always use the measuring device that comes with the medicine.***
4. ***The proper dosage is based on weight, not age. To determine the weight of a very young child, weigh yourself and then weigh yourself while holding the child. Then subtract your weight from the combined weight. Alternately, may use a Broselow Tape, if available.***
5. ***Never give acetaminophen to a child that has been given other medicine that may contain acetaminophen until confirmed otherwise.***
6. ***Don't exceed five doses in a 24 hour period.***

1. http://assets.babycenter.com/ims/Content/first-year-health-guide_acetaminophen_chart_pdf.pdf