



Salus Pueri Foundation has been active since 1992 and its main goal is to raise funds to support the activities of the Pediatric Hospital of Padua. Every day we work to make our hospital a welcoming and child and family friendly place, and to promote a culture where humanization is at the heart of care.

These parents information guides of the Pediatric Emergency Department of Padua have been created to facilitate the provision of clear and complete information to parents whose kids are experiencing acute health issues.

The parents information guides are not intended to replace the recommendations and tailored advice provided by your pediatrician.

Support the Pediatric Hospital of Padua!

Fondazione Salus Pueri

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- Pronto Soccorso Pediatrico -



Parents information guides

Febrile Seizures

What are febrile seizures?

Febrile seizures are sudden fits or convulsions that occur when a child has a fever.

They are characterised by:

- loss of consciousness
- generalized stiffness or shaking/jerking of the arms and legs
- clenched (tightly closed) mouth
- Eyes rolling back
- Alteration in skin color or irregular breathing

These symptoms usually last for a few minutes and they often resolve spontaneously. When the seizures end, the child may appear sleepy or irritable for a long time, but recovers completely afterwards.

If a seizure lasts longer than 5 minutes, medications are used to stop the seizure.

Febrile seizures affect about 4-5% of children between 6 months and 6 years. They usually occur during common, non serious, viral illnesses.

Important things to know...

- Febrile seizures **ARE NOT** dangerous
- Febrile seizures **DO NOT** cause brain damage
- Febrile seizures **DO NOT** affect the child's cognitive development
- Febrile seizures ARE NOT preventable with the use of antipyretics.

Children who have experienced febrile seizures are NOT at increased risk of developing epilepsy.

Many children have just one episode of febrile seizures in a lifetime; some children may have seizures again during future episodes of fever.

First aid at home

- Keep calm and DO NOT shake your baby
- DO NOT put anything into the child's mouth
- Place the child in a safe place from which s/he will not fall or get hurt. Place
 the child on her/his side to prevent inhalation of mucus or vomit and airway
 obstruction caused by the tongue
- Observe the characteristics of the seizures and their duration: this information will need to be referred to the doctor

- Call the emergency service 118 or, if the child regains consciousness, take immediately the child to the Hospital Emergency Department (Pronto Soccorso)
- If the child has previously experienced seizures and the medications prescribed for the home-treatment are readily available, administer the medication prescribed as indicated, and call 118 if the seizures do not resolve.

Medications

(to use only if seizures last more than 5 minutes)

Micropam	Dose
Rectally	5 mg for children under 10 kg of weight
(i.e. through the rectum)	10 mg for children over 10 kg of weight

If your child suffers from episodes of febrile seizures, let the school know and agree with the school on a plan to follow in case of fever.

