Hyperthermia

Axillary temperature >37.5°C

• Look for possible cause
• Check room temperature (maintain at 25-28°C)
• Look for signs of infection (See STP for Sepsis)
• Look for signs of dehydration*

• Keep baby away from source of heat (warmer, heater, sunlight)
• Remove extra clothes
• Decrease environmental temperature (if needed)
• Recheck baby’s temperature every 1 hour till normal
• If >39°C, sponge the baby with luke warm water
• Treat underlying cause
• Ensure adequate feeding or fluids
• Treat dehydration, if present*
• Measure blood glucose; if <45mg/dL, treat for hypoglycemia
  (See STP for Hypoglycemia)
• Do not give antipyretic

* Signs of dehydration in a newborn:
  • Sunken eyes, or
  • depressed fontanelle, or
  • loss of skin elasticity, or
  • dry tongue and mucous membrane

❖ Hyperthermia can be a sign of infection

For additional / next level management please refer to WHO Guidelines (Managing Newborn Problems and Pocket Book of Hospital Care of Children), http://www.ontop-in.org/sick-newborn/, http://www.newbornwho.cc/