

When Should I Call My Baby's Doctor?

Call 911 if your baby turns blue or has trouble breathing.

Call your baby's doctor if your baby has any of the following:

- Cries non-stop for several hours or is more irritable and soothing does not stop crying
- Hard to wake up
- Fever:
 - A rectal temperature (in baby's bottom) of 100.4° F or higher, or an armpit (axillary) temperature of 99° F or higher
 - Fever does not come down with medicine
 - Fever lasts more than 24 hours
- A lot of discharge from the eyes
- A hard time breathing or skin below or between baby's ribs pulls in when breathing.
- Yellowing or rash on the skin that gets worse
- Redness, discharge or a foul smell from a healing umbilical cord or circumcision
- Breastfeeding less often or taking less formula for more than 8 hours
- Green vomit or vomiting after more than 2 feedings in a row
- Fewer than 6 to 8 wet diapers in 24 hours
- Constipation or diarrhea
- Cough that will not go away, especially if there is a rash
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- Poor muscle control or baby feels floppy when held
- Convulsions or seizures (body gets stiff, eyes rolls, legs thrash around)
- Baby seems to have a earache (stiff neck or pulls at ears).

If you have any concerns about your baby's health, call your baby's doctor, family doctor or health clinic. Be sure to tell them the baby's name and age.

Never be shy about calling the doctor's office. Often talking to your baby's doctor or nurse will help you decide if your baby needs medical care. When you call the doctor, have written down:

- What is wrong with your baby and when the signs started
- Your baby's rectal temperature
- Any allergies your baby has to food, medicine or environment
- Name and phone number of your pharmacy
- Type of medicine you have given and how much

Keep a paper and pen nearby to write down the doctor's instructions.