

MEDICAL ALERT

If your child is unwell or has a temperature of 38°C or higher:

1. Contact your hospital
2. Continue to give prednisolone as instructed
3. Go to the nearest Emergency Department
4. Show this card to the Emergency Department doctors and nurses

Name:

Diagnosis:

Infantile spasms (West syndrome)

This patient is receiving **very high** doses of prednisolone and is immune suppressed

Departments of Neurology, The Royal Children's Hospital and Monash Children's Hospital, Melbourne

This patient is receiving **very high** doses of prednisolone and is immune suppressed
High dose steroids may mask typical responses to infection, including fever

If this patient is unwell or has a temperature of 38°C or above:

- Examine for signs of sepsis and site of infection
- Obtain IV access within 30 mins
- Take FBE, UEC, blood lactate, blood cultures and urine cultures
- **Antibiotics recommended for suspected sepsis include:**

Age <1 month: **Cefotaxime** 50 mg/kg PLUS **Benzylpenicillin** 60 mg/kg IV

Age >1 month: **Ceftriaxone** 100 mg/kg (max 4 g) IV

- If there is vomiting or significant diarrhoea, administer IV hydrocortisone 25 mg, then 10 mg 6 hourly until tolerating oral prednisolone (doses for children <3 years)
- This patient should be discussed with the neurologist/fellow on call