

## 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 FBC, UEC, blood lactate, blood cultures and urine cultures
- **Antibiotics recommended for suspected sepsis include:**

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

Age > 1 month: **Ceftriaxone or Cefotaxime** 50 mg/kg (max 2g) IV  
PLUS **Flucloxacillin** 50mg/kg (max 2g) 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