ST. FRANCIS 24/7 CALL CENTER: (321) 269-4240

St. Francis REFLECTIONS® Hospice
Established 1977 • Licensed 1990

Fever

Fever may occur due to infections, inflammation, or the body's natural response at the end of life. Managing fever focuses on keeping the patient comfortable.

Common signs and symptoms to monitor for:

- Elevated body temperature (above 100.4°F or 38°C)
- Sweating or chills
- Flushed or warm skin
- Rapid heart rate or breathing
- Lethargy or weakness

Tips for Fever Management:

- **Medications**: Administer medications, such as acetaminophen (Tylenol), as prescribed to reduce fever. Avoid over-medicating; consult with the hospice team for guidance.
- **Cooling Measures**: Use cool, damp washcloths on the forehead, neck, and wrists to help reduce body temperature. Keep the room cool and well-ventilated.
- **Hydration**: Encourage fluid intake to prevent dehydration. Offer ice chips, cool water, or electrolyte drinks if the patient can swallow.
- **Light Clothing**: Dress the patient in light, breathable clothing. Use lightweight sheets or blankets and avoid overheating with too many layers.

Record and Report to St. Francis:

- Persistent fevers
- Medications taken and effectiveness
- Severe lethargy
- Decreased responsiveness

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St. Francis Reflections is always available to assist with any questions or concerns 24/7

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