# PRescription for Prevention



# Extreme Heat Safety

for children

## Did you know?

Extreme heat days are becoming more common as the climate gets warmer. When it's hot, children are more in danger than adults of becoming dehydrated.

### Action Plan

- □ Keep cool:
  - On hot days, make sure you have access to air-conditioning, either in your home or a public space.
  - o Dress children in lightweight, light-colored clothing.
  - Never leave a young child alone in a car on a hot day (or any day) even if the window is open.
  - Protect skin from sunburn with lightweight cotton clothing and hats. Use sunscreen on exposed skin.
- □ Keep hydrated:
  - o Bring lots of water when going on outings with children.
  - o Ask your children to drink often even if they're not thirsty.
- □ Recognize the signs and symptoms of heat-related illness: warm skin, headaches, dizziness muscle cramps and nausea.
  - If your child has been in the heat and has these symptoms, call your pediatrician right away or go to your nearest emergency department.

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| Signature | Date |                      |

#### Resources

Learn more about how to protect your children from extreme heat: visit <u>healthychildren.org</u> and search "Protecting Children from Extreme Heat-Information for Parents" and "Signs of Dehydration in Infants & Children."

Learn about how to keep your children safe in summer: visit <a href="mailto:cdc.gov/disasters">cdc.gov/disasters</a>, select "Extreme Heat," and click "Infants and Children."

For local resources regarding extreme heat safety:

| New York<br>State | health.ny.gov and search "Extreme Heat Advice"  ocfs.ny.gov, search "Protecting children from excessive summer temperatures," and click the first link |
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| New Jersey        | nj211.org/summer-heat  |
| Puerto Rico       | salud.gov.pr y busque "ola de calor"   |

For more information, visit <u>icahn.mssm.edu/research/pehsu/information</u>



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Version: July 2021