

## Signs of Illness

It is important to be familiar with a few warning signs of severe illness. Just because your child has one or more of these signs doesn't necessarily mean a severe illness is present. If you note any of the following danger signs call your physician:

- Lethargy and listlessness (i.e., lying around, sleeping much more than usual, with or without fever, limp like a rag doll and difficult to wake).
- Vomiting repeatedly (not just spitting up), especially if the vomitus is green. Projectile (very forceful) vomiting.
- Refusal to eat several times in a row.
- Labored, distressed, or rapid breathing.
- Changes of color—especially blueness of the lips and fingernails, or yellow discoloration of the skin or eyes.
- Extreme irritability.
- Rectal temperature of 100° F or higher or any fever in the first 2 months of life.
- Diarrhea, especially if there's mucus, blood or an unusually bad smell
- Hard prolonged crying with no obvious cause
- Inability to see or hear normally
- Unusual rash