

Measurement and evaluation of body temperature

Body temperature

- Below 34 °C mostly death;
- hypothermia- 34-36 °C;
- **normal** - 36-37 °C;
- subfebrile - 37-38 °C;
- febrile - nad 38 °C;
- hyperpyrexia - 40-41 °C;
- above 42 °C mostly death.

We measure the temperature with a mercury thermometer in the axilla, but we can also measure in other places. Our measurement depends on the measuring point:

- The temperature in the rectum is 0,5 °C higher than the temperature in the axilla.
- Oral temperature is 0,1-0,3 °C higher than axillary temperature.

Fever curves

It deals with the course of temperatures and their fluctuations:

- **Febris Continua** - permanent increase in body temperature above 38 °C - typhoid fever.
- **Febris Remittens** - fluctuates by more than 2 °C during the day, but never reaches normal body temperature - severe infection.
- **Febris Intermittens** - high fever alternates with normal to subnormal temperatures during the day.
- **Febris Recurrens** - periods of days with fever alternate regularly with periods of days without fevers.
- **Febris Undulans** - the temperature rises within a few days and falls again after reaching the maximum, a period of rest for a few days and then the whole cycle is repeated - Hodgkin's disease.

Chills

- **only once** in case of illness and not recurring - pneumonia, influenza;
- **Recurrent** - bacteremia, sepsis.

Links

Related articles

- Body temperature
- Temperature measurement

References

- CHROBÁK, Ladislav, et al. *Propedeutika vnitřního lékařství*. 2. vydání. Grada, 2003. ISBN 80-247-0609-1.
- Fever Curves - What Can They Tell Us? (n.d.). Retrieved November 12, 2020, from <https://www.onio.com/article/fever-curves-what-they-tell-us.html>



Digital thermometer



Digital ear thermometer