**Fever**

**Fever Definition**
- One temp > 100°F (> 37.8°C)
- Two temps > 99°F (> 37.2°C) oral or > 99.5°F (> 37.5°C) rectal
- Increase in temp of 2°F (1.1°C) over baseline

**Take Vital Signs**
- BP, pulse, apical HR (if pulse irregular)
- Respiations
- Oxygen saturation
- Finger stick glucose (diabetics)

**Vital Sign Criteria (any met?)**
- Temp > 100.5°F
- Apical heart rate > 100 or < 50
- Respiratory rate > 28/min or < 10/min
- BP < 90 or > 200 systolic
- Oxygen saturation < 90%
- Finger stick glucose < 70 or > 300
- Resident unable to eat or drink

**Evaluate Symptoms and Signs for Immediate Notification**
- Acute mental status change
- Not eating or drinking
- Acute decline in ADL abilities
- New cough, abnormal lung sounds
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- Abdominal distension or tenderness
- New or worsened incontinence, pain with urination, blood in urine
- Very low urinary output
- New skin condition (e.g. rash, redness suggesting cellulitis, signs of infection around existing wound/pressure ulcer)
- Unrelieved pain

**Consider Contacting MD/NP/PA for orders (for further evaluation and management)**
- Portable chest X-ray
- Urinalysis and C&S if indicated
- Blood work (Complete Blood Count, Basic Metabolic Panel)
- Stool specimen for culture and C. Difficile assay (diarrhea)
- Nasal Pharyngeal swab for influenza

**Tests Ordered**

**Evaluate Results**
- Critical values in blood count or metabolic panel
- WBC > 14,000 or neutrophils > 90%
- Infiltrate or pneumonia on chest X-ray
- Positive C. Diff
- Positive flu result on swab
- Urine results suggest infection and symptoms or signs present

**Manage in Facility**
- Monitor vital signs, fluid intake/urine output every 4-8 hrs for 24-72 hrs
- Do not give acetaminophen unless necessary for comfort (it can mask fever), or until source of fever known
- If on diuretic, consider holding
- Oral, IV or subcutaneous fluids if needed for hydration
- Update advance care plan and directives if appropriate

**Monitor Response**
- Vital signs criteria met
- Worsening condition and/or immediate notification criteria met

*Refer also to other INTERACT Care Paths as indicated by symptoms and signs*