

Checklist: Measuring an Oral Temperature (Electronic Thermometer)

Measuring an Oral Temperature (Electronic Thermometer)	Able to Perform	Unable to Perform
1. Perform hand hygiene and identify the patient according to facility policy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Explain the procedure and provide privacy as appropriate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Obtain an electronic thermometer, disposable probe covers, and gloves, if this is your facility policy. (Gloves are not necessary with an <i>oral temperature</i> using this type of thermometer. Wear gloves according to Standard Precautions and facility policy.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Ask the patient if they have had anything to eat or drink or has smoked within the past 15 minutes. If the answer is yes, wait at least 15 minutes before taking an oral temperature (according to facility policy).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Cover the probe (blue) with a probe cover.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Insert the covered probe under the patient's tongue toward the side of the mouth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Hold the probe in position. Ask the patient to close the mouth and breathe through the nose.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. When an audible signal indicates that the temperature has been determined, remove the probe from the patient's mouth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Discard the probe cover in the appropriate container. Remove and discard gloves.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Return the probe to its proper position.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Record the temperature on your pad. Report abnormal temperature readings according to facility policy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Clean the thermometer according to facility policy before returning it to the charger.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Return the thermometer unit to the charger.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Perform hand hygiene after completing care.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>