

Checklist: Measuring and Recording Temperature Using an Infrared Thermometer

Measuring and Recording Temperature Using an Infrared Thermometer	Able to Perform	Unable to Perform
1. Perform hand hygiene before patient contact.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Review the patient's care plan and any provider orders related to temperature monitoring.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Gather the infrared thermometer and ensure it is clean, functioning properly, and has charged or working batteries.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Identify the patient using facility-approved identification procedures.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Explain the procedure to the patient.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Apply appropriate PPE according to standard precautions and facility policy if needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Ensure the patient has avoided eating, drinking hot or cold beverages, smoking, or vigorous activity for the recommended time if required by facility policy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Position the patient comfortably and expose the measurement site if necessary.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Verify the thermometer is set to the correct mode according to manufacturer instructions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. If using a forehead infrared thermometer, ensure the forehead is clean and dry with no sweat, hair, or coverings obstructing the area.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Hold the thermometer at the recommended distance from the forehead according to manufacturer instructions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Aim the thermometer at the center of the forehead or designated scanning area.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Activate the thermometer and wait for the reading to appear.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Read the temperature measurement carefully.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Repeat the measurement if the reading appears inaccurate or if equipment malfunction is suspected.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Clean and disinfect the thermometer according to manufacturer instructions and facility infection-control policy after use.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Remove gloves and other PPE according to infection-control procedures if used.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. Perform hand hygiene after completing the procedure.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Record the temperature accurately, including the method used (infrared/temporal), according to facility policy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Report abnormal temperatures or significant changes promptly to the supervising nurse according to facility policy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>