

Heat Related Illness



Did you know?

Climate change increases Earth's temperature. Cities are warmer compared to neighboring towns due to steel buildings, concrete and paved roadways absorbing heat. Hot temperatures impact children's physical and mental health and their ability to learn in school. Signs of heat-related health effects include feeling dizzy, dehydration, headaches, muscle cramps, difficulty focusing, increased irritability and more.

Action Plan

- **Dress for Success:** Wear protective clothes (light-colored clothing, hats, sunglasses, SPF-lined)
- **Protect your skin:** Wear sunscreen SPF ≥ 30 , (re-apply at least every 2 hrs and after swimming/sweating)
- **Limit Exposure:** Avoid outdoor activity during peak sun (10 am-4 pm) and seek out shaded areas
- **Be prepared:** Drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated and take breaks often
- **Be aware** of symptoms of heat-related illness (headaches, muscle cramps, fevers, excessive sweating, dizziness, or confusion) and **seek medical attention**
- **Take care of each other:**
 - Check in on neighbors, elderly, etc.
 - Engage in your local community to create and spread awareness of cooling centers

Community Resources

Assess your risk by learning about the [heat index](#) and symptoms of heat related illness

Search for and visit [cooling centers](#) in your local community

Learn [more](#) about ways to prepare and be safe during extreme heat (12 languages available)



Boston Children's Hospital
Pediatric Environmental Health

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Region 1: New England

PEHSU
Pediatric Environmental Health
Specialty Unit