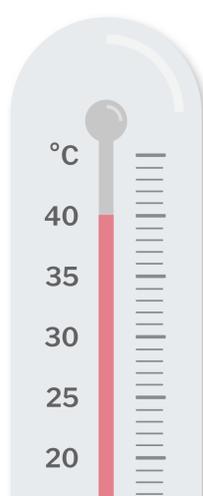


# Fever & Neutropenia

## What happens first?

When you have fever and neutropenia (low white blood cell counts), blood will be taken from your central line (if you have one) and, sometimes, from a vein. Your team will then do a blood culture to test this blood for any infection.

Your urine (pee) may also be tested for infection.



## How will I be treated?



You will get an antibiotic because you may have a serious infection. Some patients may get more than one antibiotic.



You might get the antibiotic through your central line (if you have one), a vein, or by mouth.

Some patients may be treated at home but this will depend on their hospital.

## What happens when fever and neutropenia continue?

If you continue to have a fever but are otherwise stable, you will continue to get the same antibiotics.

### When are antibiotics changed?

If you become unwell (for example, you have low blood pressure), you will get different antibiotics to make sure the infection is treated properly.

If you were given more than one antibiotic when your fever started, your team will stop some of them after two or three days when possible.

### When can I stop the antibiotics?



#### You will stop taking all antibiotics when:

- Your fever is gone for at least 24 hours
- There is still no sign of an infection in the blood culture taken at least 48 hours ago
- You have no signs of skin, lung or other infections, and
- Your white blood cell count starts to improve  
Some patients who are at a lower risk of infection may stop all antibiotics before their white blood cell count starts to improve.



## What happens if I have fever and neutropenia for more than 4 days?

### You may have a fungal infection



**If you are at higher risk for fungal infection:**

- You will get a CT scan of your lungs
- You will get an ultrasound of your abdomen
- You will get an antifungal medication

#### Example of higher risk:

- You have acute myeloid leukemia



**If you are at lower risk for fungal infection:**

- You may or may not receive an antifungal medication

#### Example of lower risk:

- You have a solid tumour