

## Module 9A : Assess and Classify

### Session 5 : Assessment and classification of the sick child : Assess and classify fever

Day : 5

Time Required : 1 hour

#### Objectives

At the end of the session the ASHAs will be able to:

1. Explain what to ASK, LOOK for and FEEL when assessing fever
2. Explain the criteria for classifying a fever as very severe febrile disease or malaria
3. Correctly assess and identify a child with fever

#### Materials and Preparation

See Checklist of Instructional Material at beginning of sick child module. These materials will be used for all sessions for sick child module.

#### Training Activities :

##### Activity - 1 : Participants to read ‘Assess and Classify Fever’ through ‘Classify Fever’

After this, make sure participants have understood what to ASK when a child has fever, and how to LOOK for a stiff neck.

##### Activity - 2 : Demonstration : Classification for Fever

Display enlarged section of chart or use Case management chart. Explain to participants how a classification is to be selected.

There are two possible classifications of fever.

- Very Severe Febrile Disease
- Malaria

If the child with fever has any general danger sign or a stiff neck, classify the child as having VERY SEVERE FEBRILE DISEASE.

If a general danger sign or stiff neck is not present, look at the yellow row. Because the child has a fever (by history, or feels warm, or temperature is 99.5°F (37.5°C) or above), classify the child as having MALARIA.

##### Activity - 3 : Conduct Video Exercise: “Does the child have stiff neck?” and Case Study “Pu”

When all the participants are ready, ask them to move to where the video exercise will be shown.

**To conduct the video exercise :**

1. Tell the participants that during the video exercise they will see examples of how to assess a child with fever for **stiff neck**. They will then conduct an exercise to practice identifying whether stiff neck is present, and do a case study to practice “assessing and classifying a sick child” through till “fever”.

Before you start the video, check if they have any questions. Only when there are no more questions, start the video.

Assessing for stiff neck varies depending on the state of the child. You may not need to even touch the child. If the child is alert and calm, you may be able to attract his attention and cause him to look down. If you need to try to move the child's neck, you saw in the video a position which supports the child while gently bending the neck. It is hard to tell from a video whether the child's neck is stiff. When you do this step with a real child, you will feel the stiffness when you try to bend the neck. You also saw the child cry from pain as the ASHA tried to bend the neck.

### Answers to Exercise J

For each of the children shown, answer the question:

	Does the child have a stiff neck ?	
	YES	NO
Child 1		✓
Child 2	✓	
Child 3		✓
Child 4	✓	

### Video Case Study:

#### Management of the sick child age 2 months up to 5 years

Name: Pu Age: 4 years, 9 months Weight: 14 kg Temperature: 100.4° F (38° C)

ASK : What are the child's problems? Rash, Fever Initial visit? ✓ Follow-up Visit?    

ASSESS (circle all signs present)	CLASSIFY
<b>Check for general danger signs</b> Not able to drink or breastfeed      Lethargic or Unconscious Vomits Convulsions	General danger signs present? yes ___ no <u>✓</u> remember to use danger sign when selecting classifications
<b>Does the child have cough or difficult breathing?</b> Yes <u>✓</u> no ___ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For how long? <u>7</u> days</li> <li>Count the breaths in one minute  <u>44</u> breaths per minute.  <u>Fast breathing?</u></li> <li>Look for chest in-drawing.</li> </ul>	<b>Pneumonia</b>
<b>Does the child have diarrhoea?</b> Yes ___ no <u>✓</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there blood in the stools?</li> <li>For how long? ___ Days</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look at the child's general condition.            Is the child:            Lethargic or unconscious?            Restless and/or irritable?</li> <li>Look for sunken eyes.</li> <li>Offer the child fluid. Is the child:            Not able to drink or drinking poorly?            Drinking eagerly, thirsty?</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pinch the skin of the abdomen. Does it go back : Very slowly (longer than 2 seconds)? Slowly?</li> </ul>	
<b>Does the child have fever?</b> (By history/feels hot/temperature <u>99.5° F (37.5°C)</u> or above) yes_✓_ no___		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For how long? <u>3</u> days</li> <li>If more than 7 days, has fever been present every day? Yes __ No __</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look or feel for stiff neck.</li> </ul>	<b>Malaria</b>

### Summary : (10 min)

- Ask a participant to explain what to ask and look for when assessing a child with fever
- Ask a participant to explain the 2 possible classifications for fever

### Evaluation of the session

Objectives	Assessment Method
Explain what to ASK, LOOK for and FEEL when assessing fever	Questions and answers
Explain the criteria for classifying a fever as very severe febrile disease or malaria	Questions and answers
Correctly assess and classify a child with fever	Video Case Study