



**Pediatric Shock**

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- Shock in children may be subtle and difficult to recognize, tachycardia may be the only sign noted.
- Hypotension is a late sign of shock, BP may be difficult to obtain or inaccurate in children <3 years of age.
- Obtain history Including:
  - Onset and duration of symptoms
  - Fluid Loss (vomiting, diarrhea)
  - Fever, infection, trauma or ingestion
  - History of: allergic reaction, cardiac disease or rhythm disturbances
- Important signs to watch for:

**COMPENSATED SHOCK**

- Tachycardia
- Cool extremities
- Capillary refill time >2 seconds
- Weak peripheral pulses compared with central pulses
- Normal blood pressure

**DECOMPENSATED SHOCK**

- Hypotension and/or bradycardia (late findings)
- Decreased mental status
- Decreased urine output
- Tachypnea
- Non-detectable distal pulses with weak central pulses

