

# Genius™ 3 Tympanic Thermometer

## Tips and Techniques.



### Questionable Temperatures?

1 If readings are low or high:



**A.** Inspect the probe lens for smudges or debris and clean with a dry lint free swab if needed. If lens does not easily clean, please see instruction manual for proper cleaning instructions.

**B.** Ensure the probe cover is loaded properly. An improperly seated probe or tears/wrinkles can cause inaccurate temps.

**C.** Advance probe tip as far as it will comfortably go into the ear canal to ensure a proper seal. Align the probe tip with ear canal. Immediately press scan.

**D.** Ensure the thermometer has not been left or used in an extreme ambient temperature below 16° C or above 33° C.

**E.** Verify mode setting on LCD display. Oral, Rectal or Ear are available. See chart for normal body temperature ranges by site equivalence and age.

**F.** Normal body temperature is a range, and will vary by measurement site and patient age. Readings from different sites, even when taken at the same time, should not be directly compared. See chart below for normal ranges.

Normal Body Temperatures by Patients Age (°C)<sup>1</sup>

Temp Site	0-2 Years	3-10 Years	11-65 Years	>65 Years
Ear	36.3 - 38°C	36.1 - 37.7°C	35.8 - 37.6°C	35.7 - 37.5°C
Rectal	36.6 - 38°C	36.5 - 38°C	37 - 38.1°C	36.1 - 37.3°C

2 If a patient is lying on their side, ALWAYS take the temperature in the exposed (upper) ear.

3 Incubators and radiant warmers can impact the temperature of the tympanic membrane. For an accurate temperature, choose the ear nearest the sheet, or the “down” ear for this patient population.

4 Always wait at least two minutes before taking a temperature in the same ear. This will prevent low temperatures due to the draw down effect. (Placing a room temperature probe into a patient’s ear repeatedly over a short period of time will artificially cool the ear).

5 A new probe cover must be used for each reading in order to ensure the highest degree of accuracy and prevent cross contamination.



6 When loading probe covers into base unit, do not touch plastic film on the distal tip of the probe cover with your fingers.

7 If the patient has recently (<10min) been exposed to extreme ambient temperatures, wait 10 minutes before taking a tympanic temperature.

8 If patient is wearing a hearing aid, remove the device from the ear and wait 10 minutes before taking a reading.

9 The Genius™ 3 Tympanic Thermometer is not recommended for any patient with moisture (e.g. blood, spinal fluid, tears, saliva, or mist from a mist tent) in the ear.

## Questionable Temperatures? *Cont.*

- 10 Pressure equalisation (PE) or tympanostomy tubes will not compromise accuracy. However, to assure patient comfort, one week should be allowed post-operatively before using the Genius™ 3 Tympanic Thermometer.
- 11 Normal ear wax build up will not affect the accuracy of readings unless it is compacted with hair and debris. Use your best clinical judgment to determine the proper ear and temperature measurement site.
- 12 Differences in ear anatomy: structural differences between the sides of the head can result in different temperatures.
- 13 Storage temperature range: -25°C to 55°C up to 95% humidity.

## Blank Display Window?

- 1 Thermometer may be in “sleep” mode. Press and release the scan button to recall last temp.
- 2 If the screen is still blank replace the 3 AAA batteries.

## Scan Button Won't Work.

- 1 Ensure that probe cover is properly loaded.
- 2 Thermometer may have entered the power-saving “sleep” mode. Eject probe cover and reload a new cover.

### References:

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Brunner, L. and Suddarth, DI, et al. (1982) *The Lippincott Manual of Nursing Practice*, Third Edition; J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, PA; 1982; p.1145

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