



PEQUOT PHARMACEUTICAL NETWORK

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How to Stay Cool and Safe in Hot Weather

Stay cool, stay hydrated, and stay informed:

- 1. The main things affecting your body's ability to cool itself during extremely hot weather are high humidity, which keeps sweat from evaporating quickly and keeps the body from releasing heat as fast as it needs to, and personal factors such as age, weight, fever, dehydration, heart disease, poor circulation, sunburn, and prescription drug and alcohol use.
- 2. Those who are at highest risk of heat related illness include people 65 and older, children under two, and people with chronic diseases.
- 3. You can take the following protective actions to prevent heat-related illness or death:
 - Stay in air conditioned buildings as much as you can. If your home is not air conditioned spend time in public facilities that are air conditioned, and use air conditioning in vehicles. Do not rely on a fan as your main cooling device.
 - Drink more water than usual, and do not wait until you are thirsty to drink. Muscle cramping may be an early sign of heat-related illness.
 - Check on a friend or neighbor and have someone do the same for you.
 - Limit use of the oven and stove it will make you and your house hotter.
 - Limit outdoor activity, especially midday when the sun is hottest.
 - Pace your activity. Start activities slowly and pick up the pace gradually.
 - Schedule workouts earlier or later in the day when the temperature is cooler.
 - Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing and sunscreen.
 - Take cool showers or baths to cool down.
 - Never leave children or pets in cars.
 - Seek medical care right away if there are symptoms of heat-related illness.



Source:cdc.gov/nceh/features/extremeheat/index.html, https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/warning.html At Pequot Health Care, we are dedicated to maintaining your good health!