# Checklist: Management of the Sick Child
## Age 2 Months Up to 5 Years

### Check for General Danger Signs
- Not able to drink or breastfeed
- Vomits everything
- Convulsions
- Lethargic or unconscious

### Ask: Does the Child Have Cough or Difficulty Breathing?
- If yes, ask:
  - For how long?
  - Count the breaths in one minute (child must be calm). Fast breathing?
  - Look for chest indrawing.
  - Look and listen for stridor.
  - Look and listen for wheeze.

### Ask: Does the Child Have Diarrhea?
- If yes, ask:
  - For how long?
  - Is there blood in the stools?
  - Look at the child’s general condition. Is the child:
    - Lethargic or unconscious?
    - Restless or irritable?
    - Look for sunken eyes.
    - Offer the child fluid. Is the child:
      - Not able to drink or drinking poorly?
      - Drinking eagerly, thirstily?
    - Pinch the skin of the abdomen. Does it go back:
      - Very slowly (longer than 2 seconds)?
      - Slowly?

### Ask: Does the Child Have a Throat Problem?
- If yes, ask:
  - Does the child have a sore throat?
  - Is the child not able to drink?
  - Does the child have fever?
  - Feel for tender, enlarged lymph nodes on the neck.
  - Look for red, enlarged tonsils.
  - Look for white exudate on the throat.

### Ask: Does the Child Have an Ear Problem?
- If yes, ask:
  - Is there severe ear pain?
  - Is there ear discharge? If yes, for how long?
  - Look for pus draining from the ear.
  - Feel for tender swelling behind the child’s ear.
**ASK: DOES THE CHILD HAVE A SKIN PROBLEM?**

If yes, ASK:
- Does the child have skin itchiness?
- Does the child have pain from the skin problem?

- Look for extensive warm redness and swelling.
- Look for redness or swelling around the eyes.
- Look for red, raised, flat-topped bumps or welts on the skin that are smooth to the touch.
- Look for localized warm, tender swelling or redness.
- Look for discrete lesions with pus or crusts.
- Look for papules on the hands, knees, elbows, feet, and trunk.
- Look for round to oval scaly patches.
- Look for small, raised, painless pearl-like bumps often with round dimple in the center.
- Look for dry, thick, scaly rash.
- Look for red itchy spots that look like blisters.
- Look for rash of small red or pink pimples.

**CHECK FOR FEVER** *(Temperature 37.5°C or above)*

If yes, ASK:
- For how long?
- If more than 7 days, has fever been present every day?
- Has child had measles in the last 3 months?

- Look or feel for stiff neck.
- Look for runny nose.

**LOOK FOR SIGNS OF MEASLES**
- Generalized rash and
- One of these: cough, runny nose, or red eyes.

**IF THE CHILD HAS MEASLES NOW OR IN THE LAST 3 MONTHS:**

- Look for mouth ulcers. Are they deep and extensive?
- Look for pus draining from the eye.
- Look for clouding of the cornea.

**CHECK FOR MALNUTRITION**

- Look for visible severe wasting.
- Look and feel for oedema of both feet.
- Check the growth chart:
  - Is the child below -2 weight for age?
  - Is the child growth faltering?

**CHECK FOR ANAEMIA**

- Look for palmar pallor. Is there:
  - Severe palmar pallor?
  - Some palmar pallor?

**ASSESS CHILD’S FEEDING if the child has ANAEMIA OR VERY LOW WEIGHT or is less than 2 years old**

- Do you breastfeed your child?
  - If yes, how many times in 24 hours?
  - Do you also breastfeed during the night?
- Does the child take any other food or fluids?
  - If yes, what food or fluids? How many times per day?
  - What do you use to feed the child?
  - If very low weight for age: how large are the servings?
- During this illness, has the child’s feeding changed?
  - If yes, how?

**CHECK IMMUNIZATION/SUPPLEMENTATION/DEWORMING STATUS, ASSESS OTHER PROBLEMS, AND DETERMINE WHEN TO RETURN FOR FOLLOW-UP**