

Table 2 Parents' knowledge, practices and beliefs about childhood fever

Characteristic	No.	% (n = 264)
<i>Definition of fever temperature (°C)</i>		
38-< 38.5	9	3.5
< 38 or > 38.5	162	61.3
Don't know	93	35.2
<i>Way of measuring child's temperature</i>		
Thermometer	143	54.4
Touching the forehead	117	44.5
Chills	5	0.8
If the child drinks a lot	1	0.4
<i>Has a thermometer at home</i>		
Yes	161	61.2
No	102	38.8
<i>Type of thermometer used to take child's temperature</i>		
Rectum	126	73.7
Armpit	43	25.1
Ear	2	1.2
<i>Can read the thermometer</i>		
Yes	142	58.9
No	99	41.1
<i>Believe fever has a purpose</i>		
Yes	8	3.1
No	246	96.9
<i>Believe fever is dangerous</i>		
Yes	153	59.5
No	104	40.5
<i>Dangers specified</i>		
Neurological	43	28.9
Seizures	28	18.8
Paralysis	29	19.5
<i>Breathing difficulty</i>		
Coma	22	14.8
Death	4	2.7
Blindness	1	0.7