

## Warning signs of hypothermia (from FEMA)

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While hypothermia generally occurs at very cold temperatures, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) says that it can happen even at cool temperatures (above 40°F) if a person becomes chilled from rain, sweat, or submersion in cold water.

As winter approaches, it's important to know the warning signs of hypothermia and what to do if you notice those signs.

### Warnings Signs of Hypothermia

#### Adults:

- Body temperature below 95 degrees
- Uncontrollable shivering
- Exhaustion
- Confusion, fumbling hands
- Memory loss, disorientation
- Incoherence, slurred speech
- Drowsiness

#### Infants:

- Bright red, cold skin
- Very low energy

If someone is suffering from hypothermia, get medical attention immediately and begin warming the person until help

arrives. Find several ways to warm a person on the CDC's Hypothermia page.

### If you must go outside, prevent hypothermia by:

- Wearing several layers of loose fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. The outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent.
- Wear mittens, which are warmer than gloves.
- Cover all of your body. Wear a hat and a scarf, covering your mouth to protect your face and to help prevent loss of body heat.

For more information on how to prepare for the winter, visit the America's PrepareAthon! Winter Storm section. If you or anyone you know is suffering from Hypothermia – bring them to FCPHD ER or to our clinic to be evaluated and treated.

*Prior Hospital Happenings available at <http://www.fcphd.org/news.html>*

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