

Scientists use genetics to identify best treatment for fevers

Two studies...examine the use of genetic tests to help rule out a serious bacterial infection in infants with fever...[and] to determine if an infection is bacterial or viral in children with fever.

In one study, Michael Levin...investigated whether bacterial infection can be distinguished from other causes of fever in children by the pattern of host genes activated or suppressed in blood in response to the infection and whether a subset of these genes could be identified as the basis for a diagnostic test.

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In another study, Octavio Ramilo...examined whether RNA biosignatures can distinguish febrile infants age 60 days or younger with and without serious bacterial infections.

Young febrile infants are at substantial risk of serious bacterial infections; however, the current culture-based diagnosis has limitations...A genomic approach based on analysis of the host response to infection has been investigated as an alternative.

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“The results of these 2 preliminary studies represent promissory notes. Clearly, RNA sequencing [is]...in the early days of development and evaluation for clinical applications,” [states] Howard Bauchner....

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Studies explore use of genetics to help determine appropriate treatment for fever in children](#)