

Common Question #1

*What makes my patient feel **hot** yet I get a “normal” temperature?*

- *Important to Remember:*
 - Vasodilation **increases** the transport of body heat to the skin surface
 - Vasoconstriction **decreases** the transport of body heat, keeping it in the core
- ***Vasodilation:***
 - Circulating blood transports heat to the skin surface, where it dissipates into surrounding environment
 - This is the body’s way of maintaining a normal temperature
 - Skin will feel **warm** to the touch ***but does not always indicate a fever.***
- ***Vasoconstriction:***
 - Decreases the transport of core heat to the skin surface, keeping it within the deeper core tissues of the body
 - This allows a fever to increase
 - Skin will feel **cold** to the touch, ***even though a fever is present.***