

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.*