under pressure

On arrival at A&E, everyone should have their blood pressure and vital signs recorded.

Always check paediatric blood pressures.

Normal values for children vary with age, sex and percentile; however, values for systolic blood pressure are approximately:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Systolic BP (mmHg)</th>
<th>If lower</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;18mths</td>
<td>80-95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>80-100</td>
<td>Suspect Shock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 yrs</td>
<td>90-100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 yrs</td>
<td>90-110</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 yrs</td>
<td>90-120</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Toxic shock syndrome (TSS) facts:
- TSS can affect infants, older children and adults. Many cases are diagnosed late
- TSS may follow scalds, wounds, stings, chickenpox, surgery or childbirth. It may also be associated with menstruation and tampon use
- Low blood pressure is seen in all TSS cases

Symptoms include:
- Dizziness and confusion
- High fever
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Muscle aches
- Rash

www.tssis.com

www.asancep.org.uk/JRCALC/guidelines/