Passive cooling

Baby meets therapeutic hypothermia criteria
[Refer to Checklist for therapeutic hypothermia]

Commence passive cooling

- Nurse baby (in nappy only) on an open care system with radiant warmer turned off
- Monitor baby's temperature:
  - If available, start continuous core (rectal) temperature monitoring and record every 30 minutes
  - If rectal thermometer is not available, measure and record the axilla temperature every 30 minutes

Assess baby's temperature
- Aim to achieve therapeutic range within 2 hours of commencing cooling

Temperature < 33 °C
- Rewarm at 0.5 °C/hour until at 33–34 °C
- Put hat on baby
- Turn open care system onto lowest temperature setting and adjust accordingly

Target temperature 33–34 °C
- Maintain temperature within this range
- May need to:
  - Put hat on baby
  - Turn open care system onto lowest temperature setting and adjust accordingly

Temperature > 34 °C
- If target temperature is not achieved within 2 hours, or the baby's temperature is not dropping by at least 0.5 °C each 30 minutes towards target temperature, consult with a neonatologist
  - Active cooling may be required

Document baby's temperature every 30 minutes