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.*