

NOTIFICATION OF STREP THROAT
(A bacterial infection from Streptococcal Group A organism)

Incubation period: (the time between exposure to the disease and the appearance of symptoms) Usually 1-3 days.

Contagious period: (when the disease can be transmitted to another person) If left untreated, your child could be contagious for 10 days to several weeks or months. If treated with an antibiotic, your child will no longer be contagious 24 hours after starting to take the medication.

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Signs and symptoms: Symptoms may include fever, headache, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. Tonsils may be swollen, red and painful. If your child has these symptoms you should consult your doctor as soon as possible.

Treatment: After your doctor determines a positive throat culture, antibiotic treatment is started. It is extremely important to take all medication as prescribed until gone.

How this disease spread: Strep throat is usually spread by direct person-to-person contact from nose and throat secretions, and rarely by contaminated food.

Control of cases: The infected child should be excluded from school until he/she has been on antibiotics for at least 24 hours and is feeling ready and healthy enough to return to a full day of school activities.

General preventive measures: Teach the importance of proper hand washing. When washing hands, use soap, rubbing hands together for 15 seconds and rinsing in running water. Children should be advised not to share eating/drinking utensils or food.