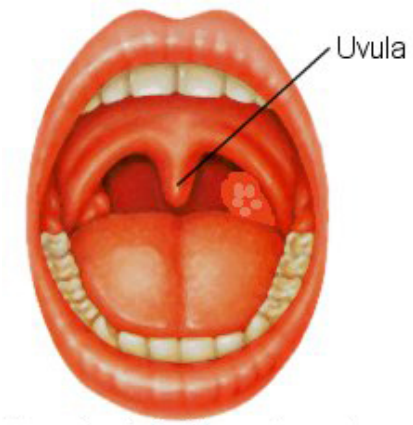
Strep Throat, Child

Strep throat is an infection caused by the strep germ. Strep is passed from one person to another (*contagious*). The only way to know if a sore throat is strep is by a test. A cotton swab is used to take a sample for testing.



HOME CARE

- Your child must take all of the medicine (*antibiotic*) even if he or she feels better or does not want to take it.
- Medicine may cause watery poop (*diarrhea*). Ask your doctor how to prevent this.
- Offer frozen ice pops or cool drinks every hour. Make sure your child drinks enough water and fluids to keep his or her pee (*urine*) clear or pale yellow.
- Most children may return to school or daycare after being on medicine for 48 hours if they do not have a fever.
- Wash your hands often. Help your child to do the same. Using wipes may be easier.
- Let your child rest if he or she does not feel well.
- Cover your child with 1 light blanket if he or she has a fever.

Only give your child medicine as told by the doctor. DO NOT give aspirin to children.

GET HELP RIGHT AWAY IF:

- Your child has a temperature by mouth above 102° F (38.9° C), not controlled by medicine.
- Your baby is older than 3 months with a rectal temperature of 102º F (38.9º C) or higher.
- **Your baby is 3 months old or younger with a rectal temperature of 100.4º F (38º C) or higher.**
- Your child cannot or will not take the medicine the doctor ordered.
- Your child gets a rash or has trouble breathing.
- Your child is drooling or cannot speak.
- Your child has not peed for 8 hours, or as you were told.
- Your child seems weak or limp.

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Understand these instructions.
- Will watch your child's condition.
- Will get help right away if your child is not doing well or gets worse.

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