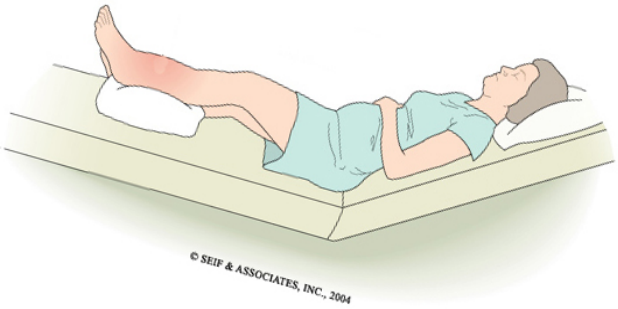
Cellulitis

Cellulitis is an infection of the tissue under the skin. The infected area is usually red and tender. This is caused by germs (*bacteria*). These germs enter the body through cuts or sores. This usually happens in the arms or lower legs.



HOME CARE

- Take medicine (*antibiotics*) the way your doctor told you to. Take it until it is gone.
- Only take over-the-counter medicine as told by your doctor.
- If the infection is on the arm or leg, keep the limb raised.
- Use a warm cloth on the infected area several times a day to:
  - Help with pain.
  - Help with healing.
- See your doctor for a follow-up visit as told.

GET HELP RIGHT AWAY IF:

- You or your child is tired or confused.
- You or your child is throwing up (*vomiting*).
- You or your child is having watery poop (*diarrhea*).
- You or your child feels ill and has muscle aches.
- You or 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.**

MAKE SURE YOU:

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

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