

UNDERSTANDING STREP THROAT

Streptococcal pharyngitis, or strep throat is a very common illness that is caused by a bacteria, streptococcus pyogenes or Group A Strep (GAS). Group A strep pharyngitis is most commonly spread through direct person-to-person transmission, typically through saliva or nasal secretions.¹



KNOW THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF STREP THROAT

- Sudden, severe sore throat
- Tender lymph glands in the front of the neck
- Muscle aches
- Fever
- Pain when swallowing
- Tiny, red spots on the roof of the mouth
- Red and swollen tonsils, sometimes with white patches or streaks of pus
- Headache, stomach pain, nausea, or vomiting - especially in children

1. www.cdc.gov/groupastrep/diseases-hcp/strep-throat.html



Get tested for Strep.

If you or a family member has a sore throat, you should be seen by a pharmacist or doctor who can perform a Group A Strep test to determine whether the illness is strep throat.

Stay home.

If the test result is positive for Group A streptococcus, you should rest and stay home from work, school, or day care for 24 hours after taking the antibiotic or as directed by your healthcare provider.

Wash your hands.

If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer.

Do the elbow cough.

Cough into elbows, not hands where it is more likely to spread bacteria and viruses through touch.

ASK HOW YOU CAN BE TESTED FOR STREP THROAT AT THIS PHARMACY LOCATION

Determining a positive Group A streptococcus is important to diagnose for applicable treatment. If you are symptomatic, ask your pharmacist about testing options on-site.



*Ask about your eligibility for the Strep test.

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**UH OH...
I THINK I HAVE
STREP THROAT**

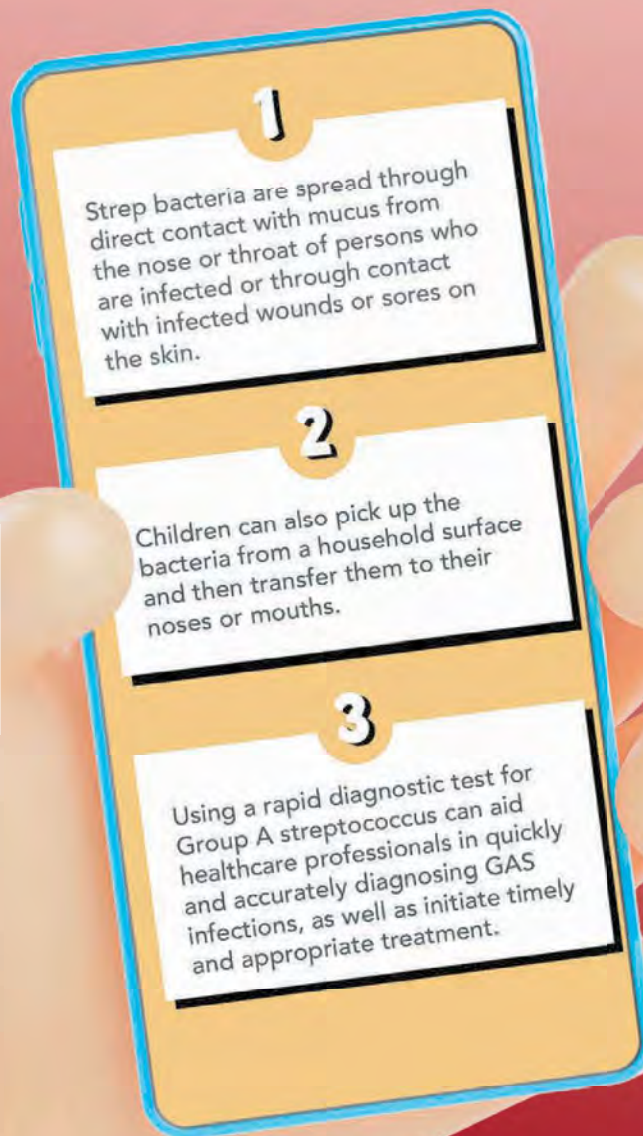


Did you know you can get tested right here and now?*

Ask your Pharmacist about how you can be tested for strep throat at this pharmacy location.



THE TOP THREE STREP THROAT QUICK FACTS:



1
Strep bacteria are spread through direct contact with mucus from the nose or throat of persons who are infected or through contact with infected wounds or sores on the skin.

2
Children can also pick up the bacteria from a household surface and then transfer them to their noses or mouths.

3
Using a rapid diagnostic test for Group A streptococcus can aid healthcare professionals in quickly and accurately diagnosing GAS infections, as well as initiate timely and appropriate treatment.

DISCOVER THE TRUTH ABOUT TESTING FOR STREP THROAT.

The Strep A test is easy to administer and can be done right here by the pharmacist.

To perform the test, the pharmacist will swab the back of your throat with a cotton-tipped swab then run a rapid diagnostic test for Strep A. The test result will take about 5 minutes.

If you test positive: Your pharmacist will dispense an antibiotic that is prescribed under a physician's direction. The oral antibiotics should be taken for the full course, even if the symptoms get better or go away.

If the test is negative and you still feel sick, please contact your physician or visit an urgent care.



Although rare, complications¹ can result from the strep infection spreading to other areas of the body if not treated.

These complications include:

- ✔ **ABCESSES AROUND THE TONSILS**
- ✔ **KIDNEY INFLAMMATION**
- ✔ **SINUSITIS**
- ✔ **RHEUMATIC FEVER**
- ✔ **EAR INFECTIONS**

It is important to be able to distinguish a strep throat from a viral sore throat because strep infections should be treated with antibiotics.

