

GROUP A STREPTOCOCCUS

(GROUP A STREP)

ABOUT GROUP A STREP

Group A streptococcus (group A strep) is a bacteria that lives on a person's skin or in their nose and throat. Group A strep infections can cause mild to severe illness.

TRANSMISSION (SPREAD)

It spreads through close contact with a person who has group A strep. These germs can be passed on through coughs, sneezes, or from a wound.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS



Sore throat



Rash around mouth



Fever and chills



"Strawberry" tongue



Trouble breathing



Severe headache

CONDITIONS & COMPLICATIONS

Conditions:

- Strep throat
- Impetigo
- Scarlet fever

Complications:

- Pneumonia
- Meningitis
- Rheumatic fever

PREVENTION

The best way to prevent group A strep is to wash your hands often:

- After coughing and sneezing; and
- Before eating and preparing food.

TREATMENT

- Group A strep may need to be treated with medicine prescribed by a doctor (antibiotics).
- Your doctor can decide the best treatment for you.

CONTACT A DOCTOR

- Talk to doctor if you or a family member have group A symptoms.
- It is important to get tested and treated right away.

To learn more, visit the Group A Strep webpage at www.cdc.gov.