

Fast Facts

Scarlet Fever

- Also known as scarlatina
- Usually caused by the same bacteria that triggers strep throat
- Bacteria release toxins in the body that produces the symptoms of the illness
- It's spread via droplets that are expelled when an infected individual coughs or sneezes and another person comes into contact with them, usually by inhaling the particles
- Common for it to spread among those who have close contact with the infected person
- Children between the ages of 5 and 15 are more likely to catch it due to the close proximity to other children during school hours
- Takes about two to four days from being exposed to start experiencing symptoms

<i>Symptoms</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Prevention</i>
<p><i>Distinct:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Bright red rash that feels like sandpaper and starts on the face/neck and spreads to the torso, arms and legs (eventually peels) -Darker red areas in folds of the skin, such as those around the groin, armpits, elbows, knees and neck, -Flushed face with a pale ring around the mouth -Strawberry tongue (red/bumpy and covered with a white coating the first few days of the infection) <p><i>Other:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Fever of 101°F or higher -Chills -Very sore/red throat (sometimes has white/yellowish patches) -Difficulty swallowing -Enlarged lymph nodes in the neck that are painful when touched -Nausea/vomiting -Headache 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Antibiotics <p><i>Comfort Measures:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Over-the-counter fever reducers -Drink plenty of water -Gargle with salt water -Lozenges for children over 4 -Warm or cold liquids, like soups or ice pops -Cool mist humidifier -Avoid irritants, like cigarette smoke or cleaning products <p><i>Decrease Chance of Spread:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wash drinking glasses, utensils and toys in hot, soapy water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wash hands frequently and thoroughly with warm soapy water -Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing -Don't share food or eating utensils with others -Teach techniques to children

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