

Scarlet Fever/Group A Strep

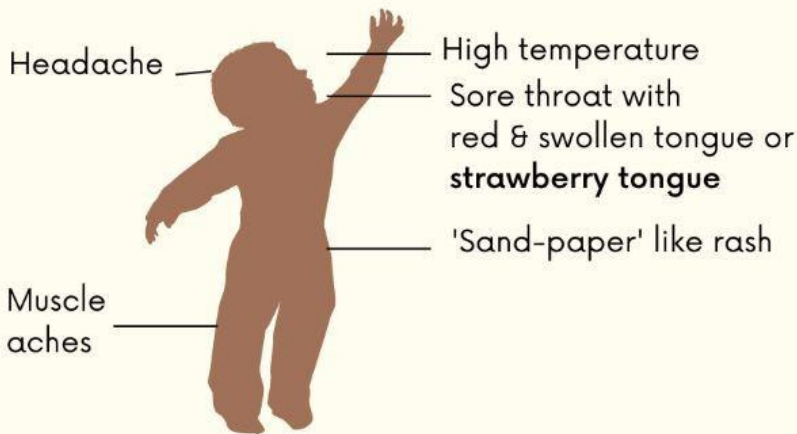
Scarlet Fever is caused by the bacteria group A streptococcus.

It usually causes a throat infection that clears by itself.

Rarely, the infection can spread to the blood and become more serious.

What to look for?

Rash
may look like:



Tongue
may look like:



WHY ARE THERE MORE CASES NOW?

There are more cases now of group A streptococcus (more than 4 times this time last year). The bacteria that causes the infection is contagious and sometimes it can be a few days before you show signs of the illness.

CAN YOU TEST FOR IT?

Most doctors tend to diagnose scarlet fever from the symptoms alone. Sometimes they will use a throat swab to help test.

HOW CAN YOU TREAT IT?

Usually, cases of scarlet fever will be mild. If you are worried, see your **GP** or **call 111**. If your child is prescribed antibiotics, complete the full course.

See your GP or call 111:

Your child is getting worse, feeding much less than usual and your child is tired/irritable,
Your child having less than 2 wet nappies in 24 hours,
Your child has had more than 5 days of fever

Call 999 if:

Your child is having difficulty breathing
Your child's skin/tongue/lips are blue
Your child is floppy or won't wake

ON DARKER SKIN...

The rash can be difficult to see on darker skin tone, however can still have a sandpaper texture. The rash is more obvious in the groin/armpit area. Sometimes, the flushed cheeks appear as 'sunburned' on darker skin, with whiteness near the mouth.

FIND OUT MORE:

- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>
- bit.ly/strepparentguide
- <https://what0-18.nhs.uk/professionals/gp-primary-care-staff/safety-netting-documents-parents>



BRITISH ISLAMIC
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION