



## What is strep throat?

- Strep throat (streptococcal pharyngitis) is an illness caused by bacteria called group A *Streptococcus*. Most common in school age children

## What are the symptoms?

- Sudden fever – over 101°F
- Sore throat with white spots on both tonsils
- Swollen lymph nodes on neck
- Painful swallowing

## How is it spread?

- Direct contact with discharge from coughing, sneezing or talking to infected people
- Drinking from the same glass or same eating utensil as infected person

## How is it diagnosed and treated?

- Primary care provider evaluation and laboratory cultures for strep throat
- Strep throat is treated with oral antibiotics
- Untreated strep can lead to kidney disease, rheumatic fever or throat abscess

## Can it be prevented?

- Wash hands frequently
- Cough or sneeze into tissue and promptly dispose of it
- Do not share eating utensils

## Should the sick individual be isolated?

- Yes. Exclude from school/childcare until 24 hours after beginning medication
- Exclude until fever has returned to normal for at least 24 hours without medication

## When can the individual return to the general population?

- May return after being under antibiotic treatment for 24 hours
- Exclude until fever has returned to normal for at least 24 hours without medication

## Should facilities do special cleaning?

- Special cleaning is not necessary. Routine cleaning with EPA approved products is recommended

## If I have any other questions, whom can I contact?

- Call the Genesee County Health Department at 257-1017