



**Sore Throat**

**Does my child have strep?**

There are many possible causes of throat pain in children and adolescents. Causes include, but are not limited to, viral pharyngitis, seasonal allergies, step pharyngitis (strep throat), and upper respiratory infections. Please use the information below as a resource in helping to identify the cause of your child’s sore throat. As always, if your child has a sore throat, do not hesitate to call the office and ask to speak with a nurse.

Drooling, difficulty swallowing, **and/or** trouble breathing

**Call 911!**

**Sore throat**

Fever, headache, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, rash, decreased appetite, pus on tonsils **and/or** swollen glands

Office appointment and rapid strep test needed

Possible strep throat!

**Sore throat**

Antibiotics if positive

\*Strep is even more likely if your child is over age 2 and has had a sore throat for more than 3 days!

Call office and ask to speak with nurse

Fever, cough, nasal congestion, sneezing, hoarseness, red eyes, **and/or** decreased appetite

Homecare advice

Possible viral pharyngitis

**Sore throat**

\*\*The most serious complication of strep throat is rheumatic fever which can occur if strep throat is not treated within 10 days. Symptoms of rheumatic fever include: joint pain, swelling and possibly heart damage\*\*