

Scarlet fever & Group A Strep advice sheet

Advice for parents and carers of children



Your child may require emergency treatment

You should call 999 or take them to your **NEAREST Emergency Department** where they can be assessed.

- Persistent high fever
- Severe muscle aches
- Widespread erythematous 'sunburn like' rash
- Localised severe muscle tenderness
- Increased pain, swelling and redness at site of a wound, particularly chicken pox lesions
- Unexplained severe diarrhoea and vomiting
- Becomes pale, mottled and feels abnormally cold to touch
- Has a dark green vomit
- Is going blue around the lips
- Too breathless to talk / eat or drink
- Has a fit/seizure
- Becomes extremely agitated (crying inconsolably despite distraction), confused or very lethargic (difficult to wake)
- Seems dehydrated or has not passed urine in 12 hours.



You can ring your **GP surgery** during their usual opening hours, **Phone First or Urgent Care (GP) Out of Hours.**

If your child develops any of the red symptoms above, go to your nearest **Emergency Department.**

If there are no red symptoms, check if your child has any amber symptoms:

- Sandpaper rash – red, bumpy rash
- Sore throat and fever
- Skin infections
- Is getting worse or you are worried
- If your child has recently had scarlet fever but now appears to have puffy eyelids/face, tea / 'coca-cola' coloured urine (pee), or a swollen, painful joint(s)
- Options if your child has any amber symptoms
- Your child does not need to be taken to the **Emergency Department** immediately, but you should seek medical advice today
- If symptoms continue for four hours or more and you have not been able to speak to your GP or the out of hours GP, consider going to your nearest **Emergency Department.**



Continue providing your child's care at home.

- If none of the above features is present, your child does not seem to have any symptoms of serious illness
- You can get general advice on the NI Direct website or from your local pharmacy
- If your child develops any of the red or amber symptoms above, follow the advice in these sections

For more information visit
www.publichealth.hscni.net