

Invasive Group A Streptococcal Disease (iGAS)

Group A streptococcus (GAS) is a germ that can cause skin and throat infections. When GAS is found in other parts of the body, like in the blood, we call this invasive group A streptococcal (iGAS) disease. iGAS is a serious disease. People with iGAS disease must be treated as soon as possible in the hospital.

If you are very sick, please **call 000** and ask for assistance.

Symptoms

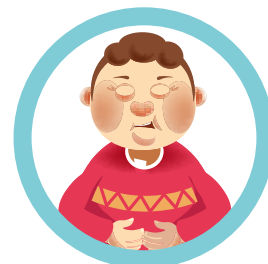
Because GAS can affect different parts of the body, it can cause a variety of symptoms.



Fever



Red, hot, painful and spreading skin infection



Trouble breathing and/or chest pain



Headache and/or stiff neck



Nausea or vomiting



Dizziness

Pregnant women can also get abdominal pain and bleeding or discharge from the vagina.

Children can also get these symptoms:



Cold or mottled limbs



Sore arms and legs, pain with walking



Poor feeding



Abdominal pain



Feeling weak



Less urine

How it spreads

The germ that causes iGAS spreads when a person with the germ coughs, sneezes, or touches another person.

Who is at higher risk?



- + People living in the same home as a person with iGAS disease within the last month
- + People younger than 5 years or older than 65 years
- + First Nations peoples and Pacific Islander peoples
- + People with problems with their immune system
- + Pregnant women and women who have had a baby in the previous month
- + People living in homes that are overcrowded or who do not have hot water or working taps

Prevention

For one month after you have been in contact with a person with iGAS, see your doctor **URGENTLY** if you become sick. This includes a sore throat or skin sores.

You may need antibiotics.



Wash your hands after you cough or sneeze, before cooking and before eating.

