

Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust

If you would like more information

- Ask your hospital doctor or nurse. Ask to speak to the Hospital Infection Prevention Nurse or telephone 0161 922 6194

The Public Health England website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/group-a-streptococcal-infections-guidance-and-data>

If you have any questions you want to ask, you can use this space below to remind you.

If you have a visual impairment this leaflet can be made available in bigger print or on audiotape. If you require either of these options please contact the Patient Information Centre on 0161 922 5332

Language, Interpretation and Patient Support Service (LIPS): If you require an interpreter to assist your appointment, please ask an appropriate family member to contact our central booking office between **Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm** on **0161 922 6991** to arrange this for you. Further information can be found on the Trust public website <https://www.tamesidehospital.nhs.uk/patients/lips.htm>

語言翻譯及病者支持服務 (LIPS):

如果閣下需要翻譯員在您的預約當日幫助您的話 請找一名合適的家庭成員 0161 922 6991 聯絡本中央預約辦事處來您您安排 我們的辦公時間是星期一至星期五 上午 8 時至下午 5 時

Językowo Tłumaczeniowa Usługa Pomocy dla Pacjenta (Language, Interpretation and Patient Support Service LIPS):

Jeśli potrzebujesz pomocy tłumacza w trakcie swojej wizyty, proszę poprosić odpowiedniego członka rodziny o skontaktowanie się z Centralnym Biurem Zamówień (Central Booking Office), w celu zorganizowania tłumacza pomiędzy poniedziałkiem a piątkiem w godzinach od 08:00 - 17:00 pod numerem 0161 922 6991.

لینگویج، انٹریپریٹیشن اینڈ پیٹینٹ سپورٹ سروس (Lips)

اگر آپ کو اپنی اپائنٹمنٹ کے لئے مترجم کی مدد کی ضرورت ہو تو براہ مہربانی اپنے خاندان کے کسی موزوں فرد سے کہیں کہ وہ ہمارے سنٹرل بکنگ آفس سے پیر سے جمعہ 8.00 بجے صبح سے 5.00 بجے شام کے دوران 0161 922 6991 پر فون کر کے اس کا بندوبست کریں۔

Help us to help you It is important that we keep your records up-to-date. If the information about you is incorrect, we may be unable to contact you should we need to inform you about any changes to your appointment. Therefore, if you change your GP/Dentist, address or telephone number, please contact us as soon as possible. Please provide a mobile number where possible as we operate an appointment reminder service via text message.

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Invasive Group A Streptococcal Disease (iGAS)

Patient Information Leaflet
Infection Prevention Team©



What is group A Streptococcal Disease (iGAS)?

Group A Streptococcus is a bacterium often found in the throat and on the skin.

How its spread?

Streptococci survive in throats and on your hands for long enough to allow easy spread between people through sneezing and skin contact. People may carry group A streptococci in the throat or in the skin and have no symptoms of illness. This is known as colonization.

Illnesses that can be caused by GAS

Most GAS infections are relatively mild illnesses such as sore throat (strep throat) or a skin infection such as impetigo. On rare occasions, these bacteria can cause other severe and even life-threatening infections.

Invasive Group A Streptococcal disease (iGAS)

Sometimes life-threatening disease may occur when bacteria gets into parts of the body where bacteria usually are not found, such as the blood stream and deeper layers of the skin. These infections are termed as invasive Group A Streptococcal disease. Two of the most severe, but rare, forms of IGAS disease are necrotizing fasciitis and Streptococcal Toxic shock syndrome.

Why does IGAS group A streptococcal disease occur?

Invasive GAS infections occur when the bacteria get past the defenses of the person who is infected. This may occur when a person has sores or other breaks in the skin that allow the bacteria to get into the tissue, or when the person's ability to fight off the infection is decreased because of chronic illness or an illness that affects their immune system.

People who come into contact with GAS may remain well and symptoms-free or may develop throat or skin infections. Healthy people can get GAS disease from a relative or a member of their household.

You need to be aware of early signs and symptoms of invasive disease which are shown in the box below.

Early signs and symptoms of invasive group A streptococcal disease

- **High fever**
- **Severe muscle aches**
- **Localised skin and muscle tenderness**
- **Redness at the site of a wound**

What you should do if you develop any of these symptoms:

If you develop any of the above symptoms contact your GP or seek medical advice immediately. Tell your GP that you have been in contact with someone recently diagnosed with invasive group A streptococcal disease and that you have developed some symptoms that you are worried about. It is very likely that your GP will ask you to come into the surgery so he/she can examine you.

Contracting invasive GAS disease from a relative or household member can occur but is uncommon.