

How Strep Throat Can Turn Deadly

OSF HealthCare Newsroom

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BROADCAST SCRIPT

VO/SOT #1

INTRO:

DECEMBER THROUGH APRIL IS PRIME TIME FOR STREP THROAT SEASON. BUT IT HASN'T BEEN THE AMOUNT OF CASES THIS MONTH THAT HAS OSF HEALTHCARE LEADERS CONCERNED – IT'S THE SEVERITY OF THE CASES -- WHICH LED TO THE DEATH OF TWO CHILDREN IN CENTRAL ILLINOIS.

TAKE VO

MOST STREP THROAT CASES ARE MILD – BUT THERE ARE OTHER RISK FACTORS THAT SPREAD QUICKLY. DR. BRIAN CURTIS – THE VICE PRESIDENT OF OSF HEALTHCARE'S SPECIALTY SERVICE LINE – SAYS THE THROAT ISN'T THE ONLY PLACE TO KEEP AN EYE ON WHEN LOOKING FOR STREP INFECTION.

17 SECOND SOT

“Group A strep can also cause skin infections. It can cause necrotizing fasciitis and then it can also cause an erysipelas, which are very fast-spreading skin and soft tissue infections which people can get very sick very quickly from.”

VO TAG

DR. CURTIS SAYS IF YOUR CHILD HAS A SKIN INFECTION OR HIGH FEVER – THEY NEED TO BE SEEN BY A DOCTOR RIGHT AWAY. HE SAYS A SORE THROAT... FEVER... AND SWOLLEN GLANDS ARE COMMON SYMPTOMS OF STREP.

VO/SOT #2

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23 SECOND SOT

“They seem to be acting right, then they're not acting right in a very short period of time. If you have a child that has a skin or soft tissue infection that seems to be spreading fairly rapidly, it is best to get them checked out.”

VO TAG

THE DIRECTOR OF INFECTION PREVENTION FOR OSF SAYS STREP IS SPREAD THROUGH DROPLETS. SHE RECOMMENDS KEEPING YOUR DISTANCE FROM OTHERS WHEN YOU FEEL ILL – AND STAY UP TO DATE ON YOUR VACCINATIONS.

VO/SOT #3

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TAKE VO

SOME CASES CAN CAUSE SEPSIS OR A BLOOD STREAM INFECTION.

JAMIE ALMASY (**ALL-MASS-EE**) – THE DIRECTOR OF INFECTION PREVENTION FOR OSF – SAYS INVASIVE INFECTIONS CAUSED BY GROUP A STREP BACTERIA IS WHAT WE'RE SEEING CASES OF RIGHT NOW. SHE OFFERS SOME TIPS FOR HOW TO PREVENT GETTING STREP.

12 SECOND SOT

"It's back to your basics. Really good hand-hygiene, make sure you're covering your cough," Almasly says. "If you are sick or have symptoms of strep throat, make sure you go and get tested."

VO TAG

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