

Scarlet Fever

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Scarlet Fever Latest News

A DNA analysis of pathogens from a pre-Hispanic mummy revealed that the bacterium that causes scarlet fever and strep throat was present in the Americas prior to European colonization.

About Scarlet Fever

- Scarlet fever, also known as **scarlatina**, is a **bacterial infection** caused by group A **streptococci bacteria** — the **same type** of bacteria that **cause 'strep throat', skin infections (impetigo), wound infections, and rheumatic fever.**
- It is **most common in children 5 to 15** years of age.
- Scarlet fever features a **bright red rash that covers most of the body.**
- It almost always includes a **sore throat and a high fever.**
- Scarlet Fever may **also cause:**
 - **red bumps on the tongue** (this can look like a strawberry) or a whitish coating on the tongue
 - headache

- abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting
- **very sore throat and tonsils** — swallowing can be difficult
- **swollen glands in the neck**
- muscle aches and chills
- **If left untreated**, scarlet fever can result in **more-serious conditions** that **affect the heart, kidneys**, and other parts of the body.
- **Is Scarlet Fever Contagious?**
 - Yes, the bacteria that cause scarlet fever are **contagious** (spread from person to person).
 - People who are infected can easily **spread it by coughing or sneezing**, which **sends tiny droplets** that contain the bacteria **into the air**.
 - **People can get scarlet fever more than once.**
 - There is **no vaccine** to prevent scarlet fever.
- **Treatment:**
 - It is **treated with antibiotics** (usually penicillin).
 - The fever will usually subside within 24 hours of starting antibiotics, but it is important to take the whole course to completely clear the germs from your throat.

Source: LS

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/scarlet-fever/>

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