

## **SORE THROAT**

Sore throats are usually caused by viruses. Some are caused by bacteria, usually Strep (Strep Throat).

Please follow these instructions carefully:

- Take acetaminophen (Tylenol) for pain or fever.
- Drink plenty of liquids.
- Several throat sprays, gargles and lozenges are available in pharmacies to help with the soreness.
- If you are given an antibiotic (such as penicillin), it is important to finish the whole prescription as directed.

Return to the Emergency Department or see your own doctor right away if any problems develop, including the following:

- You are worse in any way.
- You are not getting better within 3 days.
- Trouble breathing or shortness of breath.
- Trouble talking or swallowing (new or getting worse).
- Drooling.
- Fever over 102°F or fever lasting more than 24 hours.
- Severe headache or neck pain.
- Throwing up.
- Confusion, drowsiness or loss of memory.
- Trouble walking or controlling your arms or legs.
- Anything else that worries you.

For Children (in addition to above):

- Will not drink.
- Does not make urine ("pass water") for 8 hours.
- Neck stiffness.
- Change in voice or change in sound of crying.

**The Emergency Department is open 24 hours a day for any problems.**