

Let's talk about Rheumatic Heart Disease.

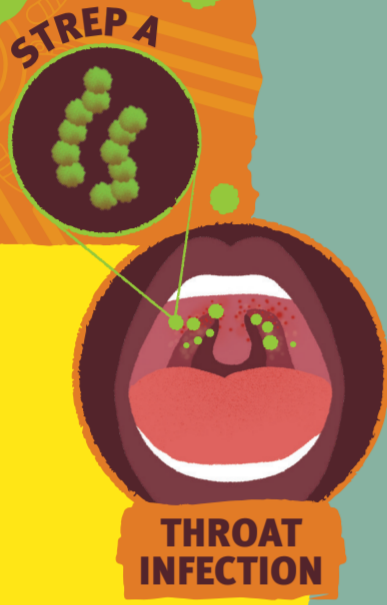


It starts with Strep A and ends with a sick heart.

Strep A is a type of germ that lives all around us. It can get into the body through the throat, or through cuts, bites, scratches or sores, causing an infection in the throat or on the skin.

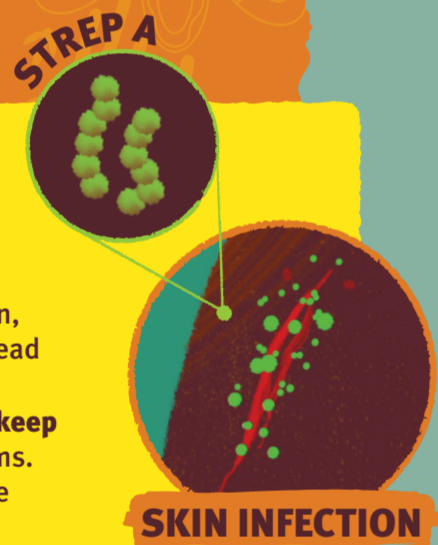
Got a sore throat? Hurts to swallow?

It might be nothing serious, but it might be Strep A, which can lead to a sick heart. Go to the health clinic and get it treated right to make your throat healthy again.



You got a sore? A cut, a bite, or a scratch?

You don't want germs getting in, especially Strep A, which can lead to a sick heart! Cover up any skin sores and keep them clean to block those germs. If it gets worse, get along to the clinic and get it sorted.



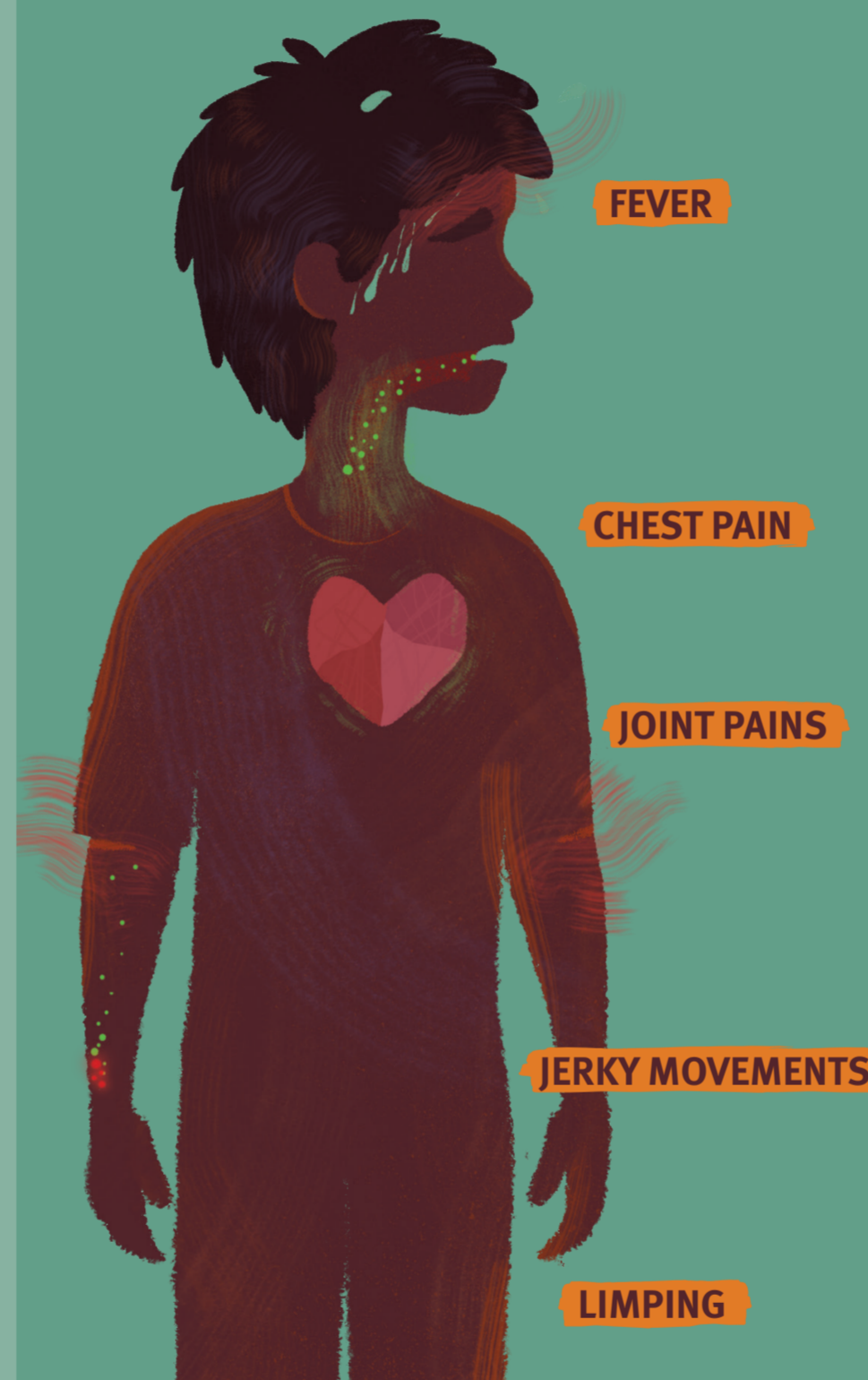
Strep A infection

When Strep A gets into your body it can infect your throat and skin. If a Strep A infection is not treated quickly, it can lead to ARF.



Acute Rheumatic Fever

ARF can damage your heart making you sick. When ARF is not treated right it can cause RHD.



Rheumatic Heart Disease

RHD can happen after getting ARF. The heart valves are damaged, and they do not work properly. RHD can cause tiredness and sickness, and lead to other health problems.

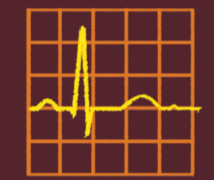


So what happens if I get RHD?

You will need:



Bicillin injections every 21-28 days



Regular heart scans



See dentist regularly

If you have RHD, your heart might not work like it should anymore.

Sore throat? Itchy skin? Skin sores?

Time to go to your health clinic!



Get medicine to heal sore throats



Wash your hands & body



Clean & cover cuts & sores



Keep things clean

If we stop Strep A from getting into the body, we can block RHD.



Central Queensland Hospital and Health Service

Queensland Government