



WHAT IS ACUTE RHEUMATIC FEVER?

Acute rheumatic fever develops in some people when they get a bacterial infection called Group A Streptococcus from skin and throat infections. This bacteria causes a delayed immune response resulting in a reaction in their joints, heart, brain and skin. It is most common in people aged 5–14 years of age.

What is acute rheumatic fever?



Group A Strep bacteria enters the body from untreated skin sores or sore throat



Skin sores



Sore throat



Fever and/or joint pain = THINK Acute Rheumatic Fever (ARF)

If your skin sores or a sore throat are not treated it can cause heart sickness and you might end up in hospital. **!**



HEALTHY SKIN, HEALTHY HEART

What are the symptoms of acute rheumatic fever?



Joint pain



Fever



Chest Pain



Sydenham's chorea (sudden small, jerky movements)



Visit your local health service if you think you or your family may have acute rheumatic fever. !

If you have a skin infection or a sore throat, visit your local health service.

For more information on rheumatic heart disease, visit www.darlingdowns.health.qld.gov.au



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