



Children's Health

Tonsillitis

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

The tonsils, located on each side of the neck, help keep infections away from the lungs. Tonsillitis occurs when the tonsils become red and inflamed.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

If your child complains of a sore throat, use a flashlight to look inside your child's mouth and throat. If the tonsils are red, keep your child indoors and have him or her drink plenty of liquids

frequently. If there's fever, or the tonsils have white spots or are swollen over the opening of the throat, call your child's doctor immediately. A course of antibiotics may be prescribed. Make sure your child finishes all the prescribed medication.

If attacks of tonsillitis are frequent and severe, surgical removal may be advised. Although tonsillectomies were once common, doctors now prefer to use them only as a last resort.

KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF TONSILLITIS

tenderness and swelling of the glands in the neck and jaw

sore throat

headache

chills

fever

skin rash

