

Treatment

Your doctor or nurse can check for diphtheria by taking a swab from your throat or sore.

Diphtheria is treated with antibiotics. Throat diphtheria may need extra medicine or hospital care.

Keep Mob Safe

Help keep mob safe by getting checked early. If you have a skin sore or sore throat, see your local clinic. Ask if you and your family are up to date with vaccinations or need a booster.

**TOGETHER, WE CAN
GET DIPHTHERIA
OUTTA HERE!**



NACCHO
National Aboriginal Community
Controlled Health Organisation

**GET DIPHTHERIA
OUTTA HERE!**

**Vaccination is the best
protection from severe
diphtheria.**

**Free vaccines
are available in
many areas**

 **QAIHC**
Queensland Aboriginal and
Islander Health Council



What is diphtheria?

Diphtheria is a serious infection that can affect the throat or skin. It produces a harmful toxin if left untreated.

Prevention

Vaccination is the best protection from severe diphtheria.

Vaccination is very safe. Keep kids safe by making sure their vaccinations are up to date. Adults may need a booster. Ask your local clinic if you are due. Where diphtheria is spreading, some people may be asked to have an extra booster. Your clinic can check what is right for you.

How it spreads

Diphtheria spreads from person to person until they are treated or have recovered.

It can spread through:

- coughs and sneezes
- close contact with infected skin sores
- shared towels, clothing or personal items

Simple hygiene steps

Simple hygiene steps help stop diphtheria spreading:

- cover coughs and sneezes
- keep sores clean and covered
 - wash hands
- clean shared surfaces and personal items



Symptoms

**Skin sore or sore throat?
See your clinic early.**

Symptoms depend on where the infection is.

Skin diphtheria

- skin sores or ulcers that do not heal
- infected cuts or wounds

Throat diphtheria, more severe

- sore throat
- fever or feeling unwell
- swollen neck glands
- trouble swallowing or breathing
- grey-white coating in the throat

Trouble breathing? Call 000.