

**Public Health Alert: Be on the lookout for -
Acute Post-Streptococcal Glomerulonephritis
(APSGN)**

Currently there are outbreaks of APSGN in the Northern Territory.

For any child presenting with :

Facial puffiness

or

Skin sores

or

Dark-coloured urine

check their:

- **Weight** – it should be compared against previous records and may increase due to fluid retention
- **Blood Pressure** – will increase in kidney disease
- **Urine** – for blood/protein
- **Oedema** – especially facial and periorbital puffiness

All children presenting with skin sores should be given LA Bicillin and treated for scabies as required.

All cases of suspected APSGN should be notified to your regional Centre for Disease Control (CDC). APSGN is the result of a contagious illness and therefore other children may be at risk of the disease.

Parents, teachers and child care workers need to look out for the symptoms of APSGN. They should bring any child to a health clinic immediately if they develop skin sores, facial puffiness or dark urine.

APSGN is an inflammatory disease affecting the kidneys. Strains of group A streptococcus cause skin and/or throat infection that 2-3 weeks later can cause kidney impairment. Scabies often causes breaks in the skin that leads to group A streptococcus skin sores that then leads to APSGN.

APSGN can cause raised blood pressure, fluid retention and blood/protein in the urine, and may contribute to chronic renal disease later in life.

For further information on APSGN and disease control, please refer to the NT Guidelines for Acute Post-Streptococcal Glomerulonephritis, found here:

http://www.health.nt.gov.au/library/scripts/objectifyMedia.aspx?file=pdf/10/84.pdf&siteID=1&str_title=Acute%20Post-Streptococcal%20Glomerulonephritis.pdf

Alternatively contact your regional CDC:

Katherine	8973 9049	Nhulunbuy	8987 0357	Tennant Creek	8962 4259
Alice Springs	8951 7540	Darwin	8922 8044		