

Rapid tests for group A streptococcal infections in people with a sore throat

Information for the public

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NICE has assessed 21 rapid tests to detect group A streptococcal (strep A) infections in people with a sore throat to help the NHS decide whether to use these products. The tests could be used to help doctors decide whether to offer antibiotics to people with a sore throat who could benefit from them.

NICE has said that the tests are not recommended. This is because it is unlikely that using the tests would help people with a sore throat get better more quickly or reduce the risk of complications. There is also no evidence that using the tests would improve antibiotic prescribing.

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