



UK Health
Security
Agency

People in your area have had iGAS – a serious invasive infection

Anyone can get iGAS



Important
information for
people who may have
had contact with
someone with iGAS
(invasive Group A
Streptococcus)

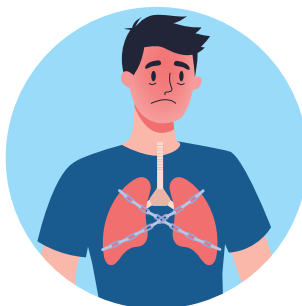
Do you or someone you know have any of these signs?

- very high temperature (fever)
- bad muscle aches
- one area of your muscles feeling very sore (tender)
- hot, sore, swollen, or red skin around a wound that is getting worse
- diarrhoea or vomiting
- difficulty breathing

These signs might be new or not feel like they normally do. **This could be a serious infection called iGAS**



aching
joint



difficulty
breathing



fever

What should I do if I have these signs?

- only a doctor can tell if it is iGAS or another infection, you must call NHS 111 or go to hospital straight away – **do not wait**
- tell the doctor you may have been near someone with iGAS
- show them this leaflet
- if someone you know has these signs, tell them to do the same



What is iGAS?

- GAS (Group A Streptococcus) is a type of germ that can live on your skin and in your throat
- it can spread through touching, sharing things (like towels or drug equipment), or sneezing
- iGAS happens when this germ gets inside the body (blood, muscles, joints, or lungs)
- this can be very dangerous
- it is more likely if you have cuts, sores, or poor health



How likely am I to get iGAS?

There have been cases near you, so you may have been close to someone with iGAS. The risk of getting iGAS is low, but if you get it, you will need immediate treatment, probably in hospital.

How do I keep myself safe?

- wash your hands often
- clean bedding and towels often to stop the germs from spreading
- keep your space clean
- keep wounds covered



Anyone can get iGAS, but if you use drugs you can also follow these steps:

- swallow (bomb) or smoke instead of snorting or injecting
- do not share crack pipes or other equipment
- if you inject, use new equipment and a new needle every time – reusing a needle can spread the bacteria to other parts of your body
- clean your hands and injecting site with either an alcohol wipe or soap and water before injecting
- if injecting stimulants do not use citric acid or vitamin C
- follow safer injecting advice:

For help and support

Only a doctor can tell if it is iGAS or another infection, you must call **NHS 111** or go to hospital straight away – do not wait

If you feel **very unwell**, call **999**

Scan the QR code for more advice on injecting safely or visit

www.wearewithyou.org.uk

