



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**NORTH CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT**

*“Caring For Our Communities”*

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## PSA

**Date:** January 23, 2015  
**To:** All Media  
**From:** Teri Thalhofer, Director  
North Central Public Health District  
**Subject:** **Increased Incidence of Streptococcus Infection**

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North Central Public Health District has been notified of an unusually large number of Gilliam County residents diagnosed and treated for strep throat infection.

Strep throat is an uncomfortable bacterial infection of the throat that occurs mainly in children over 2 years old. It can occur in adults, but it's rare in infants.

Strep is easily treated with a number of different antibiotics.

In the past strep throat has been associated with rare, but severe, complications of heart/kidney and joint problems, so we still need people to be aware of the disease and get appropriate evaluation and treatment.

We recommend that if you have a sore throat, and no symptoms of a cold (runny nose/cough), please make an appointment to see your health care provider to be checked for strep throat. You should also see a provider if you have been in close contact with someone who has these symptoms or has been diagnosed with strep throat, as it is very contagious.

Also remember to cover your cough with a tissue or your elbow, and wash your hands after coughing or sneezing. Stay home when sick. And please, do not visit infants or pregnant women until you are healthy.

Additional facts about strep can be found at the following link: <http://www.cdc.gov/features/strepthroat/>

(For more information, please contact North Central Public Health District at (541) 506-2600 or visit us on the web at [www.ncphd.org](http://www.ncphd.org).)

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