

This syndrome is characterized by granulomatous lesions on the palpebral conjunctiva associated with swelling of the ipsilateral preauricular nodes.

Diagnosis is made on the basis of (1) a history of contact with a cat or kitten, (2) the presence of regional lymphadenopathy for several days, and (3) serologic identification of the causative organism by indirect fluorescent antibody assay or polymerase chain reaction test ([American Academy of Pediatrics, 2015](#)).

Treatment is primarily supportive. Some experts recommend a 5-day course of oral azithromycin to hasten recovery ([American Academy of Pediatrics, 2015](#)). Antibiotics do not shorten the duration or prevent progression to suppuration but may be helpful in severe forms of the disease. Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, ciprofloxacin, gentamicin, and rifampin have shown some benefit in uncontrolled clinical studies. Enlarged painful nodes may be treated by needle aspiration.

Children should be cautioned about playing with aggressive kittens that bite or scratch. Wounds should be washed with soap and water. Analgesics may be given for discomfort. Most children can continue normal activities during the disease. The animals are not ill during the time they transmit the disease, and most authorities do not recommend disposal of a cherished pet.

NCLEX Review Questions

1. Which of the following should be used in the care of all pediatric patients to reduce the risk of transmission of microorganisms from both recognized and unrecognized sources of infection?
 - a. Transmission-based precautions
 - b. Airborne precautions
 - c. Standard precautions
 - d. Droplet precautions
2. Which childhood vaccine provides some protection against bacterial meningitis, epiglottitis, and bacterial pneumonia?
 - a. Hib vaccine
 - b. Hepatitis B vaccine
 - c. Varicella vaccine