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Cellulitis

Cellulitis is an infection of the skin and deep underlying tissues. Group A strep (streptococcal [<https://medlineplus.gov/streptococcalinfections.html>]) bacteria are the most common cause. The bacteria enter your body when you get an injury such as a bruise, burn, surgical cut, or wound.

Symptoms include:


- Fever and chills
- Swollen glands or lymph nodes
- A rash with painful, red, tender skin. The skin may blister and scab over.

Your health care provider may take a sample or culture from your skin or do a blood test to identify the bacteria causing infection. Treatment is with antibiotics. They may be oral in mild cases, or intravenous (by IV) for more severe cases.

Start Here

- Cellulitis [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/cellulitis/symptoms-causes/syc-20370762?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/cellulitis/symptoms-causes/syc-20370762?p=1>]

Related Issues

- Cellulitis Infection: Is It Contagious? [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/cellulitis/expert-answers/cellulitis/FAQ-20058458?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/cellulitis/expert-answers/cellulitis/faq-20058458?p=1>]
- Cellulitis: How to Prevent Recurrent Episodes [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/cellulitis/expert-answers/cellulitis/FAQ-20058135?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/cellulitis/expert-answers/cellulitis/faq-20058135?p=1>]
- Group A Streptococcal Infections [<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/diseases-conditions/group-streptococcal-infections>]  (National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases)


Specifics

- Cellulitis [<https://www.aapos.org/glossary/cellulitis>] (American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus)
- Cellulitis: How Long Does It Take to Heal on Legs? [<https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/cellulitis-how-long-does-it-take-to-heal-on-legs-202311202994>] (Harvard Medical School)
- Erysipelas [<https://www.aocd.org/page/Erysipelas?>] (American Osteopathic College of Dermatology)
- What Is Cellulitis? [<https://www.aao.org/eye-health/diseases/what-is-cellulitis>] (American Academy of Ophthalmology)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.aao.org/salud-ocular/enfermedades/que-es-la-celulitis>]

Images

- Cellulitis [<https://skinsight.com/skin-conditions/cellulitis/?lmiw9cApI=1>] (VisualDX)

Clinical Trials


- ClinicalTrials.gov: Cellulitis [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Cellulitis%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)

Journal Articles

References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)

- Article: Efficacy and safety of the conservative management of appendiceal phlegmon during... [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40696915>]
- Article: Comparing thermal imaging and non-contact infrared thermometers for monitoring skin temperature... [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40681195>]
- Article: Computed Tomography Imaging Characteristics in the Diagnosis and Assessment of Cellulitis... [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40572669>]
- Cellulitis -- see more articles [<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=%22Cellulitis%22%5Bmajr%3Anoexp%5D+AND+humans%5Bmh%5D+AND+english%5Bla%5D+AND+%22last+1+Year%22+%5Bdat%5D+NOT+%28letter%5Bpt%5D+OR+case+reports%5Bpt%5D+OR+editorial%5Bpt%5D+OR+comment%5Bpt%5D%29+AND+free+full+text%5Bsb%5D+>]

Find an Expert

- Find a Dermatologist [<https://find-a-derm.aad.org/>] (American Academy of Dermatology)
- Find an Ophthalmologist [<https://secure.aao.org/aao/find-ophthalmologist>] (American Academy of Ophthalmology)
Also in Spanish [<https://secure.aao.org/aao/encontrar-ofthalmologo>]
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases [<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/>] 

Teenagers

- Cellulitis [<https://kidshealth.org/en/teens/cellulitis.html>] (Nemours Foundation)
Also in Spanish [<https://kidshealth.org/es/teens/cellulitis.html>]

Older Adults

- Increased Risk for Serious Outcomes [<https://www.cdc.gov/group-a-strep/php/ltcf-toolkit/increased-risk.html>] (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

Patient Handouts

- Cellulitis [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000855.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/000855.htm>]
- Orbital cellulitis [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001012.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/001012.htm>]
- Perianal streptococcal cellulitis [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001346.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/001346.htm>]
- Periorbital cellulitis [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000976.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/000976.htm>]



MEDICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA

Cellulitis [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000855.htm>]

Erysipelas [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000618.htm>]

Fibrinopeptide A blood test [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/003373.htm>]

Ludwig angina [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001047.htm>]

Orbital cellulitis [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001012.htm>]

Periorbital cellulitis [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000976.htm>]

Related Health Topics

Staphylococcal Infections [<https://medlineplus.gov/staphylococcalinfections.html>]

Streptococcal Infections [<https://medlineplus.gov/streptococcalinfections.html>]

National Institutes of Health

The primary NIH organization for research on *Cellulitis* is the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases [<http://www.niaid.nih.gov/>]

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