

Effect of Strep A point-of-care testing in reducing antibiotic use in patients with acute sore throat infections

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Status RECRUITING
Sponsor Deakin University
Enrollment 360 participants

Plain Language Summary

Sore throats are one of the most common reasons people visit a GP, and they are also one of the most common reasons antibiotics get prescribed — even though the majority of sore throats are caused by viruses, not bacteria. This study is testing whether using a rapid point-of-care test for Group A Streptococcus (the bacteria that causes strep throat) in GP clinics can help doctors prescribe antibiotics only when they are truly needed.

GP clinics will be randomly assigned to either offer the rapid strep test to patients or continue with their usual practice. Researchers will then compare antibiotic prescribing rates between the two groups. Doctors will also be interviewed about their experiences using the test in their daily work.

You may be eligible if you are older than 3 years and have come to see a GP with a new sore throat, pharyngitis, or tonsil infection. People who are already taking antibiotics or who are critically unwell and need immediate hospital referral are not eligible for this study.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (2)

- Patient age >3 Years
- Must have sore throat/ pharyngitis or pharyngotonsillitis symptoms as judged by the clinician

Exclusion (2)

- Sore throat patients who are already taking antibiotics.
- Critical patients who need immediate hospital referral.

Locations (1 total)

VIC, Australia