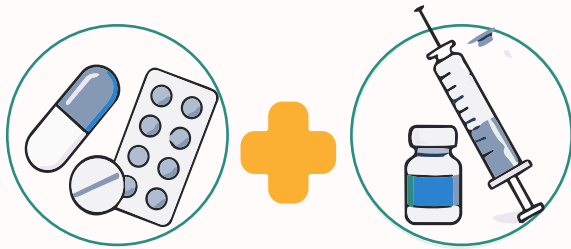




What treatments are available?



Antibiotics and a diphtheria antitoxin injection for severe cases.



People with diphtheria must be isolated during treatment.



What should you do if you have been in contact with an infected person?



Monitor your health for 7 days following your last contact.



If you develop any symptoms, seek medical advice promptly.



Wear a face mask and limit your contact with others if you have symptoms.



If in doubt, speak to your doctor or call **1733**

would you like more information about diphtheria?



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.VIVALIS.BRUSSELS



information for healthcare professionals

Diphtheria is a notifiable disease: reporting is required upon clinical suspicion of the ENT form and upon diagnostic confirmation of the toxin-producing cutaneous form.

how to report a case?



In an emergency, you can contact us by telephone on **02 552 01 91**.

DIPHTHERIA



Diphtheria is a serious and contagious bacterial infection that usually affects the nose, throat or skin if there is a wound.

Vaccination is the only way to protect yourself!



How does it spread?

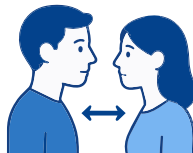
Diphtheria is a contagious disease that is spread by:



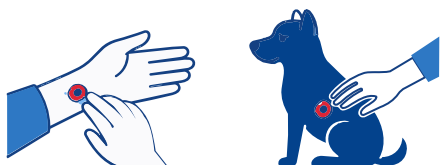
Coughing



Droplets



Close contact



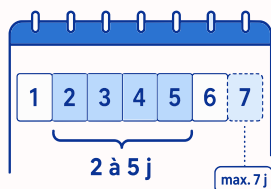
Direct contact with an infected wound (human or animal).



An untreated person remains contagious for up to 2 weeks.



How long after exposure to the bacteria do the first symptoms appear?



The incubation period is 2 to 5 days on average but can be as long as 7 days.



During this period, the person may show no visible symptoms.



What are the symptoms?

The disease can take two distinct forms:

The classic form (ENT)



Sore throat



Fever



Swollen lymph nodes and neck



Greyish coating in the throat.



Sign of a medical emergency: **difficulty breathing or swallowing.**

The cutaneous form



A wound that won't heal, greyish deposit on the wound.



How can the disease be prevented?



Vaccination is the only effective way to prevent the disease



Vaccination is free for people under 18 years of age and under certain conditions



A booster dose is recommended every 10 years



The vaccine protects against several diseases (Diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus).



Vaccination schedule

