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Tonsillectomy

[Tassels removed by scalpel](#)

A tonsillectomy, or removal of the palatine tonsils, is indicated in patients who have recurrent tonsillitis or when inflammation of the tonsils causes airway obstruction.

Considerations

Often Streptococcus

[Stripper](#)

Though tonsillitis can be caused by a virus, this condition is often the result of a streptococcal infection. If a patient's throat culture is positive for a streptococcal infection, antibiotics will be prescribed to treat the infection.

Monitor for Acute Glomerulonephritis

[Monitor Acute-angle Glow-mare with Kidneys-on-fire](#)

Patients who are diagnosed with 'strep throat', or tonsillitis caused by a streptococcal infection, should be monitored for post-streptococcal glomerulonephritis. Signs and symptoms of this condition include hypertension, swelling of the eyelids and face, hematuria, and decreased urine output. Patients should seek medical attention immediately if they experience any of these symptoms.

Monitor for Rheumatic Heart Disease

[Monitor Roman Heart](#)

If left untreated, a streptococcal infection of the throat may lead to rheumatic fever, and in some cases, rheumatic heart disease. Symptoms of rheumatic fever disease typically manifest two to four weeks after an infection of the throat and include fever, joint pain, and rash. In patients with rheumatic heart disease, there is permanent damage to the heart valves.