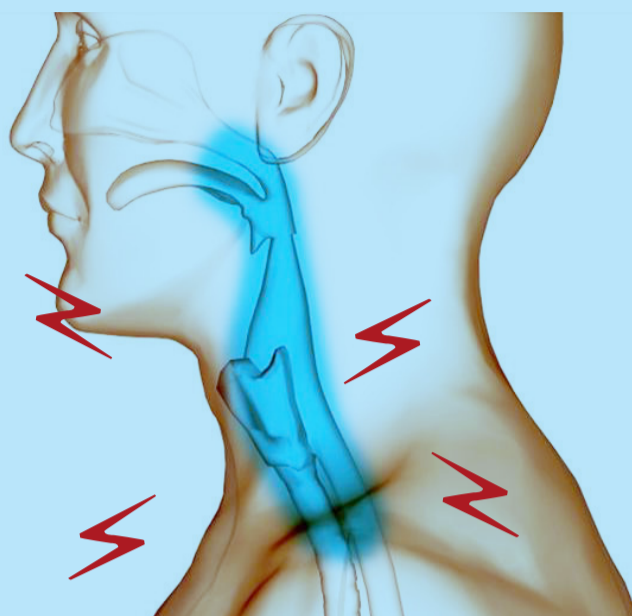


GROUP A STREPTOCOCCAL THROAT INFECTION IS THE PREDISPOSING INFECTION LEADING TO RHEUMATIC FEVER & RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE

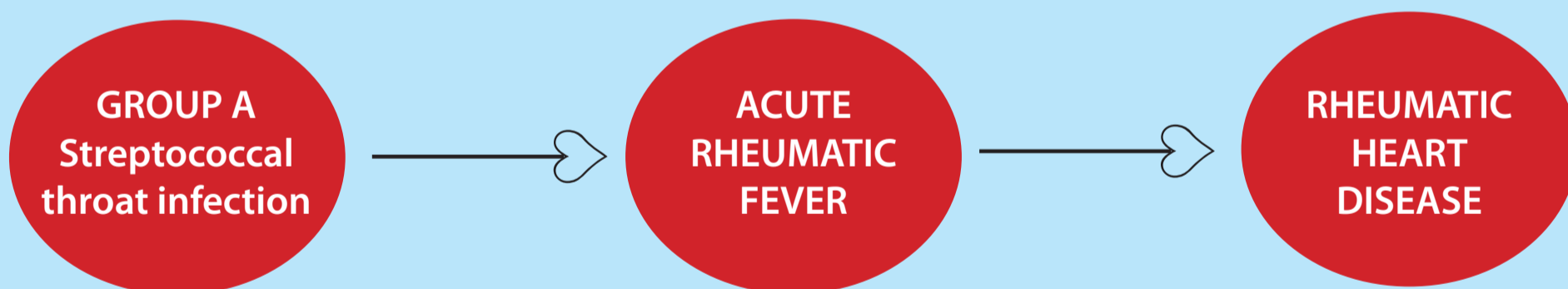


HALLMARK FEATURES OF A STREPTOCOCCAL SORE THROAT

- ♥ Tender lymph nodes
- ♥ Close contact with an infected person
- ♥ Scarlet fever rash
- ♥ Excoriated nares (crusted lesions) in infants
- ♥ Tonsillar exudates in older children
- ♥ Abdominal pain
- ♥ Gold Standard: Positive Throat Culture

HALLMARK FEATURES OF A VIRAL SORE THROAT

- Coryza: runny nose or mouth ulcer
- Other family member with cold symptoms
- Evidence of another viral infection
- Itchy watery eyes
- Hoarseness and cough: non specific
- Fever: not specific
- Red throat: not specific



TREATMENT OF A STREPTOCOCCAL THROAT INFECTION WITH PENICILLIN REDUCES THE INCIDENCE OF RHEUMATIC FEVER

ANTIBIOTIC	ADMINISTRATION	DOSE
Benzanthine benzylpenicillin	IM injection	1.2 MU >30kg Single dose 600 000 U <30kg Single dose
Phenoxymethyl Penicillin (Pen VK)	PO	250-500mgs qds for ten days <30 kg 125mg qds for ten days

