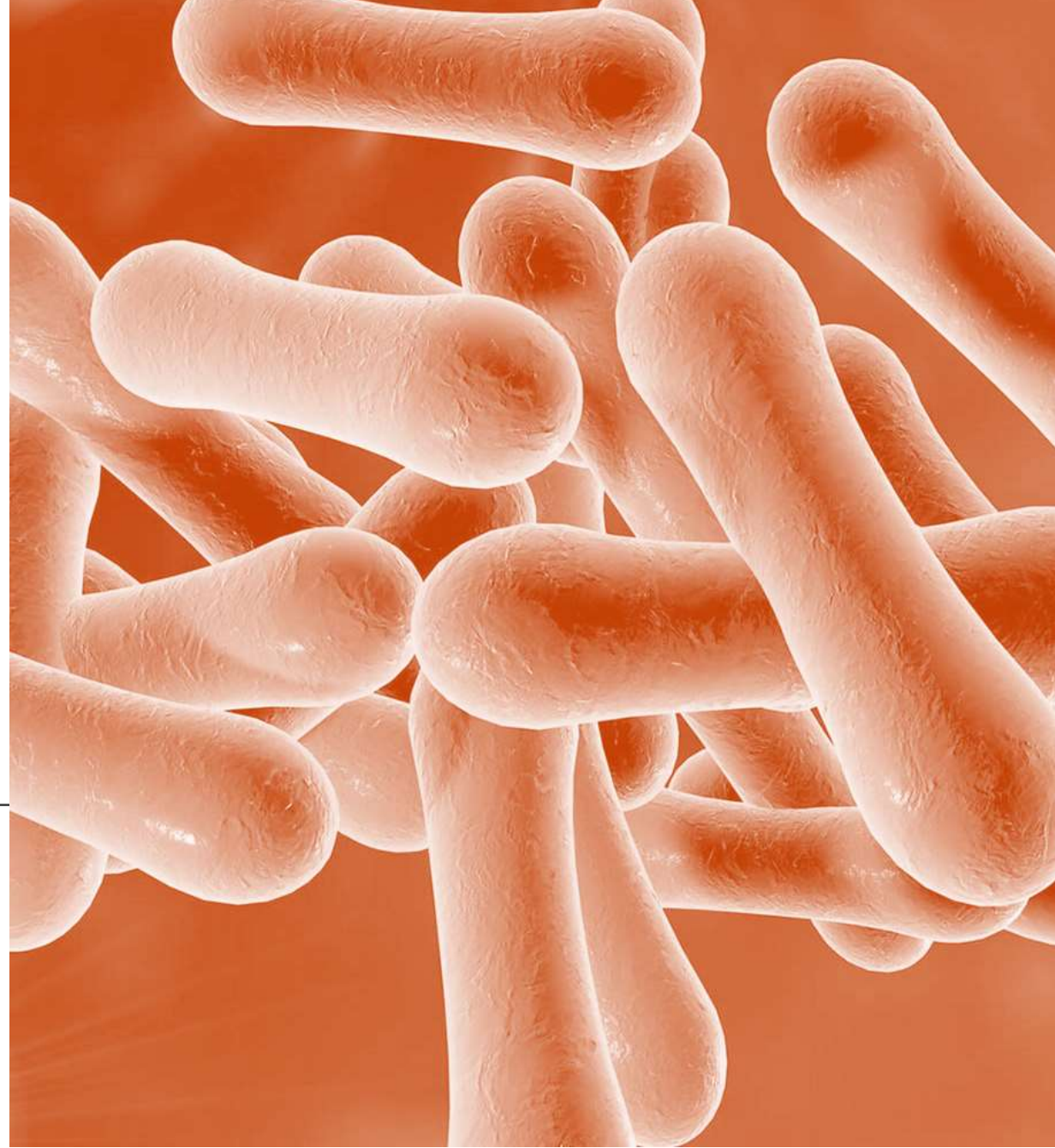


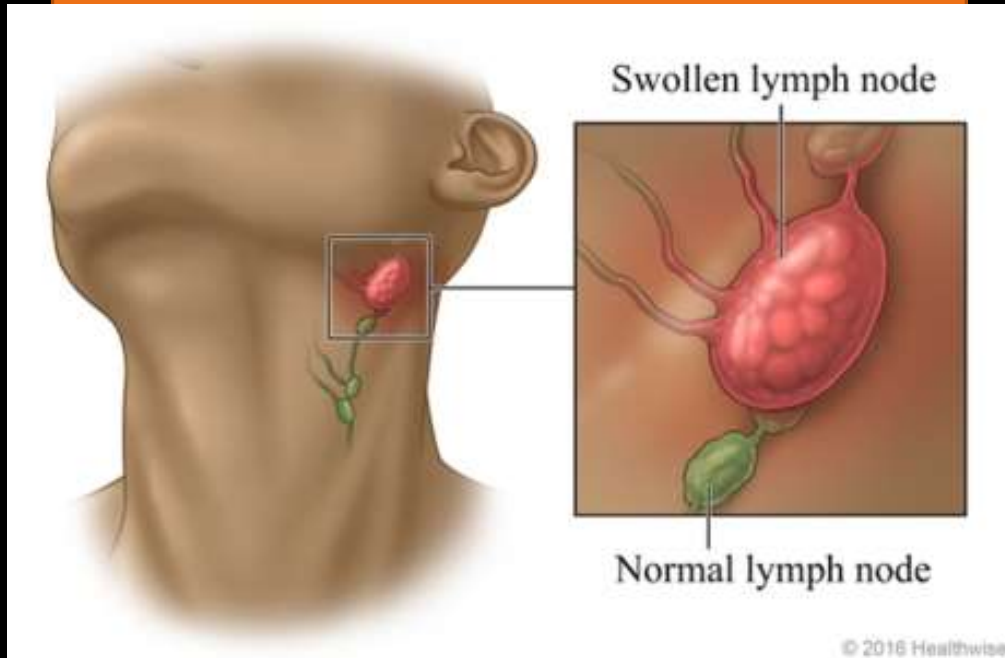
Diphtheria

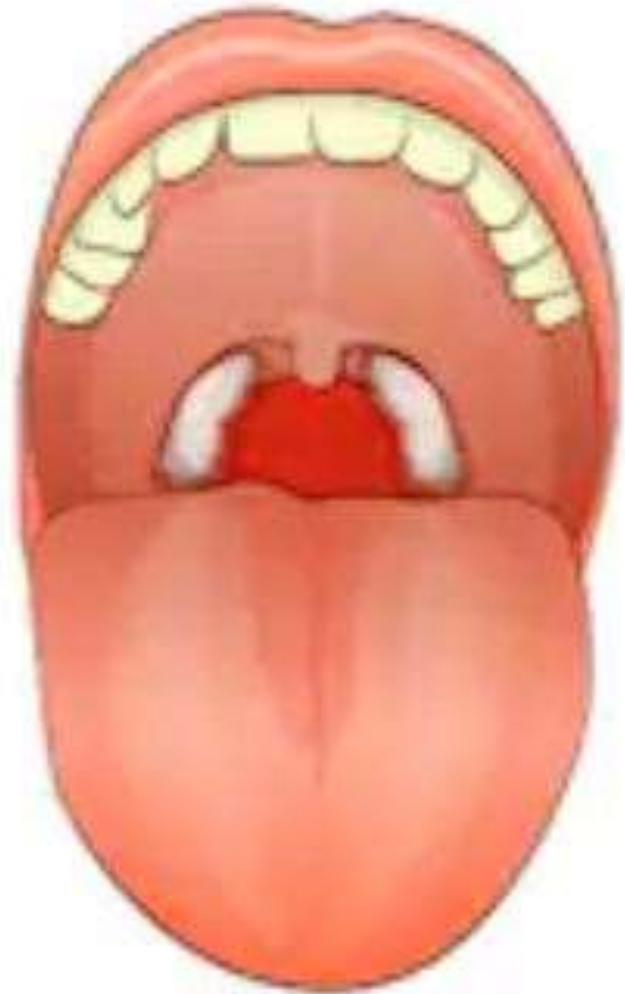
By John Hezekiah



What is Diphtheria?

- Diphtheria is an acute, highly contagious bacterial disease.
- It causes inflammation of the mucous membranes in the nose and throat
- The formation of a false membrane in the throat makes breathing and swallowing very difficult.
- Bacterial toxins in the blood can cause fatal heart and nerve damage .





Symptoms

- Fuzzy gray coating appears in the throat and nose making it difficult to breathe and swallow
- Swollen glands on the neck
- Fever
- Chills



Causes

- Diphtheria is a highly contagious bacteria that is spread when the infected person sneezes, coughs, or blows their nose.
- Once you're infected, the bacteria release dangerous substances called toxins that spread through your bloodstream that can cause breathing problems, heart and nerve damage.

F a t a l d i s e a s e

Treatment

DIPHThERIA CAN CAUSE ORGAN FAILURE IF NOT TREATED PROMPTLY AND UNDER DOCTOR'S CARE.

A photograph of a doctor with grey hair and a goatee, wearing a white lab coat and a stethoscope, shaking hands with a patient. The doctor is smiling warmly. The patient is wearing a light blue button-down shirt. The background is a bright, out-of-focus clinical setting.

Treatment

Notify your doctor immediately if you show signs of having Diphtheria!

The doctor will run lab tests to confirm for the presence of Diphtheria.

A photograph of a doctor in a white coat examining a young child. The doctor is using a stethoscope on the child's chest. A woman, presumably the mother, is sitting behind the child, smiling warmly. The background is a blurred indoor setting, possibly a clinic or office.

Treatment

If the tests confirm that you do have Diphtheria, the doctor will give you medicine to fight the bacterial infection.

If you have been around anyone with Diphtheria, get checked immediately to prevent the spread of this serious disease to your friends and family.

Prevention



Diphtheria is preventable with vaccination.

Newborns should be vaccinated 2 months after birth. Check with your clinic for more information about vaccinations.

Myth

“If I have a sore throat and fever, I have diphtheria”



Truth

If symptoms are shown, only the lab results from the doctor can verify the presence of Diphtheria

Myth

“Diphtheria can ONLY be spread by people coughing or sneezing”



Truth

Diphtheria droplets can be found on objects and surfaces that a sick person coughed on

Myth

“After getting vaccinated, I never have to worry about Diphtheria ever again”



Truth

Since the immunity by a vaccine for diphtheria does not last forever, booster vaccinations should be done every 10 years

Takeaways



DIPHTHERIA IS A HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS BACTERIA AND CAN BE LETHAL IF NOT TREATED QUICKLY



DIPHTHERIA CAN ONLY BE CONFIRMED BY A DOCTOR; IF YOU THINK YOU MAY HAVE DIPHTHERIA, CHECK WITH YOUR LOCAL CLINIC AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



PREVENT DIPHTHERIA WITH A VACCINATION; BOOSTER VACCINATIONS ARE NEEDED EVERY 10 YEARS

Sources

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