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STOMATITIS

Stomatitis is a viral infection that causes painful mouth ulcers and sores. These ulcers can appear on the lips, gums, or back of the throat. Antibiotics will not help with this infection, and the major complication is dehydration. This infection is contagious until all the ulcers or sores have healed and fever (if present) has gone.

Symptoms can include:

Fever	Poor appetite
Drooling	Ulcers or sores in the mouth
Red or swollen gums	Irritability

Treatment can include:

- Frequent small sips of cool liquids / popsicles
- Avoid spicy or salty foods and acidic or citrus drinks (OJ, soda, lemonade)
- Acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Advil / Motrin) if needed for fever or pain.
- Your doctor may recommend a mixture of 1 part benadryl liquid and 1 part Maalox or Mylanta liquid. If so, use as directed by your doctor.
- Frequent hand washing.
- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, utensils, or toys with others.
- Try to keep your child from picking or scratching any sores or ulcers.

Call our office if:

- You are concerned that your child is getting dehydrated (dry lips, sunken eyes, no tears when crying, decreased urine output).
- The fever lasts more than three to four days.
- Your child is very irritable or difficult to console.
- Your child develops any other symptoms or worsening pain.
- Your child is vomiting.

For any urgent or emergent medical concerns, please call 911 or go immediately to the nearest emergency department.