

Sore throat

RFQs

- Has he had a temperature?
- What about a cough?
- Is he swallowing OK?
- (Cervical lymph nodes and pussy tonsils are sought on examination.)

Provide

It's hard to be sure what sort of bug is causing Thomas' sore throat. But his cough makes it more likely that it is a virus, the lack of a fever also makes it less likely to be bacterial, as does the lack of pus and nasty redness in the throat and tonsils. He does not have big swollen glands in his neck near his tonsils either. All of these 4 things together help me to guess that there is only a ten percent chance that this is caused by a bacterial infection.

Safety net:

If I'm right: his sore throat will probably be much better within 7 days. But if I'm not right: please see us urgently if Thomas can't swallow at all or seems really poorly. If his sore throat is no better within a week we should see him again. This does not look like glandular fever, or an abscess, at this stage, but it is worth us seeing him again if he seems any worse.

GP Centor criteria

0-1	<10%
2	15%
3	32%
4	40-60%