

Minor Illnesses

All children/teenagers will get minor illnesses such as colds, coughs, scrapes, bruises, strep throat or even occasional vomiting and diarrhea. Most of these are short in duration, and once treatment is started children generally improve from the symptoms within 24-48 hours. Most minor illnesses can be handled by your local doctor or nurse. This is especially true if you live some distance from the rheumatology clinic. Please give your local doctor a call about minor illnesses.

However, when children with different types of arthritis get minor illnesses it can sometimes cause an increase in the symptoms of their rheumatic disease. Be aware of this and treat the symptoms as they occur. **If you are unsure if a problem is related to a rheumatic disease or medications for the disease, it is important to contact your rheumatology nurse or doctor.**